

Constitution

International Society for Criminology

Article 1

Name and seat

1. The association shall be called the “International Society of Criminology”, the name adopted at the time of its foundation in Rome in 1938. Its social seat shall be in Paris. Its duration is not limited.
2. Hereinafter, the association is referred to as the Society.

Article 2

Aim

1. The Society shall have at its aim to promote, at the International level, the scientific study of criminal phenomena, by bringing together scholars and practitioners of all disciplines interested in such study.
2. The Society shall co-ordinate its activities with that of other international associations concerned with the prevention of crime and the counteraction of criminality.

Article 3

Means

The Society shall seek to attain its aim by:

1. Congresses and publications;
2. The establishment of an Institute designed to be an international centre of study, research and criminological documentation;
3. All other means, such as the exchange of professors and students, the creation of scholarships and prizes, and the organization of lectures and courses, considered appropriate by the Society or its Board of Directors.

Article 4

Members

1. Any person or association interested in the aim of the Society may acquire membership therein. The Society shall be composed of active, associate, student and honorary members. All active, associate and student members shall pay annual dues.
2. –
 - a. Membership in the Society and the rights pertaining there to shall depend on the payment of annual dues. There shall be no entrance fee.
 - b. The amount of the dues shall be fixed by the Board of Directors for each year. The dues of student members shall be reduced in comparison with those paid by active or associate members. Honorary members shall be free from dues.
 - c. Active members alone shall have the right to vote and hold office.
3. Active, associate, or student memberships may be acquired by associations or groups. In such case, each shall designate a delegate to represent it and exercise its constitutional rights. Such a delegate cannot hold office unless he is also an active member of the Society.
4. –
 - a. A member who pays annual dues of 200 NF, shall be named a patron of the Society.
 - b. An active member may become an active life member by the payment of a single sum of 350 NF.
 - c. These amounts may be changed by a decision of the Board of Directors, if changes in monetary values make it necessary.¹
5. To be eligible for active membership, a person or association must be recommended by two active members of the Society, and be approved by the Board of Directors after an examination of his credentials.
6. Any person or association interested in the study or practice of criminology may become an associate member of the Society upon demand and the payment of annual dues.
7. Students in residence at universities or professional schools, as well as associations of student may become student members, if sponsored by a member of the Society, upon payment of the annual dues presented. Student memberships shall not be held longer than five years.
8. –
 - a. Honorary membership may upon proposal by the Board of Directors, be conferred upon any person, for services rendered to criminology or to the Society, by a majority vote of the active members of the Society.
 - b. Unless they are active members of the Society, honorary members shall not have the right to vote or to hold office. They shall have all other rights and privileges of members of the Society.
9. Memberships may be cancelled by resignation or lost by the nonpayment of dues for two successive years in spite of reminders by the General Secretary, or by exclusion voted by the

¹ In its meeting of January 5th 1967, the Board of Directors has decided that the amount to be paid to become an active life members should be equivalent to fifteen annual dues.

Board of Directors for reasons in regards as just and adequate; for instance, an attitude or activity which is incompatible with the aim and the spirit of the Society.

10. In case an active member contests his exclusion, he shall have the right to present explanations and lodge an appeal with a Committee of Arbitration.

Article 5

Direction

1. –
 - a. The Society shall establish a Board of Directors whose term of office shall begin on the 1st of January following their election. It shall be composed of twenty four members elected for five years by the General Assembly; they shall continue in office after five years from the date of their election until the next general Assembly is convened. Not more than 3 of the members elected by the General Assembly shall be from any one country. The Board shall have power to coopt maximum five additional members who shall have full voting power.
 - b. The provision as to the maximum number of members from any one country need not apply to coopted members.
2. The Board of Directors shall elect, from among its members, a President, four Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, two Assistant General Secretaries and a Treasurer; they shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Board. They are elected from the same period as the members of the Board of Directors and are re-eligible. Only the General Secretary and the Treasurer may be from the same country. In so far as possible, the Vice-Presidents should come from different world regions.

Article 6

Elections

1. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
2. Elections by the Society of members of the Board of Directors shall be by mail in the manner provided in the by-laws.

Article 7

Administration and tasks

1. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the programme of the Society and the general administration of the Society's affairs. It shall convoke the ordinary and special meetings of the Society. It shall have power to fill vacancies due to death, resignation, or failure of election of a member of the Board, until the next regular election.
2. One third of the total members of the Board is necessary to constitute a quorum at its meetings. Decisions shall be taken by simple majority vote of present members. Between meetings questions may be submitted to members for vote by correspondence. A simple majority of those votings is required for valid decisions but no decision shall be valid unless at least one-third of members have voted.
3. –
 - a. The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President, or at the call of the General Secretary or an Assistant General Secretary with the approval of the President, or at the request of at least one-third of the members of the Board.
 - b. An absent member may give a power of attorney to a present member. No present member shall, however, exercise the power of attorney for more than two absent members.
 - c. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings. The minutes shall be entered in a special register and signed by the President and the General Secretary.
 - d. The Board shall render an annual report to the Society on its activities.
4. –
 - a. Duly accredited members of regional or national associations affiliated with the Society may attend the meetings of the Board of Directors as consultants.
 - b. National delegates appointed by the Board shall have the same rights.
5. –
 - a. Members of the Board of Directors shall receive no payment for their work. Their expenses may be reimbursed from the funds of the Society, if previously so decided by the Board.
 - b. However, an honorarium may be provided for the General Secretary; in such case, its amount shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.
6. –
 - a. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the execution of the plan of action and the programme set up by the Society or the Board of Directors.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall submit regular reports to the Board of Directors for approval.
7. –
 - a. The Society or the Board of Directors may establish committees necessary for the conduct of the Society's affairs.

- b. Such Committees shall include especially the Auditing Committee and the Arbitration Committee. Their designation and functions shall be regulated by by-laws.
8. The Board of Directors shall be aided in its scientific work by a Scientific Committee of fifteen members elected by the Board and representing different criminological disciplines and the different world regions. The election procedure, the character and duration of its function, as well as the work of the Scientific Committee shall be regulated by by-laws.

Article 8

Meetings

1. The Society shall gather in a General Assembly at least once in five years, at a place and time fixed by the Board of Directors. Special sessions may also be called at the request of at least fourth of the members of the Society.
2. At each session, at least one business meeting shall be held, during which the Board of Directors shall render an account of its administration to the Society. Any business of the Society can be dealt with at this meeting.
3. All decisions, except as otherwise provided in these statutes and by-laws shall be taken by a majority of active members, present and voting.

Article 9

Resources

1. The resources of the Society shall be composed of:
 - a. Dues of members;
 - b. Subventions that it may receive;
 - c. Income from property and investments of all kinds.
2. The Society may solicit and receive subventions and grants aiding it to carry out the programme. No payments from such funds can be made without the authorization of the Board of Directors.

Article 10

Amendments

1. The Constitution may be amended, after a preliminary discussion at the General Assembly, by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members, voting by mail in a referendum submitted to all members of the Society having the right to vote.

2. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors, or, between the general sessions of the Society, by a petition signed by at least fifteen active members of the Society; or by the majority of present and voting members at a meeting of the General Assembly.

Article 11

Dissolution

1. The Society may be dissolved by affirmative vote of the majority of its members having the right to vote. The question shall either be submitted, by mail, to such members, after a preliminary discussion at the General Assembly, or to business meeting of the Society attended by at least two-thirds of the members of the Society having the right to vote.
2. In case the Society is to be dissolved, the board of Directors shall appoint a committee of three charged with the liquidation and shall determine what disposition shall be made of its assets. Such assets shall be given to an association or foundation having aims of the same character as that of the Society.

Article 12

Transitory Provisions

Persons who are members of the Society at the time of the adoption of these statutes will be considered as active members within the meaning of Art. 4 except that the Board of Directors shall determine the class of memberships to which they belong.

In order to ensure administrative continuity between the elections, the Board of Directors shall remain in office until the New Board of Directors has been elected in conformity with the present statutes.
