



Statutes of the Association of Alumni and Friends of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies – Alumni Club

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§ 1

Name, Location and Financial Year

The association is titled "Verein der Alumni und Freunde des Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies e.V." (Eng: Association of Alumni and Friends of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies). The association is officially registered in Freiburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, where it is also primarily located. The financial year is the calendar year.

§ 2

Purpose and Function

- (a) The Association of Alumni and Friends of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies exists to serve science.
- (b) The association furthers scientific research, especially at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), chiefly by supporting the contact fellows establish during their time at FRIAS with each other, the university, and FRIAS itself. This is achieved primarily through a yearly meetup in Freiburg.
- (c) The association promotes the spread of scientific discoveries and their relevance to practical political and social questions, particularly through the support of scientific publications and presentations.
- (d) The association aims to uphold relationships between scientists and the wider community, through activities such as public events with this goal.
- (e) The association supports dialog and relationship-building between alumni and interested third parties as well as their relationship to the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies.
- (f) Above all else, the bylaws and their purposes will be achieved by the material and ideological support of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies and its work.

§ 3

Non-Profit Status

The society operates independently; its purposes are solely and exclusively non-profit in nature, in accordance with the section 'Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke' (Eng: reduced-tax purposes), tax code (AO 1977). Public funds may only be used for purposes listed in the statutes. Members do not have any claim on the financial assets of the association by way of their membership. No individual can be reimbursed with disproportionately high compensation or through financial gains that do not align with the association's statutes. Resigning members have no claim on the society's financial assets.

§ 4

Membership

- (a) Any individual person or corporate entity that upholds and supports the association's purposes can become a member of the association. The executive board has the final decision on the intake of each applicant.

- (b) All members, with the exclusion of honorary members (§ 5), are required to pay a yearly membership fee; the executive board will propose a minimum amount for this fee to the consideration of the group at the general meeting. The minimum fee in the first year of operation is €50, Junior Fellows will be charged the reduced amount of €25. Fees are due on March 1st for the year to come; any members joining the association after this date will pay their membership fees upon their acceptance into the association. If a member joins later in the year, they will still be charged the full yearly fee.
- (c) Membership in the association ends at any time due to death, voluntary resignation, or removal from the association.
- (d) Voluntary resignation requires a written statement to the directorship. The statement must be received at least one month before the end of the financial year to be valid for that year.
- (e) Removal from the association can occur upon the decision of the group if a member:
 - 1. Acts in a way that gravely damages the image or interests of the association, or
 - 2. Has not paid membership fees more than three months after their due date, despite a written warning with a deadline extension of at least four weeks as well as the written threat of removal from the association if fees are not paid.The member then has the opportunity to appear at the general meeting, in order to take a position on their exclusion. The member must be informed at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.

§ 5

Honorary Membership

Individuals that uphold and represent the goals of the association in an extraordinary way can be named honorary members. The executive board has the final decision on who can be named an honorary member. Members may suggest potential candidates for honorary membership.

§ 6

Roles

The roles in the association are the executive board and the general assembly of members.

§ 7

Executive Board

- (a) The executive board is made up of the chairman/woman of the executive board and the 1st and 2nd executive board members. The three members of the executive board must be members of the association. Under appropriate circumstances, they may lower the minimum yearly contribution. The executive board leads the organization in all things legal and non-legal, in accordance with § 26 BGB. It works together with the managing director (§ 9) in matters of daily operation and prepares the yearly budget.
- (b) If the chairman/woman is not able to fulfill his/her duties, the 1st or 2nd executive board members or the managing director may take over, as long as the chairman/woman or the assembly of members does not make a different selection.

- (c) The chairman/woman of the executive board will be elected by a two-thirds majority of the members for a period of three years. A chairman/woman may be voted out of power only if circumstances demand this. Re-election is allowed.
- (d) If a member of the executive board leaves his/her duties, the other members of the executive board will take over these duties until a new board member can be elected. The chairman/woman of the executive board can call a meeting for this election.
- (e) The chairman/woman of the executive board is responsible for all matters pertaining to the association, particularly:
 - Convening and preparing the annual general meeting, including the preparation of the agenda
 - Enacting the decisions made by at the general meeting
 - Administering and managing the association's finances and drawing up a yearly report
 - Taking in new members
- (f) The executive board meets as necessary. The meetings will be called by the chairman/woman of the executive board, or in his/her absence, one of the other two board members. The meeting should be made known at least a week in advance. The executive board can make binding decisions as long as at least two members are present. A majority is needed for decisions to be made; in case of a tie, the chairman/woman of the executive board, or in his/her absence the 1st executive board member, has the deciding vote. All decisions made by the executive board must be documented in a timely matter. The written proceedings must be signed by a member of the board.
- (g) 1. If members perform services for the association either voluntarily or for a pay that does not exceed 720 euros per year, they are freed from private responsibility in the case of accidental (no willful intent) damages during the duration of their work for the association, so long as this work was assigned to them by the association and adheres to its statutes. § 31a Absatz 1 Satz 3 BGB should be consulted as appropriate.
 2. In the case of accidental damages to third parties during the duration of work assigned by the association and adherent to its statutes (see Absatz 1 Satz 1), members can demand to be freed of private responsibility. This (Satz 1) does not apply if damages are non-accidental.

§ 8

General Meeting

- (a) At the general meeting, guidelines for the association's activities will be set. The yearly budget is also decided at the meeting. The executive board's yearly report and annual financial statement are considered at this time and the executive board is relieved of their duties for the year. The annual financial statement is also reviewed by the managing director (§ 9).
- (b) At the general meeting, the executive board and managing director will be elected by the members, pursuant to the guidelines outlined in the statutes.
- (c) The general meeting will be called annually by the executive board. An invitation to the meeting and any applicable proposals should be received by the members at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.
- (d) The agenda for the meeting can be individually determined and supplemented as necessary.

- (e) The executive board may also call special meetings; Absatz (c) Satz 2 is applicable here. The executive board is also required to call a meeting if a tenth of the members demand a meeting, as long as this amounts to at least four individual members.
- (f) At each meeting, a scribe will be elected to record the proceedings in writing.
- (g) Decisions made at the general meeting are valid regardless of the amount of members present.
- (h) All members in good standing have a vote at the general meeting. Any members unable to attend can place a vote in writing for any proposals that were communicated in writing (Absatz (c) Satz 2) before the date of the meeting; votes should be addressed to the executive board.
- (i) Decisions made at the general meeting are decided by a simple majority, where an individual may also place a neutral vote and thereby abstain from voting. In the case of the election of the executive board, a two-thirds majority is required. Voting may be conducted in any way.
- (j) If deemed appropriate by the executive board, voting can also occur by writing. In this case, a decision requires a simple majority of the votes received.

§ 9

Managing Director

- (a) The managing director will be suggested by the executive board and appointed by the assembly of members. He/she can be compensated for his/her work.
- (b) In accordance with the guidelines set forth by the executive board, the managing director carries out the current operations of the association at their own authority. He/she prepares the annual meeting of the executive board and the annual general meeting.

§ 10

Financial Assets

The funds necessary for the association's activities come from annual membership fees and donations. Income and expenditures must be documented.

§ 11

Dissolution

- (a) The assembly of members may decide to dissolve the association. In this case, a four-fifths majority of votes is required.
- (b) In the case of the dissolution of the association or the loss of its reduced-tax status, the association's financial assets fall to Albert Ludwig's University of Freiburg, to be used for non-profit purposes in alignment with § 2.

§ 12

Final Provisions

- (a) The statutes went into effect on May 4th, 2017, with the founding of the association and its entry into the official register of associations.
- (b) Changes to the statutes require a two-thirds majority of present votes; changes to the purpose of the association require a four-fifths majority.

Required documents

Statutes, founding protocol and member list signed by at least seven founding members.