



Preamble:

YOUROPE – The European Festival Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to music festivals in Europe. It is a network representing the multi-coloured European festival scene as well as promoting, enhancing and supporting its potential, activities and values within the cultural sector and beyond. This institution forms the continuation and acts as legal successor of the association going by the same name that originally was founded in November 1998 in London and registered in Roskilde/Denmark.

The action of the association is based on the equal treatment policy of the European Union, so that discriminatory behaviour of members is not tolerated.

§ 1 Name, seat of the association

1. The association is named „Yourope“. The association shall be registered at the register of associations at the district court Bonn, Germany. After registration “e.V.” shall be added to its name.
2. The registered office of the association is in Bonn, Germany.
3. The fiscal Year is the calendar year.
4. The association is subject to German law. Disputes in connection with the statutes or between the association and its members are settled by the German courts according to German law.

§ 2 Language

1. These statutes and the regulations issued on their basis are written in German and in English. The minutes to the general assemblies and the Board meetings as well as the annual accounts must be drawn up in German and in English.
2. It is in any case understood that the German version in case of discrepancies shall prevail.

§ 3 purpose of the association

1. The association is an ideal association and is not geared towards economic business operations. The association promotes artistic and cultural purposes and wants to connect cultures from different areas.
2. The objectives of the association shall be reached in particular by the following measures:
 - a. establishing an international network of music festivals
 - b. use of common resources and joint approach to cooperatively strengthen values and the positive impact of our cultural field



- c. facilitation of exchange towards experience, knowledge and information (through meetings, conferences and workshops)
- d. development of the quality of events of our members, within our sector, for our visitors and to the benefit of society
- e. enhancing safe, responsible, fair, future-fit and in all forms sustainable operations of events
- f. building capacity, providing education, sharing best practise
- g. creation of synergies with other networks active in culture policy
- h. representation of the festival scene in matters of mutual and public interest
- i. international dialogue and cultural exchange within and beyond our sector
- j. promotion of cross-boarder exchange of musical talent
- k. initiation and support of and cooperation in European projects

§ 4 Membership

1. Members of the association are natural or legal persons, as representatives for a European music festival according to the association's definition. Members can be registered as representatives for other festivals; this does not result in a separate membership.
2. The association has ordinary and associated members as well as honorary members. Associated and honorary members have no voting rights.
3. Membership is acquired on the basis of an application for membership, on which the Board finally decides. There is no entitlement to admission.
4. Membership ends upon death, dissolution, resignation or exclusion.
 - a) The member can give notice of resignation to the Executive Board or the office of the association by giving six weeks' notice to the end of the financial year.
 - b) The Executive Board can exclude members for important reasons if the behaviour of the member grossly violates the statutes or the interests of the association. Before the exclusion is decided, the member is to be given the opportunity to make a statement within a reasonable period of time.
5. The members are obliged to make a contribution. The amount of the fee is determined by the General Assembly.
6. The General Assembly may appoint honorary members. Honorary members have no voting rights and are without any obligation to pay membership fees.

§ 5 Bodies of the Association

1. Bodies of the Association are
 - the General Assembly
 - and the Executive Board.



§ 6 General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the supreme body of the association in which the members are represented. Every ordinary member present at the meeting has the right to sit and vote, provided that the financial obligations towards the association have been fulfilled.
2. The Executive Board invites all members in writing to the ordinary General Assembly. The invitation must be sent at least four weeks and a maximum of three months before the date of the General Assembly, including the provisional agenda. Members can submit motions to the Executive Board three weeks prior to the meeting. The annual General Assembly should take place in the first six months of the financial year.
3. An extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened by the Executive Board if this is required by the interests of the association or if one third of the Members apply for in writing, stating the purpose and reasons. The members are to be invited in writing at least one week before the day of the extraordinary General Assembly, with the announcement of the agenda.
4. The resolutions of the General Assembly are adopted with a simple majority, simple majority, unless these statutes require other majorities. Changes to the statutes or the purpose of the association require a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast.
5. The tasks of the General Assembly include:
 - To elect Board Members,
 - To exclude Board Members,
 - To decide on the approval of the actions of the Executive Board – on the basis of the annual report from the Executive Board,
 - Approval of the attested annual accounts consisting of a statement of assets as well as a profit and loss account,
 - Confirmation of the appointment of the state-certified tax advisor attesting the annual accounts,
 - To decide on amendments of the articles of association and on regulations on the basis of these articles of association,
 - Decision on membership fees for the coming year on the recommendation of the Executive Board,
 - To decide on the dissolution of the association and the use of its assets.
6. In particular cases, the General Assembly can also be conducted online or in writing.
7. Minutes are to be drawn up for the General Assembly, which is to be signed by the Chairperson of the assembly and the keeper of the minutes.



§ 7 Executive Board

1. The Executive Board is made up as follows: Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer and two other Board members. The mandate of Board members shall be two years from their election. They remain in office until the election of their successor, unless they have been excluded by the General Assembly before. However, at the first election two members of the Board are to be elected for one year.
2. In the event of the departure of a Board member, the remaining Board members can cooperate with a substitute member until the next General Assembly. The following General Assembly then makes the election for the remaining term of office of the resigned Board member. If the Chairperson resigns, the Vice- Chairperson will become acting Chairperson until the elections of the Chairperson.
3. The Chairperson of the Executive Board represents the Association judicially and extra judicially together with another member of the Executive Board.
4. The Executive Board is responsible for the management of the association in accordance with these articles of association, the decisions of the General Assembly and its rules of order. The Executive Board is entitled to issue its own rules of order (Board's rules of order).
5. The Executive Board is authorized to appoint a General Secretary, who can act as a special representative in the meaning of § 30 BGB and is then entitled to represent the association in economic, administrative and personal matters.
6. The Chairperson presides over the General Assembly meetings and the Executive Board meetings. In the absence of the Chairperson the Vice-Chairperson takes over this function.
7. Executive Board meetings are held whenever necessary. Date and place of each meeting shall be determined by the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall ensure that the agenda for each meeting is sent to the Board Members at least one week in advance so that they can prepare adequately and attend the meeting. Executive Board meetings may be held by personal attendance or via audio and/or video conference. Each Board Member is expected to participate in Executive Board meetings. A transfer of voting rights to another member of the Executive Board is not permitted.
8. The Executive Board forms a quorum when at least three members of the Board are present. A simple majority of the votes cast is required for voting; in the event of a tie the Chairperson has the casting vote.
9. Minutes are to be drawn up on the course of the Board meeting.
10. The Executive Board is authorized to make editorial changes and additions to the articles of association, as well as those that are required by courts or authorities.



§ 8 Dissolution of the association

1. The association can be dissolved by resolution of the General Assembly. A majority of 2/3 of the votes cast is required for the resolution.
2. If the association is dissolved, the General Assembly decides on the use of the remaining assets