D1

Discussion

Proposer: Executive Committee (decided on: 17.11.2026)

Title: **New statutes - EC Draft adopted in Brasov on ECM 09/26**

Statutes

Drafted ammended version adopted on ECM Brasov in September 2026

Title 1: Basic Act
Article 1 – Form -Denomination
The form of the Association is an international association with none lucrative objective (with international benefits), in compliance to the laws and is beinnamed as the Cooperation and Development Network of Eastern Europe, in short the CDN.
In all acts, bills, announcements, publications and other pages issued by the International Association having none lucrative objective a designation of the Association must be mentioned with above or further added wording "International Association without a lucrative objective" or the abbreviation IALO (AISBL) as well as its' seat address.
Article 2 – Social Seat
The social seat of the Association is to be set in the Brussels-Capital Region. The administration body has the power to move the seat of the association within Belgium, provided that such a move does not require a change in the language of the statutes by virtue of the applicable language regulations. In case of transfer of the seat to another Region, the administration body has the power to modify the statutes.
Article 3 Objective – Activities

As non-profiting Association with none lucrative objective, it has the following strategies of international benefit:

- **Promotion of ecology (in its broad sense: environment, social and political ecology) and the stability with the young Europeans, using all non-violent means at the disposal.**
- **Encouragement for realization of ecology studies and reflections in various forms (in its broad sense) with the young democrats of the whole Europe, accentuating Eastern Europe (European countries non-members of European Union).**
- **To unite the young people of various European nations, to establish and favour dialogues on regional and national differences**
- **To coordinate joint actions of organisations members towards development and cooperation of young people and groups in Europe, aiming to bring together European nations**
- **To promote objectives of joint "green" actions at the international level**
- **To defend rights of men and women, rights of minorities, equality of genders and the democracy, as well as the means for democratic action**
- **To promote long lasting development in Eastern Europe.**

The objectives quest shall specifically be executed through following activities:

1. **Activities in exchanging**
2. **Seminaries and reunions for studies**
3. **Training programs**
4. **Campaign on sensitiveness efforts**
5. **Meetings**
6. **Study visits**
7. **Support to organisations members**

The Association can execute any act relating directly or indirectly to its objectives. It can namely assist and get involved in all activities following objectives being similar to own ones.

Article 4 – Members

The Association is open to Belgian and foreign persons.

The Association is composed of factual members only, who are legal entities.

The members [1] have a double right to vote in the General Assembly.

[2] Number of members is not limited, while the minimum is set to be five (5).

Article 5

Admission of new members is conditioned through following clauses:

1. **

1. **To be a member of the CDN, an organisation should send a recommended letter to the Secretariat with enclosed Statutes of their organisation, with all useful information referring namely to their juridical ranking, to number of members, age limit and activity type.**
2. **The admission of a new member requires a two-thirds majority vote of the General Assembly in favour of their admission.**
3. **The members must respect the Statutes, decisions taken by the General Assembly and the CDN political program.**
4. **The members of the CDN have equal right to participate [3] in events organized by the CDN.**

Members can give their resignation under following conditions:
The members are free to withdraw at any time from the Association by presenting their written request to the Executive Committee. The members having resigned have none right relating to CDN property, nor can they request refunding of any of their contribution fees.
Executive Committee can propose expulsion of an Association member. The expulsion Decision can be pronounced by the General Assembly, after having heard the defence of the person concerned, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, not counting abstentions in the numerator or denominator.
The Executive Committee can reschedule the case of the member contender until the Decision of the General Assembly. Member can be deferred for duration of a year according to proposition of the Executive Committee or upon proposition of the majority of the General Assembly, in case when the member in question has not settled payment of annual fee contribution.
A member can be [4] expelled if they do not respect the CDN legal documents.
A member who stops participating in Association's activities (due to death or otherwise), does not have any right to social funds.
Article 5bis
Members pay fixed contribution, being fixed annually [5] by the General Assembly upon proposition of the Executive Committee and pursuant to financial means of the members.
Members must pay their contribution fee for the current year by the month of September. In case of payment failure, rights of member in question will be temporarily suspended by the General Assembly, until payment of the contribution fee is settled.
Title 2: Organisation

Chapter 1 – Managing (Administration Governing – Representation)

Article 6 – General Assembly (General Managing Body)

The General Assembly has full power enabling realization of objectives and activities of the Association.

All members are its constituents.

Particularly, the following processes are essential for its functioning:

1. **Approval of budget and accounts**
2. **Election, revocation, discharge of Executive Committee, Executive Committee members (administrators), Council of Members co-chairpersons, Oversight Committee members, Secretary General and if required, exclusion of accounts' supervisors or examiners**
3. **Statutes modifications**
4. **Approval of acts for interior order**
5. **Closing down of the Association**
6. **Exclusion of members**
7. **Approval of Annual Report of Executive Committee, Council of Members, and Oversight Committee.**

Article 7

General Assembly gathers every year, when suited at the social seat or at other place as set in convocation, under presidency of the Presidency of the General Assembly, elected to the position by the Executive Committee.

1. **Convocations for General Assembly are sent in written form by the Secretariat in the sufficient time limit before the General Assembly so that the participants can contribute to the Agenda (submit propositions, functional points etc.), in order that accompanying documents are at the disposal (via web site) to participants in such time limit allowing its reading prior the meeting. Convocations are sent by post, fax, electronic mail or other communication means at least 30 (thirty) days before the General Assembly, with included Agenda**
2. **Extraordinary General Assembly could be summoned upon request of the Executive Committee or by request of third of factual members under hereinafter set conditions:**
    - **Invitation to extraordinary General Assembly must be sent to all members at least 15 (fifteen) days before General Assembly with included General Assembly Agenda.**
3. **The CDN should cover all costs relating to the General Assembly (voyage, accommodation, meals and visas) for designated two persons**

representing the member, when financial conditions would allow it. If an applicant organisation submits a request to attend, the CDN will cover the same costs for one representative of such organisation requesting the membership, when financial conditions would allow it and if the report of the Executive Committee is positive. The CDN will preserve the right to cover costs of voyage within limits being specified in the convocation for the General Assembly and in compliance to Decision of the Executive Committee.

4. **In case of lack of financial means to comply with articles 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 of the General Assembly organisation, the CDN Executive Committee would be then obliged to inform the Council of Members in writing about causes of such a situation and to request suggestions and propositions or a postponement for up to six months. The Council of Members can only accept any suggestions, propositions or requests for postponement made by the Executive Committee with a two-thirds majority.**
6. **The genders' equality should be assured within each constituent member.**

Article 8

1. **Excluding the stipulations that are contrary to the present Statutes, the deliberation of the General Assembly will be valid only when half of members or their representatives are present.**
2. **Each member can be represented at the General Assembly by one or two delegates or else by another member, with assured special authorization which is submitted to the Presidency at least 7 (seven) days prior to the convocation of the General Assembly. One member can only represent themselves and one other member of the Association.**

Article 9

Excepting cases previewed by these Statutes, simple majority presented or represented members is sufficient to bring resolutions. All members are informed by electronic mail about the brought resolutions.

Article 10 – Council of Members

The Council of Members (CoM) is the second-highest political body of CDN and ensures continuity of political action and decision-making between sessions of the GA.

The Council of Members is composed of:

1. **One representative of each member;**
2. **All members of the Executive Committee;**
3. **Two co-chairpersons of CoM;**
4. **Secretary General (without voting rights).**

The responsibilities of the CoM include:

1. **Adopting resolutions, declarations, positions, and other advocacy or strategic documents;**
2. **Providing political guidance to the Executive Committee between GAs;**
3. **Convening the GA upon a justified proposal of the Executive Committee;**
4. **Submitting an annual report on its work to the GA.**

The CoM is presided over by one member for a one-year term. The presiding member is elected by the GA. The presiding member is responsible for setting the political agenda for the work of the CoM and defining its priorities during its one-term mandate.

The Co-Chairpersons of CoM are elected by the GA. They are responsible for the procedural management of the Council's work, including convening and moderating meetings of the CoM and ensuring proper documentation and follow-up of decisions. Co-Chairpersons of CoM must be gender balanced.

CoM meets at least quarterly, online or in the country of the presiding organisation. The meeting agenda is set up by the Co-Chairpersons of CoM, with the political input of members and the Executive Committee.

Article 11 – Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee is an independent supervisory and interpretative body of CDN. It acts as a safeguard of compliance with the Association's internal acts.

The Oversight Committee consists of 3 people. Members of the Oversight Committee must be impartial, and act in the best interest of the Association. Oversight Committee members cannot simultaneously hold a mandate in the Executive Committee, Secretariat, or Council of Members.

The Oversight Committee meets upon request of the Executive Committee, Council of Members, Secretary General, or at least one Association's member, or on its own initiative when necessary. Decisions are taken by a simple majority of all Oversight Committee members, unless specified otherwise.

The Oversight Committee tasks include:

1. **Decision on the compliance of internal acts and decisions with the legal documents of the Association;**

2. **Providing binding interpretation of the legal documents of the Association;**
3. **Deciding on the compliance of internal acts and decisions with the Statutes;**
4. **Resolving competence conflicts between CDN bodies;**
5. **Other procedures described in the legal documents of the Association.**

Article 1 – Executive Committee (Administration Body)

The Association is governed by an Executive Committee composed of at least three members (administrators). None maximum has been foreseen. Executive Committee members must come from at least three different countries. However, no more than two Executive Committee members can come from the same country. Beside this,

1. **Up to one member of the Executive Committee can be elected without being a member of an organisation that is a member of the Association, if they secure the recommendation by a member of the Association.**
    1. **No more than half of members of the Executive Committee identifying as male should be elected. Atmembers**
    2. **At least half of Executive Committee members must be younger than thirty.**
    3. **The General Assembly has the right to decide on exceptional cases with directives.**
2. **The Executive Committee has at their disposal all governing and administrative authorities as to contribute to the General Assembly.**
3. **The Executive Committee chooses from its own members a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and two Vice-Presidents[6] .**
4.
5. **Administration Councilis a Secretary General.**
6. **The Executive Committee can establish a whole consultative center or any equivalent if evaluated as useful, whose role would be to counsel or advise the Executive Committee on issues of particular cases.**
7. **Identity of one or more delegates for daily managing shall be forwarded to the Tribunal de l'entreprise Registry and should be published in the Belgian official journal's annexes.**
8. **Beside this, the Executive Committee can, within its responsibilities, entrust special and particular authorities to one or several persons.**
9. **The responsibilities of members of the Executive Committee shall be specified by the regulations and internal procedures of the CDN.**

Members of the Executive Committee have no right to vote during the General Assembly, except when they are in fact the only member of their organisation who is a member of the CDN, being present at the General Assembly.

Article 13- Nominations

The Executive Committee members (administrators) are named by the General Assembly for a mandate that ends during the next ordinary General Assembly, with a possibility of double renewal.

In case of vacation during their mandates, the Executive Committee can assign a replacement person who will act until mandate termination of the person they are replacing. The Executive Committee members (administrators) can be revoked by the General Assembly in session with two-thirds majority of the votes cast or by two thirds of the rest of the Executive Committee.

Article 14 - Meetings

The Executive Committee gathers in a digital format twice a month, and it convenes at least Administration twice a year upon special convocation by the Secretary General.,The convocation is transmitted by post, fax, electronic mail and all other communication ways.

One Administrator can be represented only by another Administrator.

The Executive Committee can deliberate constructively only when at least half of its factual or represented members are present. Its resolutions are brought with a simple majority of present or represented members. In case of voice divergences, the vote of the President will be decisive.

Article 15 – Conflict of interests

If an Executive Committee member (administrator) has directly or indirectly an opposing interest of patrimonial nature towards a decision or an operation relating to the Executive Committee, he has to pass it to other Executive Committee members (administrators) before deliberation at the Executive Committee. His statement, as well as reasons justifying the contrary interest of the head of the Administrator in question, should be stated in the Minutes of the Executive Committee who is to bring Decision. Beside this, he should inform eventual supervisors about it. The Executive Committee describes in Minutes the disposition of Decision or operation with a justification for the taken Decision as well as the patrimonial consequences for the Association. The Managing Report should contain the complete Minutes. The Administrator in question cannot deliberate on session of the Executive Committee relating to operation or Decision in question, nor can he take part in the voting. This

article will not apply when decisions of the Executive Committee relate to usual operations taken in normal conditions for the operations of the same nature.

Article 16 – Representation

With exception of special authorization, any act inducing the Association, signed by a delegated Administrator or by Secretary General acting alone, or by a member of the Executive Committee having particular authorization, does not have to be justified to third parties, not even if demanded through announce.

The juridical actions in demanding or defending cases are to be followed by Executive Committee being represented by a designated Administrator or the Secretary General acting alone or by a member of the Executive Committee having special authorization.

Article 17 - Secretariat

The Secretariat is composed of employees and contracted personnel. The person in charge of daily managing is a Secretary General.

The Secretary General is to be elected to the position with a two year mandate by an absolute majority of the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

The work of the Secretariat is further defined within the Secretariat's internal regulations, adopted by the Secretariat.

The day-to-day management of the association includes both acts and decisions which do not exceed the needs of the daily life of the association and acts and decisions which, either because of the minor interest they represent or because of their urgent nature, do not justify the intervention of the Executive CommitteeAdministration Council. Any restriction relating to the representation authorities, being accorded to the person in charge of daily managing; for the daily managing functioning; can not be questioned by third parties, even if published.

Chapter 2: Book Keeping

Article 185 - Financial Year and Balance Sheets

The financial year terminates on the 31 st December.

The Executive CommitteeAdministration Council is expected to submit Balance Sheets for the past financial year and following Financial Year Budget for approval of the General Assembly to convene during the next assembly.

Article 196 - Control

In the case previewed by the Law, the Executive Committee

will confer financial control of the Association to one or several supervisors according to own choice.

Title 3 : Modifications and Dissolution

Article 2017

Without legal imposing, every proposition having for objective a modification of statutes or dissolution of the Association should originate from Executive Committee or from at least (2/3) two-thirds of factual Association members.

The Executive Committee is to inform members of the Association at least two months in advance prior to date of General Assembly which is to deliberate about given proposition. Proposals for amendments to the statutes shall be communicated in detail to the members at least fifteen days before the General Assembly.

The General Assembly can properly perform only if two-thirds of members are gathered, having deliberative, present or represented voting rights.

No decision shall be taken unless it is passed by a four-fifths majority of the votes cast, not counting abstentions in the numerator or denominator.

Nonetheless, if that General Assembly does not gather two-thirds of the Association members, a new General Assembly will be convoked in the same conditions as above designated, which will then definitely and valuably decide on the issue, with the same majority of four-fifths of votes, notwithstanding number of present or represented members.

The decisions relating to vital issues such as social objective, attributions, convocation ways, decision making of the general administration bodies, as well as manner in which members are informed about the resolutions, conditions for statutes modification, for dissolution, termination and assignment of Association' social patrimony shall all be established by an authentic act.

Thus, in compliance with the Law, resolution on modification of Association objective (objectives) would have effect only following approval of the King that would equally be published in the Belgian official journal. Other Decisions on modifications of statutory mentions do not have to be submitted for acceptance to the Belgian minister having competence or to his delegate.

Article 218 - Liquidation and pretension to assets

In case of juridical or voluntary dissolution, the General Assembly will assign one or more liquidators and will set liquidation of the Association.

After the liquidation, eventual net assets would be conferred to one juridical person without a lucrative objective or private claims, being international or

not, in compliance to realization of an objective similar to the one of the Association or at least not having a detrimental goal.

General stipulations

Article 2219 - Choice of quarters

For the realization of these Statutes, all factual members or supporters, administrator and liquidator, residing abroad, shall choose for residence the social seat of the Association, where any communication for them can be properly submitted.

Article 230 – Common Law

For everything not being covered by these Statues, it is through the Law that the competence is to be sought, while the clauses being contrary to essential stipulations are considered not written.

Article 241 Judicial Competence

For any dispute between Association, its members, partners, obliging persons, Executive Committee members (administrators)Administrators, Council of Members co-chairpersons, Oversight Committee, supervisors and liquidators relating to the Association's affairs and to execution of present Statutes, exclusive competence is entrusted to courts at region of the social seat, except if the Association has explicitly renounced to that.

[1]On the last GA, we have adopted the new procedure where all MOs have two votes so there are no more voting differences between EU and non-EU MOs.

[2]ibid.

[3]Grammar.

[4]Clarifying.

[5]Grammar

[6]to check with lawyer

D2

Discussion

Proposer: Green Youth of Serbia (decided on: 17.11.2026)

Title: **Whose River Is It? Citizen Power in Environmental Decisions**

Environmental decisions directly affect the lives and livelihoods of local communities, yet the people most affected by these decisions are often given little meaningful influence over them. Public consultations and participation mechanisms may formally exist, but their actual impact on decision-making is frequently limited, particularly in contexts where democratic institutions and civic space are under pressure.

Across Eastern Europe, local communities have mobilised against projects threatening rivers, forests and agricultural land. These experiences demonstrate that environmental protection is closely connected to democratic participation, access to information and the ability of citizens to hold decision-makers accountable.

This session will explore what makes public participation meaningful rather than merely procedural. Through a simulated public consultation and the exchange of experiences from different countries, participants will examine how communities can influence environmental decisions and identify practical tools that youth and civil society organisations can use to strengthen democratic participation at the local level.

D3

Discussion

Proposer: Green Youth of Serbia (decided on: 17.11.2026)

Title: **Who Pays for the Green Transition? Beyond Extractivism**

The transition towards a climate-neutral economy requires significant resources, including critical raw materials needed for renewable energy technologies and other green industries. However, the extraction of these resources can create substantial environmental and social costs for the communities and territories where they are found. This raises an important question: who benefits from the green transition, and who bears its costs?
The Jadar lithium project in Serbia provides a relevant starting point for examining these tensions. It illustrates the challenges of balancing economic development, environmental protection and the interests of local communities, while also raising broader questions about green colonialism and extractivist development models in Eastern Europe.
This session will explore how the costs and benefits of resource extraction are distributed at local, national and European levels. Participants will critically examine the idea that economic growth and environmental protection are necessarily in conflict, and consider alternative development models that place biodiversity, social wellbeing and long-term sustainability at their centre.

D4

Discussion

Proposer: Green Youth of Serbia (decided on: 17.11.2026)

Title: **One Basin, Many Borders: Geopolitics and Environmental Justice**

Environmental challenges do not stop at national borders. Rivers, forests and ecosystems connect countries and communities across the region, while political decisions, economic interests and regulatory frameworks often remain divided along national lines. Effective environmental protection therefore requires cross-border cooperation, transparent decision-making and accountability from both public and private actors.

At the same time, international investment and geopolitical competition increasingly shape the region's environmental and economic landscape. Investments from different global actors, including China, the European Union and Gulf countries, can have significant implications for environmental standards, public oversight and the distribution of economic benefits and ecological risks.

Environmental harm also affects communities unequally. Rural populations, low-income households and marginalised groups often face greater exposure to pollution and environmental degradation, while having fewer resources to protect their interests or influence decisions.

This session will examine the relationship between geopolitics, cross-border environmental governance and social justice. Participants will explore the conditions needed to ensure responsible investment and effective regional cooperation, while identifying ways to make environmental policies more inclusive and responsive to the needs of the communities most affected.