



STATUTE OF THE UNION  
WITH THE NAME  
“Methexi”, International  
Partnership for culture and  
Arts

Articles

1. FOUNDATION - TITLE:

The Association “Methexi”, International Partnership for culture and Arts is founded in Kozani with the distinctive title in Greek «Μέθεξη»

Its emblem is a composition with suggestive references to the objectives of the Association. The Associations’ seal is a rhombus engraved in a circle and includes the title in Greek and English, as well as its emblem.

2. HEAD QUARTERS:

The Association “Methexi”, is a non-profit Association based in Kozani with power, free and independent of any public or private authority. Its administrative councils and committees may lawfully meet and outside of the head quarters. The offices of the Association can be transferred with the simple decision of the Board of Directors, after informing its members.

The Association may establish Branches, Offices and Training, Technical, Research and other supporting units and legal forms for promoting and empowering its work and appoint representatives in cities, towns or locations in Greece and/or abroad for its purpose.

3. DEFINITION-PURPOSE:

The Association “Methexi”, is defined as a unity of persons, established in love, alliloperihorisi (a coexistence of two or more entities, or opinions, worldviews, etc. without losing their qualities and peculiarities, without being assimilated and respecting the special characteristics of one another), catallagi(spirit of peace, conciliation, compromise) and respect of the special characteristics of the members that consist it (national, cultural, religious, individual, etc.)

Its main goals are:

- Preservation, rescue, dissemination and promotion of cultural heritage with a special spiritual content, combined with the development and visibility of the contemporary cultural creation.

- Raising awareness of the relevant to culture and arts institutions, informing and activating the public through the organization of multi-leveled events, including seminars, exhibitions, publications and scientifically based educational activities, etc. with the aim of recognizing the value of the aforementioned cultural heritage.

In detail, the means of achieving its aims are:

- Teaching activity in all fields of the arts, where the members of the Association will take the responsibility for the implementation of the educational process together with the assistance of external collaborators: painting, mosaic, sculpture, architecture, literature, poetry, music, cinema, theater and all the arts in general. In parallel with this, the study of philosophy, the science of theology and art history will contribute to a better understanding of the arts themselves and their purposes.

- Social activity, with initiatives aimed at stimulating the diffusion of the spirit and practice of artistic activities into multiple social realities, taking into account local special characteristics (multicultural societies and local traditions).

- Organize and manage schools, seminars, courses and workshops of all the aforementioned and generally all arts and techniques, in accordance with their traditional rules, but also by developing new methods of expression and linking these activities with the use of new technologies.

- Organization of national and international exhibitions, screenings of films and documentaries, concerts, theatrical performances, events and all other activities that generally concern the arts and culture. To this end, the Association may be involved and / or collaborate with artists, experts, or other specialized scientific staff not related to the Association to achieve its statutory goals.

- Communication and promotion of its activities through conferences, exhibitions, study and work groups, competitions, prizes, seminars, festivals, scientific presentations, performances and all kinds of cultural events, etc., using the possibilities offered by new technologies.

- Publishing magazines, newsletters, newspapers, books, brochures, conferences and seminars, studies and research, educational material, both on paper and in digital form.

- Exploiting any resource that could be an opportunity to develop cultural activity, visual innovation and scientific study and research.

- Managing and promoting collaborations with clubs, schools or other public and private organizations interested in disseminating the knowledge, history, theory and technique of particular visual practices.

- Consulting and cooperative activities with public and private institutions, libraries, museums, associations, individuals and other legal forms wishing to develop initiatives to support and promote the cultural heritage. For this purpose, the Association may propose itself as a reference point and / or as a service structure for businesses, universities and public and private institutions in general, by undertaking the management of courses and seminars and / or for the provision of services, within the framework of their institutional objectives.

- Touristic activity through the organization of excursions and tours to places of artistic, cultural, scientific or spiritual, religious interest.

- Any other cultural or recreational activity as well as any other economic or financial transaction, of mobile or immobile property+, in order to better achieve its institutional objectives.

The above is realized and implemented through assistance and cooperation of its members as well as the active participation of other citizens beyond its members.

#### 4. ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT:

In the pursuit of its goals, the Association may addresses for financial assistance, counseling and any kind of support to national or international organizations and institutions (State and Private), whose constitutional structure and objectives do not conflict with the present statute. As a result, it can promote and pursue the establishment of business consortia and strategic partnerships, organize promotional and supporting activities for the realization of its purposes.

#### 5. RESOURCES:

Resources of the Association are:

- The member enrollment fees
- Members' annual subscriptions or other contributions
- Revenue from the organization of events or public awareness actions
- Publishing, distribution of printed material, audiovisual material, etc.

- Grants from Greek or international institutions,
- Donations, inheritances and any other legal revenue
- The proceeds from the exploitation of its property
- Sponsorships, in their well-known form, but also with the parallel development of the institution of popular sponsorship (crowd funding).

#### 6. RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

The association can create or contribute to the creation of other non-governmental organizations (non-profit organizations, clubs, foundations, non-governmental organizations, etc.) since with their foundation they will serve the wider objectives of the association. The legal forms established will be fully dependent on the fundamental principles underlined in this Statute as expressed in the Article 3 and without the possibility of autonomy. The statutes of these legal forms will be defined and, by extension, controlled by the Chairman and the members of the Board of Directors of the Founding Association. The position of the member of the Board of Directors of these legal forms will be filled by one member of the Board of Directors, appointed with a decision of the Board of the Association- Founder. In the cases where these legal forms decide to depart from the purpose, control and the operational relationship of the Founding Association with them, this act will cause the immediate cessation of activities and the solution of these legal forms.

The Association may cooperate or register as a member in other associations, federations, national or international organizations with the same or similar purposes.

#### 7. MEMBERS:

Members of the Association can be women and men of all tribes, nationalities and religious perceptions. New members must be proposed in writing by at least two pre-existing members. All members have the right to propose new members (natural and legal persons) for a total of five (5) persons a year.

Members of the Association may also be, except persons, all kinds of private legal entities if they wish through their legal representatives. Members of the Association should not have any financial purpose or benefit. Public legal entities may be members, under certain conditions and objective criteria in accordance with the association's constitutional objectives, as a minority within the Association and without the possibility of taking management positions.

The members of the Association are distinguished in regular, auspicious, honorary and benevolent.

#### Regular Members:

A regular member can be any person over 18 years of age if he / she submits a signed application to the Board of Directors (together with the signed written proposal of at least two of the old members) in which his / her personal details are registered, his / her surname, name, father's name, place of birth, address of residence and a statement stating that: unreservedly accepts these statutes, and the legal decisions of the Board of Directors and the General Meeting.

The status as a member shall be obtained after the approval of the Board of Directors, which shall decide upon the request of the person concerned, no later than two months after its submission. Only full members who meet the prerequisites of Article 10, section (b), last paragraph and have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Association have the right to vote and stand for election. Following the approval of the application, the new member pays his / her registration. Regular members can also become the Legal Entities of Public and Private Law and they are represented by a person, designated by them. The designated Person must submit an application with his/her exact name, address and ID number. Regular Members are also considered the Founding Members of the Association.

#### Assisting Members:

Assisting members are made by decision of the Board of Directors, upon request, those who wish to contribute in every way to the realization of the purposes of the Association, namely:

- By offering volunteer work.
- Providing financial support.
- By engaging in public relations, etc. Assisting Members do not have the right to vote and to stand as a candidate, nor the obligation to pay annual membership fees to the Association.

#### Honorary Members:

Honorary members are made, following a decision of the Board of Directors, persons who have contributed in an exceptional way to the promotion of the aims of the Association. Honorary Members may be, in addition to persons, Organizations, Non-Profit Societies, Committees, NGOs and Legal Entities, Local Government Institutions, and Non-Governmental Organizations. Honorary members are exempt from the annual membership fee.

Benefactors:

The Board of Directors of the Association can award the distinction of a "benefactor member" to natural and legal persons who have greatly assisted the Association. This award can also be awarded to Organizations, Companies, Personnel Associations and Committees, NGOs and Local Government Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations.

The number of members of the Association is unlimited. The Association continues to exist if its regular members are not less than twenty (20).

#### 8. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS:

All members of the Association have equal rights and obligations in accordance with the articles of this Statute. Members are entitled to participate actively in the operation of the Association and receive continuous information and participation in its decisions.

Regular members are required, in addition to their right to subscribe, to pay an annual subscription to the Association, the amount of which is determined each time by a decision of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may set higher amounts for subscription and annual subscription of Private and Public Law Entities and lower for students and students.

If a member doesn't pay the membership fee for two years, this action will imply its deletion by a decision of the Board of Directors. In this case, it is possible to re-enroll, after the subscriptions of the past years have been paid.

The regular members are also obliged to: participate in the General Assembly of the Association, contribute to the achievement of its objectives, comply with the provisions of this statute or any internal regulation, as well as with the legitimate decisions of the Board of Directors and the G.A.

Members have the right to withdraw from the Association at any time after having informed the Board of Directors in writing and have paid the subscription for the current year.

## 9. ADMINISTRATION:

The main administration bodies of the Association are the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee. Additionally, the Board of Directors may, by a decision, and after informing the General Assembly, set up special committees with specific responsibilities to assist and reinforce its work.

### a) General Assembly

The General Assembly consists of the regular members of the Association that are financially settled. The General Assembly is the supreme body of the Association and decides on any matter not falling under the competence of another body. The G.A. meets regularly once a year and in special cases with a reasoned decision of the Board of Directors or a written request of one-fourth of the members, which must be addressed to the Board of Directors and to indicate the topics to be discussed. Special G.As shall be convened under the responsibility of the President of the Association within 40 days from the date of submission of the relevant application. The invitation for the G.A. is sent by post or electronically or by fax to the members of the Association at least ten (10) days before the date of the General Assembly meeting. The invitation must include the place, day and time of the meeting, as well as the subjects on the agenda.

The GA is in quorum and holds a valid meeting when  $1/2$  plus one of the regular members who are financially settled are present or represented. If there is no quorum, the GA is re-called within 8 days. In the case of the repetitive G.A. the invitation to the members of the association is sent electronically five (5) days before it is conducted, and no individual invitations to members are required. The repetitive G.A. meets validly, regardless of the number of attending members. For the decision of the G.A. a majority of the present members are required. The members of the Association from abroad can participate in the General Assembly not only with their physical presence but also with any of the available electronic media.

### Procedural functions of the G.A.:

Each General Assembly elects, at the beginning of the meeting, a small council composed of the President and the Secretary of the General Assembly. All decisions of the G.A. are taken by an open vote (nominal or by hand). Unless to an obligatory secret voting is stated by the Articles of the Association. That or other personal issues are involved or doubts of trust or accusation against the Board of Directors or for the election of members of the Board of Directors or after a request of  $1/3$  of the members present, the decisions are taken

with a secret ballot. On the annual agenda of the General Assembly must be included the Board of Directors' report, the financial report, as well as the report of the Audit Committee.

The G.A. approves the Boards' report, the future planning of actions and the next year's budget. Within the competence of the emergency General Assembly is the decision of the removal of members of the Board of Directors Especially in this case, a quorum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the regular full members is required and a majority of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the present. To make a motion of censure to the BoD as a subject in this Assembly, this motion must be signed by at least  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the regular members of the Association.

b) Board of Directors:

The Association is managed by the Board of Directors, which consists of five (5) full members, the President, the Vice-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer and the Fund Manager. Their tenure is four years. Members of the Council may be assigned special tasks following a decision of the Board of Directors.

Nominations Procedure:

- Candidates for election to the Board of Directors submit a nomination document to the Chairman of the Board no later than five (5) days prior to the date of the General Assembly's election.
- The names of the candidates are listed in alphabetical order in a single list, from which every regular member of the Association selects the candidates of his choice.
- During the voting, every regular member of the Association has the right to have as many crosses as possible, as is the regular members of the Board of Directors.
- In the event of a tie, a draw is drawn between those who tie in.
- The elected members of the Board of Directors shall meet within ten days of their election, at the initiative and invitation of the counselor with the majority of votes, and shall elect the President, the Vice-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer and the Fund Manager.
- There is no restriction on participation in the process of election to the members of the current Board of Directors, nor to those who were members of the Board of Directors in the past.

- In order for a member to be eligible for the election process he must have been enrolled as a member six (6) months before the date of the elections and to have the right to vote the period of three (3) months must have passed from the date of his/her registration.

#### Substitute Board Members:

If a full member of the Board of Directors quits or is eliminated, shall be replaced by the substitute member who obtained the most votes in the elections, and in the event of a tie, a draw shall be drawn. The substitute who occupies the post of the member leaving has all the rights and obligations of the member he has replaced.

#### BOD Responsibilities:

The Board of Directors is competent to decide on any matter relating to the administration, planning, and implementation of the purposes and management of the property of the Association, except those cases which, under the law or with this statute, fall within the competence of the General Assembly. The Board of Directors may, by decision, authorize a member or members of the Association to act individually or collectively in order to: take over, withdraw and distribute the Bank's deposits in bank accounts, up to the amount determined by decision of the Board, signing receipts and warrants pay, pay and collect on behalf of the Association.

#### Roles and responsibilities of the Board:

##### Chairman:

The President represents the Association before any judicial, administrative, tax or other authority, before any person, in all relations, legal transactions and events. He convenes the meetings of the Board of Directors, in which he chairs. He convenes by decision of the Board of Directors regular and emergency G.A. He generally takes care of the observance and implementation of the articles of the association, the rules of procedures and the decisions of the General Assembly and the Board of Directors of the Association. He undertakes initiatives and takes appropriate measures to ensure the interests and the realization of the objectives of the Association. He performs any other act that is not assigned to another body of the Association. The President with the Treasurer, when signing together, open, handle and close any account of the Association to any Bank in accordance with the provisions of this Statute.

#### Vice president:

The Vice President replaces the Chairman when he / she is absent or prevented from performing his / her duties, to the extent of his / her rights and duties, and assumes all additional services assigned by the Board. When the Vice President is absent or prevented from performing his duties, he is being replaced by another member of the Board determined by a decision of the Board of Directors.

#### General Secretary:

The Secretary has the administrative supervision of the services of the Association and ensures the implementation of the decisions of the Board of Directors and the G.A. He handles the correspondence of the Board of Directors inside the Association, notes the agenda/protocol of the Board of Directors and of the General Meetings in cooperation with the Chairman, signs with the President each outgoing document, maintains the register of members and keeps the seal of the Association. The Secretary, when absent or prevented from performing his duties, is being replaced by another member of the Board, appointed by a decision of the Board of Directors.

#### Treasurer:

The Treasurer keeps the accounting records, duplicate receipts with which subscriptions of members and the various revenues of the Association are collected, and makes all payments. He may delegate some of these responsibilities to other departments of the Association, always maintaining the responsibility for the financial management of the Association's resources, in accordance with the provisions of this Statute and the BoD decisions. The Treasurer is required to deposit into the bank account of the Association the money received, with the exception of an amount that is determined by the Board each time depended on current operational needs. The Treasurer is obliged to make available to the BoD for auditing the accounting books and the fund of the Association, whenever deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer ensures the regular collection of subscriptions and keeps the Board informed for arrears. When the Treasurer is absent or prevented from performing his duties, he is replaced by another member appointed by the Board.

#### Fund Manager:

The Fund Manager is in direct co-operation with the President, and in the absence of him in direct cooperation with the Vice-President. He is responsible for searching for potential financial resources and grants from private and public institutions. In addition, he proposes activities that can be of financial assistance to the Association, always in direct co-operation with all the members of the Board, the decision of which is a prerequisite for any action.

#### Special Committees:

For the best and fuller success of the purposes of the Association, the Board of Directors may set up special committees from members, whether members or not, of the Association whose mission and framework of activity will be defined and controlled by the Board of Directors.

#### Meetings, Quorums and Board Decisions:

The Board of Directors meets at least once a month and is in quorum when at least three members are present. The decisions of the Board of Directors shall be taken by a majority of the members present. In the event of a tie, the President's vote shall prevail. Meetings can also be done with the teleconferencing system. In the event members of the Board of Directors aren't physical present at the meeting, they sign a copy of the agenda/protocol electronically and then they send a signed copy by e-mail. In the event that the Secretary is not present or absent, the agenda is being noted by a member present.

#### c) Audit Committee:

The Audit Committee is elected in the elections by the General Assembly and its service is four years and parallel to that of the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee consists of three members. Its members cannot be members of the Board of Directors or have a family relation with them up to second degree relatives. The Audit Committee is in quorum and can meet validly when two (2) members are present. The Chairman of the Audit Committee is the one who has received the most votes, in the case of a tie, a draw is made between the equals. The audit of financial management is carried out annually by the Audit Committee and concerns the management period from 1 January to 31 December of the previous year. The Audit Committee reviews the books and records and submits the annual written reports to the General Assembly.

#### 10. BOOKS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The Association keeps records of the past agenda/protocol, revenues and expenses, as well as a record of the events it organizes.

#### 11. MODIFICATION OF STATUTE:

This statute may be amended by a decision of the regular or emergency General Meeting of the Association. For the validity of this decision the presence of one half of the regular members of the Association and the majority of 3/4 of the members present in the General Assembly, according to article 99 of the AC (Greek Law), is required.

#### 12. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The Association may be dissolved by the decision of the G.A. For the purpose of taking this decision, the presence of ½ of the financially settled members of the Association and the majority of the 3/4 of the members present in the General Assembly is needed. In case of the dissolution of the Association, the last G.A. decides on the disposal of its property to a non-profit organization, which serves purposes similar to those of the Association.

An important reason for the dissolution of the Association also, apart from the above, is also the constitutional change or transformation of article 3, which may alter the character of the spirit of the fundamental principles of the Association.

#### 13. PARALLEL LAWS:

In addition to the terms of this Statute, the Laws for Associations and generally the law for legal persons must also be taken into account.

#### 14. APPROVAL OF STATUTE:

This Statute was approved by the General Assembly of the founding members of the Interim Administration on 27 January 2019 and will be valid after the approval and recognition by the Court of First Instance of Kozani and its registration in the relevant Society Book.