

Preamble:

Europe is a constantly changing entity. It is not merely a geographical location but an idea and a state of mind. It has survived countless wars, social upheavals and crises. Since the fall of the Iron Curtain, the countries of Europe have come closer together, no longer entrenched in ideological conflict. This climate of change poses many questions to the population of Europe and indeed, the world. In light of this, we wish to set up the following society. We hope it will generate interest in where Europe is going and why, and provide a forum for all students and staff to engage in debate regarding European issues. We also hope to explore the broad cultural, political, historical, social, economic, religious and linguistic diversity of Europe.

1. **Name:** The Society shall be known as the Dublin University Europa Society.

2. Objects:

- a) To provide an inclusive forum for students of all nationalities to discuss all matters European whether they be cultural, political, historical, social, economic, religious or linguistic.
- b) To promote interest and awareness of European cultures, politics and history.
- c) To address issues relating to the European Union and specifically, its institutions.
- d) To invite speakers to address college about current European issues.
- e) To organise debates on pan-European issues.
- f) To host a mock European Parliament inviting students from across the continent to participate in a simulation of the institutions of the European Union.
- g) To organise cultural trips and exchanges with other similar student organisations from other European universities.

3. **Membership:** Membership shall be open to all capitated students and staff members of the University. Full membership shall be granted to capitated students and staff members in return for a subscription of €3 or such other figure as shall be decided by the Committee or Annual General Meeting within the limits set by the C.S.C.

4. The Committee:

The Committee shall consist of the following officers: the Auditor, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Public Relations Officer, the Language Officer, the Entertainments Officer, the Politics Officer, the Junior Secretary and three Ordinary Members of Committee.

5. The Committee shall meet at least four times during each term. The function of the committee is to ensure that the society remains active and that the non-committee members are kept as involved as possible.

For a motion to be passed before the committee, a quorum of at least five must be present for the decision to be deemed valid.

6. Officers and Committee members may be removed from office before the completion of their term of office only by a motion of no-confidence passed by a simple majority of all the members of the society or by 90% of those members of the Society present at an Extraordinary General Meeting, whichever is the lesser.

7. The Annual General Meeting and General Meetings:

The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in Hilary Term. A notice shall be posted on the Society's noticeboard or otherwise publicised to the members not less than three days before the meeting giving the date and time of the meeting and the fact that elections to the Committee will take place thereat.

8. The meeting shall be open to all students and staff but only full members of the Society shall be entitled to vote. The Auditor shall have the task of chairing the AGM.

9. At the meeting the officers shall read their reports of the Society's activities for the year, and the election of a new Committee shall take place bar the election of the representatives of the various year(s) who shall be elected at the annual inaugural meeting of the Society.

10. A general meeting of the Society may be called by the Committee or by 20% of the members of the Society presenting a signed petition to the Committee. Three days notice as provided for in the case of an Annual General Meeting shall be given.

11. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be called following the procedure set out above for General Meetings.

12. Candidates for election must be paid up full members of the Society, and each candidate must be nominated and seconded by a full member of the Society.

13. No one shall be admitted to membership less than 24 hours before an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

14. The Officers:

14. The Auditor:

- a) Shall oversee the general running of the Society
- b) Shall be responsible for the signing of cheques and withdraw forms from the Society's bank account
- c) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

15. The Secretary:

- a) Shall be responsible for all the correspondence of the Society and shall keep a record of it
- b) Shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Society and of the Committee
- c) Shall provide the Secretary of the C.S.C. with a record of the Society's activities during his/her term of office not later than the date set by the C.S.C. for submission of this report
- d) Shall be responsible for the signing of cheques and withdraw forms from the Society's bank account

e) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

16. The Treasurer:

- a) Shall be responsible for all the finances of the Society
- b) Shall be responsible for the collection of subscriptions
- c) Shall be responsible for the maintenance of accounts
- d) Shall have the duty of conducting routine communications with the C.S.C. on financial matters including the provision of estimates for expenditure.
- e) Shall also be in charge of raising funds for the Society, if needs be.
- f) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

17. The Treasurer and the Auditor shall be jointly responsible for the financial affairs of the Society. Although the affairs of the Society shall be in general conducted according to the vote of all of the members of the Committee, if the Committee overrules the advice of the Auditor and the Treasurer on a major financial matter or the Committee proceeds in the absence of the Chairperson and the Treasurer on such a matter, then the Auditor and the Treasurer shall either accept responsibility for the decision, or communicate directly and immediately with the Treasurer of the C.S.C. in which case the Committee shall hold responsibility for the consequences of the decision in question. If only one of the said officers disassociates himself/herself from the decision, then the other officer shall assume complete responsibility; neither will the officer disassociating himself/herself be forced to accept responsibility by the vote of the Committee or of the Society, though they may be called upon to resign by the due process of the Society in which case such former officer shall bring the case to the notice of the C.S.C.

18. The Treasurer or the Auditor or any persons may be requested to appear before the C.S.C., or officer or sub-committee of the C.S.C. to provide information concerning the finances of the Society. If a prima facie case exists that Society funds have been misused or misappropriated, the C.S.C. may ask the Senior Dean to declare the person or persons concerned indebted to the College, in which case they may not be permitted to register for the following academic year or to have their degree conferred.

19. The Treasurer shall close his/her accounts on March 31st of each year and thereafter as soon as may be possible shall arrange for the accounts to be audited as provided by the C.S.C. and these accounts shall be presented to the Committee of the Society and the C.S.C. for approval.

20. All cheques and withdrawal forms from the Society's bank account shall be signed by two of the designated officers who shall be the Auditor and the Treasurer.

21. The ordinary members of the Committee shall be delegated any other duties by the Auditor as are seen fit.

22. The Public Relations Officer:

- a) Shall be responsible for publicising events run by the Society.
- b) Issuing press statements and giving interviews. These must be approved by the Committee.
- c) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

24. The Entertainment Officer:

- a) Shall be responsible for organising receptions to follow events
- b) Shall organise social gatherings for all of the society's members.
- c) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

25. The Politics Officer:

- a) Shall be responsible for overseeing the organisation of a mock European Parliament as mentioned in the *Objects* above.
- b) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

26. The Language Officer:

- a) Shall be responsible for organising the regular events proposed for the Society in the *Objects* above.
- b) Shall be responsible for the promotion of use of European languages among society members.
- c) Shall organise events that encourage the use of European languages within the Society.
- d) Shall organise the Societies annual Language Ball.
- e) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

27. The Junior Secretary:

- a) Shall be responsible for representing the views of the Junior Freshman members of the Society.
- b) Shall be elected at the annual inaugural meeting of the Society.
- c) Shall be answerable to the Committee.

28. **Amendments:**

This constitution may be amended by a vote of a majority of those present at an Extraordinary General Meeting or an Annual General Meeting.

Notices of such amendments must be given to the Committee before the time set for such a General Meeting and to the Chairperson of that meeting before he/she takes the chair.

29. This constitution is binding as and from the date of being approved by both the Society and the C.S.C.

October 2010