

## **DUBLIN UNIVERSITY POLITICS SOCIETY**

- 1. NAME**  
The Society shall be known as Trinity Politics Society or by its abbreviation “Polsoc” (hereinafter referred to as the Society).
- 2. OBJECTS**  
The objectives of the Society are as follows:
  - a) To promote discussion of issues relating to politics and public administration.
  - b) To promote the study of Political Science.
  - c) To give students the opportunity to meet and discuss with political affairs with politicians, journalists, administrators and academics.
- 3. MEMBERSHIP**  
Membership shall be open to all capitated students of the University of Dublin, Trinity College (hereinafter referred to as the College). Ordinary membership shall be granted to capitated students in return for a subscription to be decided upon by the Committee or A.G.M..within the limits set by the C.S.C.  
All College staff shall be eligible for associate membership of the Society.  
Honorary membership may be conferred by the Society at the discretion of an A.G.M. or E.G.M. Honorary members shall have the same status as Associate members.
- 4. THE COMMITTEE**  
The Committee shall consist of the following Senior Officers: The Auditor, The Secretary, The Treasurer; the following Junior Officers: The Public Relations Officer (PRO); the Librarian, the Social Secretary =, a First Year Representative and not more than four ordinary Committee members (OCM).
- 5.** The Committee shall meet at least twice during the term.
- 6.** Committee members may be removed from office before the completion of their term of office only by an absolute majority of those members of the Society present at an E.G.M.  
In the event of one of the officers resigning or being removed from office, an E.G.M. must be called to elect an ordinary member to serve in that position until the next A.G.M. On the occasion of an OCM resigning or being removed from their position, the Committee shall have the power to co-opt an ordinary member of the society to serve in that position until the next A.G.M. An EGM shall be held in the first term in order to elect the First Year Representative and any open Committee positions. The First Year Representative can only be elected once term has started.
- 7. The Annual General Meeting and General Meetings:**  
The Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) of the Society shall be held as near as possible to the last week of Hilary Term. A notice shall be posted on the society’s social media pages, in the Society’s email or otherwise publicised to the members not less than three days before the meeting giving the date and time of the A.G.M. and the fact that elections to the Committee will take place thereat.
- 8.** The meeting shall be open to all members and all capitated students and members of the academic staff but only ordinary members of the society shall be entitled to vote.

9. At the A.G.M. the Senior Officers shall read their reports of the society's activities for the year and the election of a new Committee shall take place. All elections for Committee shall be by proportional representation, with the election of the ordinary Committee members proceeding according to the single transferable vote system used in Dáil Éireann. The new Committee shall take up office immediately after the A.G.M.
10. An Extraordinary General Meeting (E.G.M.) of the society may be called during lecture term by the Committee or by twenty percent of the ordinary members of the society presenting a signed petition to the Committee. Three day's notice as provided for in the case of an A.G.M. shall be given.
11. An E.G.M. of the society may be called, only during lecture terms, following the procedure set out above for general meetings.
12. Candidates for election must be ordinary members of the society and each candidate must be nominated and seconded by an ordinary member of the society.
13. No one shall be admitted to membership less than 24 hours before an A.G.M. or E.G.M. All general meetings shall be chaired by an ordinary member of the Society nominated from the floor. The quorum for an A.G.M. or E.G.M. shall be one third of the ordinary members or 15 ordinary members, whichever is the lesser.
14. **The Officers**  
The Auditor shall oversee the general running of the society and shall be answerable to the Committee.
15. The Secretary shall be responsible for all the correspondence of the society, such as email, and shall keep a record of it, and for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the society and of the Committee and to provide the Secretary of the C.S.C. with a record of the Society's activities during their term of office not later than the date set by the C.S.C. for submission of this report, and shall be answerable to the Committee. They shall, in conjunction with the PRO, hold responsibility for the Society's social media presence.
16. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all the finances of the society, for the collection of subscriptions and the maintenance of accounts and shall have the duty of conducting routine communications with the C.S.C. on financial matters including the provision of estimates for expenditure.
17. The Public Relations Officer (PRO) shall be responsible for publicising all activities of the society, shall be responsible for all of the Society's social media accounts, along with the Secretary, and shall have primary responsibility for communication through said accounts, and such other responsibilities as the Committee shall determine from time to time.
18. The Librarian shall be responsible for keeping the Society's library in order for inspection by the C.S.C., and shall endeavor to acquire more books and periodicals for the library.
19. The Social Secretary shall be responsible for organising social events and outings of the Society, and for ensuring that guest speakers are treated courteously at the Society's meetings.

20. The First Year Representative shall be responsible for the organization of events specifically targeted at Junior Freshman capitated students. They shall be the liaison between the Society and the new capitated students.

## **COMMITTEE PROCEDURE**

21. 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 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 Auditor 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 disassociate him/herself from the decision then the other officer shall assume complete responsibility, neither will they be forced to do so by 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.
22. 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.
23. 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 for by the C.S.C. and these accounts shall be presented to the Committee of the society and the C.S.C. for approval.
24. All cheques and withdrawal forms from the Society's bank account shall be signed by two of the designated Senior Officers, who shall be the Auditor, the Treasurer and the Secretary.
25. The ordinary members of the Committee (OCMs) shall be delegated any other duties by the Auditor as are seen fit.
26. **Constitutional Amendment**  
This Constitution may be amended by a vote of a two thirds majority of those present at an E.G.M. or A.G.M. Notice of such amendments must be given to the Committee before the time set for such an E.G.M. or A.G.M. The Committee must notify all members of the society of the fact that such amendments have been tabled before the time set for the said E.G.M. or A.G.M.
24. This constitution is binding as and from the date of its being approved by both the Society and the C.S.C.

**November 2021**