

Statute

Italian Sociological Association (AIS)

§ 1 – Aims, location and funding

1 - The Italian Sociological Association is a no-profit scientific association with the following aims:

- a) promoting sociological research in Italy;
- b) developing cultural and professional interests of its members;
- c) supporting the establishment and the coordination of institutional structures carrying on sociological research;
- d) promoting the academic and post-academic training of scholars in the field of sociology;
- e) encouraging networking and cooperation among scholars, through the organisation of national and international subject-specific conferences, meetings, seminars and lectures;
- f) defining a deontological code concerning the sociological profession and ensure its observance.

2 - The association establishes relationships with other national and international associations who share its aims and work in the same scientific fields.

3 - The association is located in Rome. The official address corresponds with the location of the Department or the Research Institute where the Secretary in charge works.

4 - The association's resources are constituted by: the members' annual subscriptions, the proceeds of initiatives (for instance editorial initiatives) organized by the association; public and private donations and contributions.

5 - The association does not distribute any profit or benefit among its members.

6 - In case of dissolution due to any reason, the association's estate will be devolved to an organization of public utility or with similar aims.

§ 2 – Membership

7. The association has the following members:

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- a) individual full-members: de jure or co-opted;
- b) collective full-members: de jure or co-opted;
- c) correspondent individual members;
- d) collective and individual dues-paying members.

De jure individual full-members can be, on a voluntary base, all the researchers and professors in sociological subjects working in the Italian Universities. Co-opted individual full-members can be, on a voluntary base, all the scholars, the PhDs, the post-doctorals, the fellows and all the sociologists holding temporary teaching and research positions in the Italian Universities. Non-sociologists can be co-opted as individual full-members if invited by the association's Executive Council or if proposed by the Sections.

De jure collective full-members are all the Departments and the Academic Institutions working in the field of sociology. Co-opted collective full-members can be, on a voluntary base, all the Research Institutes and Centres that apply for and are considered as eligible by the association itself.

Correspondent individual members can be, on a voluntary base, all the Ph.D students in sociological subjects.

Collective and individual dues-paying members are all the natural and corporate persons who financially contribute to the association's life.

Members' admission criteria and modalities are defined within the Association's Regulation.

Only individual full-members have the active and passive right to vote. Correspondent members have the right to vote only for the elections of the Sections' Boards, in accordance with this statute and the Association's Regulation. Dues-paying members do not have the active and passive right to vote.

8. Membership ceases by withdrawal or expulsion. Members who culpably violates the interests of the Association are expelled, after a deliberation voted by the 2/3rd majority of the Executive Council. Expelled members can oppose the Executive Council deliberation in the General Assembly.

§ 3 – Governing Bodies

9. The Governing Bodies of the Association are:

- a) the General Assembly;
- b) the Executive Council;
- c) the President and the Vice President;
- d) the Secretary;
- e) the Sections;
- f) the Research Council.

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10. The General Assembly is constituted by all the individual full and correspondent members.

Correspondent members participate to the General Assembly but do not have the right to vote for the election of the Executive Council, the President and the Vice President and for the changes of the Statute.

Any collective member can appoint a representative.

The General Assembly:

- defines the guidelines of the Association's activity;
- elects the Executive Council;
- acts as controlling body on the minutes decided upon by the Executive Council and the other Governing Bodies;
- it is convened by the Executive Council or by the Research Council;
- make decisions with the absolute majority of the voting members.

A quorum for any meeting will consist of at least a quarter of the members of the Assembly.

11. The Executive Council consists of the President, the Vice President and other nine members.

The President and the Vice President are elected by the absolute majority of the individual full-members, with secret scrutiny.

The other nine members are elected by the individual full-members, with secret scrutiny. Each member has the right to express one choice. The 9 members who receive more votes are elected.

12. The Executive Council is the strategic body of the Association and defines proposals concerning the initiatives of interest. It deliberates on the Sections' constitution and dissolution.

With a quorum of 2/3rd of its members, the Executive Council:

- a) appoints the Secretary among its members;
- b) approves the internal regulations;
- e) makes proposals concerning changes of the Statute and of the internal Regulations;
- d) approves the preliminary and final budgets, respectively within the 31st of December of the previous year and the 31st of March of the subsequent year. The budgets are definitively approved if members do not make exceptions within 30 days from their publication;
- e) controls the application of the Association's deontological code;
- f) convenes the General Assembly and defines the Assembly's agenda;
- g) approves the admission of new members, taking into consideration the proposals coming from the Sections;
- l) may appoint Working Groups for special tasks, defining the duration of their life;
- n) organizes, in cooperation with the Research Council, national and international scientific conferences.

13. The Executive Council is chaired and convened by the President or the Vice President, in the cases established by the Regulation.

A quorum for any meeting will consist of at least the majority of the members. Decisions are approved by the Executive Council with the vote of the absolute majority of the present members. If the votes are equal, the President has the power to make the decision.

14. The Executive Council shall be elected for a term of three years. No one can be re-elected for more than two times consecutively. The Executive Council is dissolved and needs to be re-elected if the President and the Vice President resign at the same time.

15. The Association is judicially and extrajudicially represented by the President, who has the due to apply the decisions made by the Governing Bodies.

The Vice President can substitute the President if the latter is unable to cope with its duties.

16. The Secretary is appointed by the Executive Council with a quorum of the 2/3rd of its members. The Secretary is the head of the secretary office and manages all the issues concerning membership, treasury, budgeting and internal communication.

§ 4 – Sections

17. The association's scientific and cultural activity is realized through its Sections.

18. Sections are constituted by the Executive Council, on the basis of a proposal subscribed by at least 25 de jure individual full-members who make explicit their intention to be part of the Section proposed.

Once constituted, Sections can be joined by any member, following the rules established by the internal Regulation. Each member can join one or more Sections. Each member have the right to vote and hold offices in one Section only, however.

Any Section appoint a Coordinator, a Secretary and a Scientific Board composed of no more than 5 members, following the procedures established by the internal Regulation.

Sections can be dissolved by the Executive Council for scientific, cultural or economic reasons.

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Sections have the right to make proposals to the Executive Council concerning the co-optation of individual or collective full-members or correspondent members.

The Coordinator, the Secretary and the Scientific Board of each Section shall be elected for a term of three years. No one can be re-elected for more than two times consecutively.

19. Every three years, Sections have the duty to present a report on the activities realized to the Research Council.

Sections can organize research activities, international, national and local conferences and workshops, and promote scientific publications. They contribute actively to any national initiative centrally promoted by the Association. Sections realize their activities using the fees of their members and the additional funds devolved by public or private actors.

The Coordinator and the Secretary of each Section have the duty to communicate the Section's annual budget to the Executive Council, when requested to.

20. Sections cannot judicially and extrajudicially represent the Association.

21. The Research Council is constituted by the Coordinators of the Sections and no more than 5 representatives of the Association's collective members.

It is chaired and convened at least once a year by the Vice President.

The Research Council has the right to submit proposals to the Executive Council concerning:

- the themes and the programs of the scientific conferences organized by the Association;
- the admission as co-opted collective members of non-academic Research Institutes.

§ 5 - Statute's revision and internal regulation

22. The Statute can be changed by the General Assembly with the vote of the 2/3rd of its members.

Proposals of change can be made by at least 100 full-members or by the Executive Council.

The rules established in this Statute are integrated with an internal Regulation.

The Regulation can be changed by the Executive Council with the majority of 2/3rd of its members. Changes to the internal Regulation are communicated within one month to the Sections' Coordinators and to the Research Council who have the right to ask for revisions.

Members as well have the right to ask the Executive Council to modify the internal Regulation.

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