

Statute of the Organisation for Cooperation, Exchange And Networking among Students (OCEANS Network)

ARTICLE 1 : Appellation

- §1 The organisation shall formally be referred to as “**O**rganisation for **C**ooperation, **E**xchange **A**nd **N**etworking among **S**tudents”.
- §2 The acronym referring to the organisation shall be OCEANS or OCEANS Network.

ARTICLE 2: Vision

- §1 OCEANS Network unites people with diverse academic backgrounds between the EU countries and the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea. The OCEANS Network does not only benefit from the community, but is also willing to shape it.
- §2 The core values of the OCEANS Network incorporate equivalence, interest, understanding, tolerance and progressiveness. The core of OCEANS Network is to bring people together in the context of these values.

ARTICLE 3: Mission

- §1 The mission of the OCEANS Network is to serve the interests of its members by providing a forum for networking, communication and collaboration, and by promoting intercontinental exchange.

ARTICLE 4: Membership

- §1 Any individual that participated (or is currently a participant) in an intercontinental exchange under one of the following programmes is eligible and shall be granted membership upon request.
- EU – US Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Training: ATLANTIS Programme
 - EU – Canada: Transatlantic Exchange Partnership (TEP)
 - EU – Australia: Industrialised Countries Instrument Education Cooperation programme (ICI ECP)
 - EU – Japan: Industrialised Countries Instrument Education Cooperation programme (ICI ECP)

- EU - New Zealand: Industrialised Countries Instrument Education Cooperation programme (ICI ECP)
 - EU – South Korea: Industrialised Countries Instrument Education Cooperation programme (ICI ECP)
- §2 The OCEANS Network holds the right to grant Honorary Membership to individuals, organisations or companies who have rendered outstanding service to the organisation regardless participation in an exchange as defined in Article 4.1. Honorary Membership is granted by the Coordinating Board unanimously. Honorary Membership implies similar rights and responsibilities as regular membership, withholding the voting right during the Annual General Meeting.
- §3 Requests for membership may be submitted at any time. Applicants must provide a limited amount of personal information to enable the Network to verify their personal eligibility.
- §4 The OCEANS Network holds the right to grant membership to any individual who will perform the function of an ambassador between the OCEANS Network and the corresponding organisation/institution, regardless of participation in an exchange as defined in Article 4.1. Membership is granted by the Coordinating Board unanimously. Eligibility for such membership requires for the applicant to be compliant with OCEANS spirit (as defined in Article 2 and 3) and through her/his ambassadorship build bridges between OCEANS and the respective organisation or institution. This in the context of extending the potential network of OCEANS members.
- §5 OCEANS Network reserves the right to cancel a membership at any time by a unanimous decision of the Coordinating Board, provided indisputable evidence is presented that the individual has grossly violated in speech, or action, the spirit of the Organisation (as defined in Article 2 and 3) or has severely damaged the reputation or interests of the Network.

ARTICLE 5: Coordinating Board

- §1 The Coordinating Board represents the executive power of the Network.
- §2 The Coordinating Board shall consist of:
- a. President of the OCEANS Network
 - b. Communications Coordinator
 - c. Events Coordinator
 - d. Magazine Coordinator
 - e. Regional Coordinators respective to the following regions.
 - Australia
 - Canada
 - Japan
 - South Korea
 - USA
 - European Union

Given the dynamic structure of the NETWORK, some positions are allowed to stay open, depending on the level of necessity for the network.


- §3 Meetings, be it direct form or through conference calls, of the Coordinating Board shall be documented in form of minutes, which contain a list of participants, key discussion points and all formal decisions.
- §4 Coordinating Board meetings may be called by the President, or by a motion supported by a simple majority of the Coordinating Board members. The President is in charge of scheduling these meetings and the preparation of an agenda.
- §5 The Coordinating Board shall convene meetings in person, between two and four times a year.
- §6 Participation in meetings of the Coordinating Board is mandatory for all members of the Board. In case of force majeure absentees are required to inform the President, in writing, prior to the meeting, of any reasons for their inability to participate.
- §7 Decisions of the Coordinating Board are made with the simple majority of votes, unless specified otherwise in this Statute. Each member of the Coordinating Board has one vote. In case of a tied vote, the President's vote counts double. For decisions of the Coordinating Board to be valid, all members must be informed beforehand and at least two-thirds of Coordinating Board members must participate in the vote.
- §8 The members of the Coordinating Board are elected by the members of OCEANS Network. The duration of a mandate is approximately one year, and will be fixed between consequent Annual General Meetings. A Board member can occupy a position in the Coordinating Board not longer than two mandates; however, it is possible to take on another position within the Board for a maximum of two mandates.
- §9 The President is the primary representative of the Network in external affairs, in particular regarding the cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture, and the Service Provider. The President chairs the Annual General Meeting, meetings of the Coordinating Board and any Liaison Group meetings. The President has the responsibility to ensure the overall performance and regular operation of the Network with the assistance of the Coordinating Board.
- §10 Regional Coordinators have the responsibility to assist prospective OCEANS Network members, students, to strengthen the OCEANS Network in their respective region and to promote the OCEANS concept in general.
- §11 Should a member of the Coordinating Board feel that a conflict of interest may arise in relation to their employment or other activities, then they should fully disclose this as soon as the issue arises. A failure to do so may be grounds for dismissal from their role in the Coordinating Board, subject to a two-thirds vote of the Coordinating Board.

ARTICLE 6: Link with the European Commission

- §1 OCEANS Network recognises the role and support of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture, in particular the facilitation of services provided via a contracted Service Provider.

- §2 The Coordinating Board reserves the right to invite representatives from the Service Provider to participate in Board meetings and other OCEANS events and meetings whenever it deems necessary.
- §3 While representatives from the Service Provider are welcome to attend any meeting of an organisational unit within the OCEANS Network and to participate in discussions, they do not hold any voting rights within the OCEANS Network.

ARTICLE 7: Statute Adoption and Modifications

- §1 The Coordinating Board reserves the right to invite representatives from the Service Provider to participate in Board meetings and other OCEANS events and meetings whenever it deems necessary.
 - §2 This Statute will be considered as adopted if approved by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the Annual General Meeting Delegates. Following its adoption, the operation of the Statute will come into force immediately.
 - §3 Any proposal requesting a modification or amendment to this Statute must be submitted by a member to the Coordinating Board at least six (6) weeks prior to the convening of the Annual General Meeting.
 - §4 All modifications or amendments to this Statute require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the Annual General Meeting Delegates holding voting right.
 - §5 Should an issue arise that is not addressed by this Statute, the Coordinating Board has the power to make all necessary decisions, with a two-thirds majority. Should a Statutory amendment dealing with this issue be required, it shall be tabled for decision at the next convening of the Annual General Meeting.
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