

Articles of Association

Article 1. The name of the association is "Silba - Initiative for Dialogue and Democracy".

Article 2. The association is a nationwide non-profit youth organisation.

Article 3. Membership is open to individuals who are under the age of 35 and who sympathize with its objectives. Individuals who are 35 and older can sign up as supporting members.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may by a 2/3 majority decide on expulsion of members that work against the objectives of the association. Expulsions may be appealed at the next general assembly of the association with the same deadline as stated in Article 8, Section 7.

Section 3. Silba local associations may be admitted as members upon the approval of the Executive Committee by a 2/3 majority, after which their members acquire membership rights.

Section 4. Other associations and companies may be admitted as collective supporting members without voting rights upon payment of a minimum fee determined by the Executive Committee.

Article 4. The aim of the association is:

To promote dialogue and establish ties across Europe and neighboring countries.

To support democratic participation and the strengthening of civil liberties throughout civil society.

To convey a nuanced picture of Silba's focus area in Denmark of the countries in Silba's focus area.

Section 2. Silba's focus area is Europe and its neighboring countries.

Section 3. Silba's objective will be achieved through the following activities:

1. By continuously keeping in touch with civil society organisations and other relevant partners in our focus area that work for dialogue, civil liberties and democratic participation.
2. By organising and participating in seminars dealing with dialogue, civil liberties and democratic participation in Silba's focus area. If it is considered particularly relevant for Silba's overall purpose, Silba may also attend seminars outside the focus area
3. By organising seminars with election observation in Silba's focus area, where the purpose is cultural exchange and dialogue with democratic participation and civil liberties as a focal point.
4. By organising events in Denmark with focus on dissemination of politics and culture in our focus area, including e.g. lectures, debates and cultural events.

Article 5. To promote the aims of the association, Silba maintains contact and cooperates with Danish and international organisations working within the same fields.

Article 6. The funds of the association are obtained through the membership fees, voluntary contribution as well as Danish and international foundations.

Article 7. The association is bound by signature of the President and the Financial Manager. They alone may acquire loans.

Section 2. In daily operations, decisions are made by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The President and the Vice President may in unison take decisions of an urgent nature.

Section 4. Decisions whose importance does not warrant the convening of the entire Executive Committee will be taken by the President and/or the relevant operations manager, see the terms of reference.

Article 8. The highest authority of the association is the general assembly, which is held every year before the end of March.

Section 2. The location of the general assembly will alternate between being held east and west of the Little Belt. The General Assembly of February 2020 was held in Sønderborg.

Section 3. The general assembly is convened in writing with at least 20 days' notice to the members who have paid their subscription within the last 12 calendar months, incl. the month in which the general assembly is being held. It is the responsibility of the member to ensure that Silba's secretariat has the correct e-mail address of the member. It is the responsibility of the association to announce the general assembly to all members with at least 20 days' notice on Silba's website. The agenda of the general assembly must at least include the following points:

1. Election of chairman, keeper of the minutes and counting assistants.
2. Report by the President
3. The Financial Manager will present the already audited and submitted accounting.
4. Consideration of political and organisational proposals.
5. Consideration of proposed amendments of the articles of association.
6. Determination of the individual membership fees for the following year.
 - a) Determination of membership fees for individuals under 35 years.
 - b) Determination of support membership fees for individuals 35 and older.
7. Elections of the Executive Committee:
 - a) Election of President
 - b) Election of Vice President
 - c) Election of Financial Manager
 - d) Election of Head of the International Projects (IP Manager)
 - e) Election of Head of the Elections Observation Missions (EOM Manager)
 - f) Election of four non-executive members (Committee Managers and Members)
 - g) Election of two deputies for the Executive Committee

8. Election of two members for the positions as internal auditors. They review the accounts of the association from the standpoint of fairness and good practice in the management of the association's finances.
9. Election of auditor.
10. Other matters.

Section 4. Extraordinary general assemblies will be held when a majority of the members of the Executive Committee or at least 1/5 of paying members demand it.

Section 5. Voting rights and electability at the general assembly are bestowed to all who have paid the membership fees within the past 12 months up to and including the day of the general assembly. Only members who are physically present at the general assembly may exercise their voting rights.

Section 6. All elections where there is more than one nominee must be conducted through a written ballot.

Section 7. A written ballot must be used for voting if requested by at least one the attendees who are entitled to vote or if decided by the chairman.

Section 8. Proposals for discussion at the general assembly under items 5 and 6 of the agenda must be submitted to Silba's secretariat no later than ten days before the general meeting and must no later than eight days be sent via e-mail to the voting members, provided they have given their e-mail address.

Article 9. The Executive Committee is the daily management of the association.

Section 2. The Executive Council consists of: The President who is the natural chairman of the Executive Committee, Vice President, Financial Manager, Head of International Projects, Head of Election Observation Missions, the appointed ordinary members of the Executive Committee elected at the general assembly, as well as one representative from each local branch chosen by the local associations.

Section 3. The members of the Executive Committee, except representatives of local associations, are elected through direct and individual elections at the general assembly

Section 4. In the event that the general assembly does not vote five ordinary members to the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee is granted powers to appoint them on their own.

Section 5. The Executive Committee's representatives from the local associations are elected by the local association's management bodies. In the event that a locally elected candidate is subsequently appointed to the Executive Committee at the general assembly of the National Organisation, the local association is represented by its deputy.

Section 6. All appointments to the Executive Committee are valid until the next general assembly. However, not if an extraordinary general assembly has the aim of reconstitution.

Section 7. The Executive Committee may temporarily employ a secretary and any overseers for other tasks.

Section 8. The Executive Committee defines through the rules of procedure the guidelines for their work.

Section 9. The Executive Committee establishes mandates for the standing committees, as well as other committees that the Executive Committee chooses to appoint.

Section 10. The Managers of the committees are elected at the general assembly. The Executive Committee determines the size of each committee and appoints its members.

Section 11. The Executive Committee may upon any resignation between two general assemblies choose new ordinary members to the Executive Committee as well as members of the standing committee and for other committees of the Executive Committee.

Section 12. The Executive Committee may by a 2/3 majority decide to replace an ordinary member of the Executive Committee, a member of a standing committee as well as members of other committees including general assembly appointed committee managers.

Section 13. In the event of a tied vote in an election, the President will cast the deciding vote, though not for issues related to Section 12.

Section 14. The same person may not have more than one vote in the Executive Committee.

Article 10.

Section 1. The International Department consists of the Head of the International Projects who manages the IP Committee and the Head of the Election Observation Missions who manages the EOM committee.

Section 2. The Heads of the International Department may invite members to become part of the International Department, in order to assist the activities of the Department.

Section 3. The Heads of the International Department have full discretion over both their team and operation of the International Department, subject to the conditions set out in article 10, section 4.

Section 4a. The International Department shall work within the boundaries set by the main board.

Section 4b. All members of the team set by the Heads of International Department must sign a written agreement stating that they will adhere to the terms and conditions set out in Silba's Articles of Association, Code of Conduct, and Data Policy.

Section 5. The International Department shall draft a half-yearly Schedule and Budget for its activities. These shall be approved by the main board in the beginning of the academic semesters. The main board shall decide upon the Schedule and budget through a single vote. This vote reflects the boundaries set by the main board as per section 4.

In case of extraordinary circumstances the International Department and/or the main board may propose to amend the half-yearly schedule and budget at a main board meeting.

Article 11. The fiscal year of the association is the calendar year. The annual report of the association is audited by two of the auditors elected by the general assembly. The appointment of the auditors and deputy auditor is for the duration of a year.

Section 2. Liability for the obligations of the association is limited to the assets of the association. Section 3. The association may for liquidity reasons take on debt with the aim of receiving funds.

Article 12. The Articles of Association may only be amended at a general assembly, and only if 2/3 of the attendees who are entitled to vote opt for this.

Section 2. Amendments to the articles of association shall enter into force immediately.

Article 13. Dissolution of the association may only happen if 2/3 of the voting members on two consecutive general assemblies vote in favour of this and “the desire to dissolve the association” is stated in the initial summoning.

Section 2. Upon dissolution of the association, any funds will fall to DUF - Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (Danish Youth Council) for use within areas covered by Silba’s Article 4.

Article 14. The primary language of Silba’s Articles of Association is English.

Anne Sophie Lyskjær Noer
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'AS Noer', positioned to the right of the printed name and title.