

# **Statutes of the Association**

## **«ME Passerelles»**

**13. Mrc 2021**

## **Name, Neutrality, Headquarters, Duration**

1. «ME Passerelle» is a non-profit Association governed by the present statutes and, secondly, by Articles 60 and seq of the Swiss Civil Code.
2. ME Passerelle is politically neutral, non-denominational and independent.
3. The Association's headquarters are located in the State of Geneva.
4. The Association shall be of unlimited duration.

## **Aims and Methods**

5. The Association shall pursue the following aims:
  - a. the shared memory between the perpetrators' descendants and the victims of the Shoah in order to understand the experience of both sides.
  - b. the facilitation of encounters between people from Europe and abroad in order to open spaces for dialogue, acceptance, responsibility as well as sensitivity and respect for the differences between the people and the peoples.
6. To achieve its goals, ME Passerelle organizes:
  - a. visits to concentration and extermination camps, museums or other places of memory,
  - b. meetings and workshops,
  - c. training courses and educational activities,
  - d. theoretical and empirical consideration and research,
  - e. publications.

## **Resources**

7. The Association's resources are derived from:
  - a. membership fees.
  - b. donations and legacies.
  - c. sponsorship.

- d. public and private subsidies.
  - e. any other resources authorized by the law.
8. Non-material and organizational means of achieving the Association's purpose are
- a. organization of meetings and workshops,
  - b. organization of events offering training seminars, educational and supervising activities,
  - c. quest for grants, sponsorship and support for projects,
  - d. publications.
9. The funds shall be used in accordance with the Association's aims.
10. Members have no personal liability.
11. Only the Association's assets may be used for obligations / commitments contracted in its name.
12. Should the Association be dissolved, the available assets should be transferred to a non-profit organization pursuing public interest goals similar to those of the Association and likewise benefiting from tax exemption. Under no circumstances should the assets be returned to the founders or members. Nor should they use a part or a total of assets for their own benefit.

## **Membership**

13. Any physical person or legal entity may become a member if they have demonstrated their dedication to the goals of the Association through their commitments or actions.
14. ME Passerelle is open to any person who is interested in its aims or to any institution or association which have similar aims.
15. To become a member of ME Passerelle, it's necessary to be an adult or an association or an institution whose aims are similar to those of ME Passerelle.
16. ME Passerelle comprises:
- a. active members,
  - b. supportive members,
  - c. honorary members.
17. The active members are every single person or legal entity who adhere to the present statutes and pay the membership fee.

18. The supportive members are

- a. natural persons who support or promote the aims of ME Passerelles either in a non-material or in a material way;
- a. juridical persons, such as corporations, associations, institutions, etc. whose aims correspond directly or indirectly with the purposes and tasks of ME Passerelles.

19. The honorary members are every single person or legal entity which provided an exceptional financial support or gave an exceptional support in a special field.

20. Anyone can propose a person for election as an honorary member.

21. The honorary members don't pay any fee and have no right to vote.

22. The right to vote is linked with the payment of the fees. Therefore, only active members have this right.

23. Requests to become a member must be addressed to the Committee. The Committee decides about the admission of new members and informs the General Assembly. If the committee supports a proposal for an honorary member, it will submit it to the next general assembly for a decision.

24. Membership ceases

- a. on death.
- b. by written resignation thereby notifying the Committee at least six months before the end of the financial year. The membership then ends with the end of the respective calendar year.
- c. by exclusion ordered by the Committee for just cause, with a right of appeal to the General Assembly. Appeals must be lodged within 30 days of the Committee's decision being notified.
- d. for non-payment of dues for more than one year.
- e. In all these cases the membership fee for the current year remains due. Members who have resigned or who are excluded have no rights to any part of the Association's asset.

## **Organs**

24. The Association shall include the following organs:

- a. General Assembly,
- b. Executive Committee consisting of the President, the Vice- President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and one ordinary member (all of them can only be natural members),
- c. two Auditors (anybody, not belonging to the Executive Committee).

## **General Assembly (GA)**

25. The General Assembly is the Association's supreme authority. It is composed of all the members.
26. It shall hold an ordinary meeting once each year, possibly virtually. It may also hold an extraordinary session whenever necessary, at the request of the Committee or at least of one-fifth of the members of Passerelles.
27. The General Assembly shall be considered valid regardless of the number of members present.
28. The Executive Committee shall inform the members in writing of the date of the General Assembly at least six weeks in advance. The notification, including the proposed agenda, shall be sent to each member at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.
29. Every member of the General Assembly has one vote.
30. The General Assembly:
  - a. decides on the admission of honorary members and in case of appeal against an expulsion (see Nr. 24c);
  - a. elects the members of the Committee: the President, the Vice- President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and one ordinary member;
  - b. appoints two auditors for the Organization's accounts; notes the contents of the reports and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption;
  - c. approves the annual budget;
  - d. supervises the activity of other organs, which it may dismiss, stating the grounds therefore;
  - e. decides on any modification of statutes;
  - f. decides on the dissolution of the Association;
  - g. fixes the annual membership fees.
31. The GA is presided over by the President or, if she / he couldn't, by another member of the Committee.
32. Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present. Voting is possible per personal or virtual presence, not in advance. Members who are paid employees of the Association have only a consultative vote. In case of deadlock, the President of the Assembly (see Nr 31.) shall have the casting vote.
33. Decisions concerning the amendment of the Statutes and the dissolution of the Association must be approved by a two-third majority of the members present.
34. Votes are by a show of hands (or in written form). Voting can also take place by secret ballot, if at least one member requests it.
35. The agenda of the ordinary annual session of the General Assembly must include:

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly,
- b. Approval of the Committee's annual Activity Report,
- c. Approval of the report of the Treasurer and of the Auditors,
- d. Setting of membership fees,
- e. Approval of the budget,
- f. Approval of reports and accounts,
- g. Election of honorary members, Committee members and Auditors,
- h. Miscellaneous business.

## **Executive Committee (EC)**

- 35. The Executive Committee is authorized to carry out all acts that pursue the purposes of the Association. It has the most extensive powers to manage the Association's day-to-day affairs.
- 36. The EC is composed of at least 5 members elected by the General Assembly. Each member's term of office shall last for 3 years and be renewable. Only the President may be re-elected a maximum of two times.
- 37. The meeting of the EC takes its decisions with at least 80% of the present votes. Voting is possible per personal or virtual presence, not in advance.  
Financial decisions affecting the regular business (up to 1000,-€) must be approved by at least two persons of the EC : the president or the vice-president plus the treasurer.
- 38. The Committee meets as often as the Association's business requires. A meeting of the board of the executive members must be announced in writing (letter or email), specifying the agenda, two weeks before the date of the meeting.
- 39. The Committee members work on a volunteer basis and as such can only be reimbursed for their actual expenses and travel costs.
- 40. The functions of the Committee are:
  - a. to inform the General Assemblies about all major aspects of the Association, especially about the admission or expulsion of members,
  - b. to take the appropriate measures to achieve the goals of the Association,
  - c. to convene the ordinary and extraordinary General Assemblies,
  - d. to propose the membership fees to the general assembly,
  - e. to take decisions with regard to admission of new members as well as the resignation and possible expulsion of members (see Nr. 29a),
  - f. to ensure that Statutes are applied, to draft rules of procedure, and to administer the assets of the Association.

## **Auditors**

41. Each year the General Assembly appoints two auditors. It may also entrust this task to a fiduciary company.  
The auditors shall check the operating and annual accounts prepared by the committee and present a written and detailed report to the annual ordinary general meeting.

## **Financial affairs**

42. The financial year shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December of each year.  
43. The treasurer is authorised for the use of a bank credit card.

## **Signature and representation**

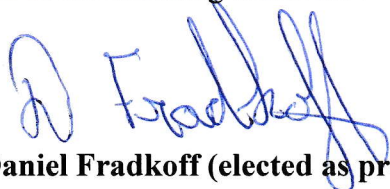
44. The Association is legally bound and represented both in court and out of court by the President or two other members of the Committee.

## **Dissolution of the association**

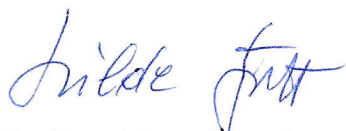
45. The dissolution of the association can only be approved by an extraordinary general meeting convened for this purpose with a two-thirds majority of the members present and eligible to vote.  
46. In the event of the dissolution of the association or the discontinuation of tax-privileged purposes, its assets shall fall to a legal entity under public law or another tax-privileged corporation.

The present Statutes have been approved by the constituent General Assembly of March, 13th, 2021 at Geneva.

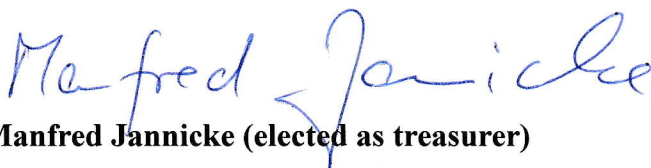
Signatures of the founding members :



- **Daniel Fradkoff (elected as president)**



- **Hilde Gött (elected as vice-president)**

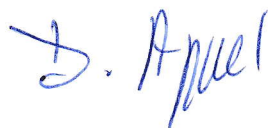


- **Manfred Jannicke (elected as treasurer)**

- **Elinor Zalmona (elected as secretary)**

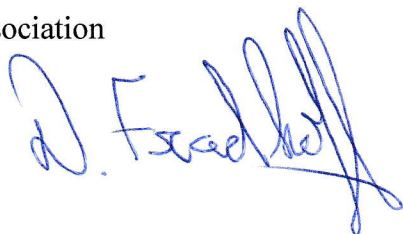


- **Dania Appel (elected for the ordinary members)**



For the Association

President:



Secretary: