

On the basis of Articles 9 and 33 of The Societies Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, no. 60/95), the General Meeting of the Slovenian Society for Conservation-Restoration adopted on 12 October 1998 the following

Statute of the Slovenian Society for Conservation-Restoration

I. General Provisions

Article 1

The Slovenian Society for Conservation-Restoration (abbreviation DRS, hereinafter “Society”) is a voluntary, professional association of conservator-restorers, who unite to realize their professional interests.

Subject to the conditions of this Statute, other citizens having an interest in the field of conservation-restoration can join the Society as associate members. Their rights and obligations are governed by this Statute.

Foreigners may become members of the Society subject to the conditions defined in this Statute.

Article 2

The Society is a legal entity.

The Society shall have its seat in Ljubljana, Salendrova ulica 4.

Article 3

The Society has a seal with the text DRS Društvo restavradorjev Slovenije.

II. Objectives and Activities of the Society

Article 4

The activities of the Society are based on the interest of its membership for the development, popularization and promotion of the profession and activities of conservation-restoration, in accordance with the code of professional ethics.

Article 5

The objectives of the Society shall be:

- to bring together conservator-restorers in the interest of the development of the profession and activities in Slovenia,
- to popularize activities relating to the protection of natural and cultural heritage,
- to organize professional training and advance education,
- to provide support to the legislator and others in resolving professional questions,
- to develop the profession of conservation-restoration,
- to promote interdisciplinary cooperation for the purpose of protection of heritage,
- to strengthen and promote professional ethics among members.

Article 6

In order to achieve the objectives from the previous article, the Society shall in particular:

- organize professional and popular lectures, round tables, courses and exhibitions for the purposes of the popularization of activities relating to the protection of natural and cultural heritage,
- publish professional, scientific and popular publications in accordance with applicable regulations,
- bestow prizes and awards for exceptional achievements in the field of the conservation-restoration profession, in accordance with regulations for prizes and awards,
- organize meetings (round tables, expert meetings) of Society members for the purpose of discussing outstanding questions related to the profession,
- organize scientific trips, sport and social gatherings of its members,
- provide support to professionals/society members to attend expert meetings in the country and abroad,
- participate in the planning and drafting of the National Programme for Culture, as well as laws and regulations in the field of the protection of cultural heritage, in accordance with the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act (ZUIJK),
- settle disputes between Society members, as well as disputes between Society members and other stakeholders involved in the protection of cultural heritage.

Article 7

In addition to the activities from the previous article, the Society may be involved, to a limited extent, in profit-making activities, in particular by way of organizing and performing professional activities related to conservation-restoration, intended for the achievement of the objectives of the Society.

III. Membership

Article 8

The Society has regular-professional, honourable, associate and institutional members.

There shall be designated as Regular-Professional Member those individuals who are:

- professional conservator-restorers as defined by ICOM, who have completed the necessary training and passed a recognized expert state exam for the field of conservation-restoration,
- retired professional conservator-restorers.

The status of a Honourable Member may be conferred upon an individual with exceptional merits for the development of the profession, for the protection of heritage or for the work for the Society.

There shall be designated as Associated Members those individuals who support the activities and objectives of the Society owing to their educational, amateur, commercial or similar professional interests and therefore wish to participate in the activities of the Society.

There shall be designated as Institutional Members those societies, enterprises, foundations, educational institutions or other organizations which support the activities and objectives of the Society owing to their educational, amateur, commercial or similar professional interests and wish to be informed about the activities of the Society. Institutional Members may participate in the work of the Society through a duly-authorized representative.

Foreigners may become members of the Society if they meet the requirements of the second paragraph of this article. The Executive Board shall decide upon the admission and eligibility for membership status of a foreigner in the Society, following a preliminary examination as to whether membership conditions are fulfilled.

Article 9

Regular-Professional members have the right to:

- take decisions concerning the activities of the Society and its organs and propose the necessary measures concerning the functioning of the Society,
- elect and be elected in the organs of the Society and take part in the activities of the organs,
- be adequately informed about the activities of the Society,
- take part in all forms of activities of the Society.

Regular-Professional members have the obligation to:

- respect the provisions of this Statute and the Code of professional ethics of conservator-restorers in their professional activities,
- further the aims of the Society in accordance with the provisions of this Statute,
- implement the decisions adopted by the organs of the Society,
- pay a membership fee and eventually other fees determined by decision of the General Meeting.

Article 10

Honorary Members implement their rights and fulfil their obligations in accordance with the provisions of the previous article, but are exempted from the payment of a membership fee and receive the publications free of charge.

Article 11

Associated Members and representatives of Institutional Members have, after having paid their annual membership fees to the Society, the right to:

- take part without the right to vote in all the activities of the Society and be informed about them,
- visit free of charge or at a reduced price those institutions with which the Society has made arrangements.

The amount of the annual membership fee from the previous paragraph shall be determined by the Executive Board.

Article 12

An individual who fulfils the conditions of Article 8, paragraph 2, shall become a Regular-Professional Member by way of written application and by paying the admission fee and the annual membership fee.

The candidate from Article 8, paragraph 3, shall be conferred the status of Honorary Member by the General Meeting with the majority vote of the present members, acting upon the recommendation of Executive Board.

The candidate who fulfils the conditions of Article 8, paragraph 2, becomes an Associate Member by way of written application and by paying the admission fee and the annual membership fee.

The membership of the Society terminates:

- as a result of resignation,
- as a result of expulsion due to serious violations of the provisions of this Statute and of professional ethics,
- as a result of non-payment of annual membership fees,
- as a result of death of that member.

The Executive Board shall decide whether the candidates fulfil the conditions for admission to, or termination of, membership.

All members are entitled to a membership card with name, surname, type of membership and evidence concerning the payment of annual membership fees or subscriptions.

IV. Governing Bodies

Article 13

The governing bodies of the Society are:

- the General Meeting,
- the Executive Board,
- the Supervisory Committee,
- the Committee of Arbitration.

General Meeting

Article 14

The General Meeting shall be the supreme body of the Society. It takes decisions regarding the most important issues concerning the functioning of the Society and all other bodies report to it. The General Meeting is composed of all members of the Society.

The Executive Board shall normally convene an ordinary general meeting once a year, but at least every two years.

The Executive Board may convene an extraordinary general meeting on request of at least one third of the members or on request of the Supervisory Committee. The extraordinary meeting has to take place no sooner than 60 days after a proposal or request had been received.

Article 15

The Executive Board shall determine a draft agenda, the venue and time of the general meeting, and inform in this respect the members of the Society no later than 7 days before the session. The members have the right to propose amendments to the agenda.

The final agenda is adopted by a vote of the General Meeting.

Article 16

The session of the General Meeting shall be chaired by the President of the Society. In his absence, the General Meeting shall be chaired by a member designated by the General Meeting.

A record shall be kept of the minutes of the General Meeting and of decisions thereby adopted.

Article 17

The decisions of General Meeting shall be taken by majority vote of the Regular-Professional Members present, who can also vote by proxy, through a limited or unlimited previous written authorization to a Regular-Professional Member present at the meeting.

The adoption of the Statute and its amendments, as well as the decision on the dissolution of the Society, shall be made by a two-third majority vote of the members present and members entitled to vote by proxy.

Unless otherwise determined by the General Meeting, decisions shall be adopted and elections in the bodies of the Society shall be conducted by public vote.

Article 18

The General Meeting shall:

- adopt the Statute and Code of professional ethics of conservator-restorers, as well as their amendments,
- adopt decisions and guidelines for the functioning of the Society,
- elect and dismiss the President, members of the Executive Board, members of the Supervisory Committee and the Committee of Arbitration and receive reports about their work,
- on the basis of the reports of the Society's governing bodies and the annual statement of accounts, consider and adopt an evaluation of the functioning and financial operations of the Society. In case of a negative evaluation, the General Meeting shall take a vote of confidence on the President of the Society,
- confer the status of Honorary Member of the Society,
- determine the basic (substantive) outline of its publications,
- decide upon the dissolution of the Society,
- provide an authoritative interpretation of the Statute.

Executive Board

Article 19

The Executive Board shall consist of 7 members of the Society, that is:

- the President of the Society and 6 members, among which the Executive Board elects
- a Vice-President
- a Secretary
- a Treasurer.

The members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election. The mandate of the members is 4 years, subject to the proviso that it can be shortened or extended until elections at the regular general meeting, which has to take place in the calendar year of the expiration of the Board's mandate. The election of the members of the Executive Board shall be organized in such way that one or two-thirds of the members of the Executive Board be elected every two years.

Article 20

The Executive Board shall:

- prepare the Society's programme of work,
- implement the guidelines adopted by the General Meeting concerning the activities of the Society,
- direct and organize the activities of the Society between two general meetings,
- maintain contacts and take care of cooperation with like societies in the country and abroad,
- provide advice on all questions concerning the conservation-restoration profession either on its own initiative or upon the initiative of Society members, competent organs and other legal and natural persons,
- on the proposal of the Commission for Awards, bestow prizes and awards,
- adopt the financial plan and the annual statement of accounts, and submit these for approval to the General Meeting,
- propose the conferral of status of Honorary Member of the Society,
- exercise other functions in accordance with this Statute.

Article 21

The Executive Board shall convene as circumstances may require, but no less than two times per year. The sessions shall be convened by the President of the Society or by a member of the Executive Board supported by at least another member of the Executive Board. The quorum is met if more than half of the members of the Executive Board are present at the session. The decisions shall be adopted by majority vote of members present at the session. Decisions may also be voted upon by granting a limited or unlimited written proxy to a fellow member present at the session of the Executive Board.

Supervisory Committee

Article 22

The Supervisory Committee shall consist of three members, who shall elect a chairman among themselves. The chairman shall convene sessions, manage the activities of the committee and report to the General Meeting. The decisions shall be taken by majority vote.

The members of the Supervisory Committee shall be elected by the General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election. The mandate of the members is 4 years, but may be shortened or extended until elections at the ordinary general meeting, which has to take place in the calendar year of the termination of Committee's mandate.

Article 23

The Supervisory Committee shall:

- supervise the activities of all governing bodies,
- supervise the implementation of the programme of the Society and the resolutions of the General Meeting,
- check the lawfulness of the Society's functioning and the rational and appropriate use of Society's funds,
- check the financial operations of the Society,
- report about its work to the General Meeting.

Committee of Arbitration

Article 24

The Committee of Arbitration shall consist of three members, who shall elect a chairman among themselves. The chairman shall convene sessions, manage the activities of the Committee and report to the General Meeting. The Committee shall take decisions by majority vote.

The members of the Supervisory Committee shall be elected by the General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election. The mandate of the members is 4 years, but may be shortened or extended until elections at the ordinary general meeting, which has to take place in the calendar year of the termination of Committee's mandate.

Article 25

The Committee of Arbitration shall assess and decide upon breaches of this Statute and of the Society's Code of Professional Ethics for Conservator-Restorers committed by the members of the Society and impose disciplinary measures.

When necessary, the Committee shall obtain expert opinions.

Subject to the seriousness of the breach and the resulting damage to the good name of the Society, the Committee of Arbitration may impose the following disciplinary measures:

- warning,
- public warning,
- reprimand,
- expulsion from the Society.

A proposal for consideration by the Committee may be submitted by a member or a non-member with a demonstrated interest.

The Executive Committee shall be the first instance of appeal against the decisions of the Committee of Arbitration. The General Meeting shall be the second instance of appeal, but may, however, pronounce only upon the disciplinary measure adopted, but not upon its merits. An appeal against a final decision of the Society may be brought before regular courts.

V. Representation

Article 26

The President represents the Society towards the public and in financial and other matters.

VI. Financing of the Society; Supervision over Asset Management

Article 28

The activities of the Society are financed from:

- membership fees of its members;
- annual contributions from associated members;
- gifts, donations and voluntary contributions,
- revenues generated from Society's activities (publishing, round tables, lectures, professional excursions, exhibitions...),
- public resources,
- other funds.

Article 29

The financial transactions of the Society shall be conducted in accordance with the laws and regulations in force. The members of the Society exercise supervision over the financial operations of the Society directly through examination of accounts and balance sheets, and indirectly through the Society's Committee of Supervision.

Acts relating to financial matters shall be signed by the President and Treasurer of the Society.

Financial operations shall be conducted in accordance with applicable laws and regulations in force in this field.

The Treasurer conducts financial transactions of the Society in accordance with Society's Regulations on financial operations, in which the also Society determines the methods for accounting and the production of the statement of accounts. This shall be in accordance with accounting standards for societies.

The Society has an account at the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Payment Transactions, Supervision and Information.

VI. Publicity of the Functioning of the Society

Article 30

The functioning of the Society is public. The President of the Society is responsible for ensuring the publicity of Society's activities.

The Society comprehensively and regularly informs its members and the interested public about its activities, in particular:

- through internal memoranda and minutes of the meetings of Society's organs,
- through notification in public media;
- through publication of its own bulletins and other publications.

VII. Dissolution of the Society

Article 31

The dissolution of the Society may be enacted:

- by a decision of the General Meeting;
- on the basis of law.

After the dissolution of the Society, one half of its assets shall be transferred to the Slovenian Restorer's Society and the other half to the Slovenian Museum Society.

VIII. Transitory and Final Provisions

Article 32

On the day of the entry into force of this Statute, the regulations of the Slovenian Society for Conservation-Restoration [Društva restavradorjev Slovenije], adopted at its constitutive assembly on 20 May 1993, cease to apply.

Article 33

Within a period of two years, the Executive Board reviews the membership of the Society and brings it in accordance with the present Statute, reasonably taking into account the considerable changes in the organization of the conservator-restorers' activities. The Executive Board adopts the regulations concerning the functioning of the Committee of Arbitration, if this is not determined in the code of professional ethics of conservator-restorers.

Done in Ljubljana, the 19th of November 1998

President of the DRS
Ivo Nemec