

STATUTE
International Ecopsychology Society

I. NAME, PURPOSE AND LOCATION

Article 1: Name

Under the new name “International Ecopsychology Society” (IES), the existing “European Ecopsychology Society” (EES), founded as an Association in Neuchâtel September 28, 2006, is confirmed as a non-profit organization in accordance with Art. 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code and these Articles.

Article 2: Purpose

The association aims to support and connect professionals working in Ecopsychology and professionals or even people from other professional fields who want to align their work with the care of life and the world, who want to facilitate the reconnection between human beings and nature, and promote healthy lifestyles from a psychological, spiritual and ecological point of view, in harmonious interaction with the natural environment.

Article 3: Objectives

The association has the following objectives:

1. To spread and deepen the concept of "ecologically oriented human being" proposed by Ecopsychology.
2. To spread and deepen ways to "reconnect with nature", for application in education, therapy and other areas.
3. To develop an inter-disciplinary approach and understanding for contemporary challenges in the relationship between humanity and nature.
4. To explore the interconnections between ecology and psychology with other branches of knowledge and culture, including education, health, art, work and social transformation.
5. To create and maintain a global network of professionals, trained in the principles of Ecopsychology, to share knowledge, resources and mutual support.
6. To coordinate with professionals and students from different fields (including doctors, journalists, politicians, artists, entrepreneurs, community leaders and more) that share the vision of Ecopsychology and who are willing to integrate it into their careers and their lives.

7. To promote Ecopsychological evolution of thought and its practical applications, through scientific publications, publication of magazines, books, online learning and other forms of exchange.
8. To define educational and training programs accredited by the IES to be transmitted in schools, universities, cultural centers and others.
- 9 To certify practitioners of Ecopsychology, according to the criteria established by the IES.
10. To organize the International Congress of Ecopsychology and promote seminars, conferences and other regional events.
11. To promote scientific research on topics related to Ecopsychology in connection with regional, national and international organizations, especially universities.
12. To promote institutional support for the projects and actions of the representatives of the International Society of Ecopsychology in their respective countries.
13. To request funds for research projects, training and social intervention at regional, national and international levels.
14. To use any funds raised to fund activities associated with the aims of the IES, or to support related projects (as agreed by the Executive Committee).
15. To promote and support the search for ways of life based on an ecocentric vision, eco-social regeneration, biophilia, planetary citizenship and as a way to reverse the imbalances that threaten civilization.

Article 4: Headquarter

The association is headquartered in Via Valdani 1, Chiasso CH, c/o Contam.

Its duration is indefinite.

II. MEMBERS

Article 5: Membership

Anyone who operates according to the principles of Ecopsychology and draws inspiration from them for their activities, including ecotuners and/or operators in the field of education, health, relationship counseling, environment, etc, or who shares the objectives of the Association, can become a member, under either of the following two groups:

- Active Membership: as a professional already familiar with the working principles of Ecopsychology, or trained at one of the schools connected to the Association or in an equivalent path, recognized by IES. A special Commission shall evaluate the applications according to the criteria defined in the rules of IES. Active Members have the right to vote.

- Supporting Membership: as a student, a sympathizer or a professional not yet certified as an ecotuner; or one to whom is assigned the status of an honorary member. Support members are not entitled to vote.

They may be partnerships with other associations and institutions, but the association with IES is always individual.

Applications for admission should be submitted to the national representative, if present, and subsequently to the Executive Committee that decrees the admission of new members and then informs the General Assembly.

The Committee may refuse admission to an applicant without giving a reason for its decision. The decision is final.

Membership is gained and maintained with the payment of an annual fee.

Article 6: Categories of members

The association provides two groups and four different membership categories:

A: Active Members, recorded in the "International Register of Ecotuners"

1. Representatives (Charters) have a responsibility to represent the IES in their country of origin.
2. Certified IES Members: have acquired the status of Ecotuner following a recognized IES training or following equivalent training or extensive experience in the theory and practice of Ecopsychology (as agreed by the Executive Committee).

B: Supporting Members

3. Affiliates: professionals or students who share the vision and the values of Ecopsychology but are not, or not yet, certified members.
4. Honorary Members: professionals who the IES Executive Committee decides to grant this qualification to in respect of their career, or due to their status as Ecopsychology pioneers, or for other special merits as agreed by the Executive Committee.

Article 7: Resignation and exclusion of members

Failure to pay the fee, after two reminders, results in exclusion from the association, without resorting to the General Assembly.

The resignation of a member can take place by the end of the calendar year with written notice to the Chairman with thirty days in advance.

The exclusion of a member can be decided by the Committee in cases of serious violation of the Statute, subject to a right of appeal within 30 days of the exclusion communication, by sending a letter to the president.

Article 8: Rights to the Company's assets

Every personal right on the association's assets is excluded.

III. RESOURCES

Article 9: Association's Revenue

These annual fees of the different categories of members are to be paid by the third month of each new year:

Representatives: 100 €

Certificated members: 70 €

Affiliates: 30 €

Honorary members: voluntary contribution

Retiring or excluded members pay the fee until the end of the year.

The premium can be changed and updated annually at Annual General Assembly.

Other resources of the Association will come from the events organized by IES (conferences, courses, lectures, eLearning), from the sale of books, instructional and promotional material, by public or private funding and donations or private or public donations.

Article 10: Association's Patromony

The financial obligations of the association are guaranteed by its assets and excluding members of staff responsibilities.

It remains the personal responsibility of persons acting for the association, in accordance with art. 55 par. 3 of the Swiss Civil Code.

Article 11: Financial year

The financial year of the Association corresponds to the calendar year.

IV. ORGANIZATION

Article 12: Organs

The bodies of the Association are:

- A • General Assembly
- B • Executive Committee (Board)
- C • National Representatives (Charters)
- D • Strategic Commission (Elders)
- E • Auditing Office
- F • Commissions (working groups) and Specialist Groups

A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 13: General Assembly's role

The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Association. The General Assembly accepts responsibility for all activities, in accordance with legal provisions or the Articles of Association, and are not reserved to other organs, in particular:

- a) taking delivery of annual reports, annual accounts and audit report;
- b) determination of annual quotas, decisions concerning the budget;
- c) election of the Management Committee and the Auditors;
- d) decision on the proposals of the members and the Executive Committee;
- e) decision on Statute modification;
- f) approval of the Internal Regulations of IES;
- g) dissolution of the Association.

The General Assembly may deal or be mandated to deal with any matter which is not entrusted to another body.

Article 14: General Assembly Functioning

The Ordinary General Assembly meets at least once a year in a place chosen by the Executive Committee, usually in September to coincide with the international conference. The Assembly, in the years when the Conference does not take place, or in the case of extraordinary meetings, can also be organized with communication technology at a distance (GoTo Webinar, Adobe Connect, etc.).

The Committee forwards an email invitation to each member of the Association no later than 30 days before the General Assembly, specifying the Agenda.

Each Member may, during the year, make proposals to be presented to the next General Assembly. To be included in the agenda, the proposals must be arrive to the Secretary by July 31, before details of the Assembly are announced.

The Committee or members representing at least one-tenth of the members may apply for an Extraordinary General Assembly to be held within 30 days of the request.

Only members who are financially paid up for the year are considered partners and may participate in that year's Assembly.

The General Assembly is chaired by the President or, in his absence, by another member of the Executive Committee chosen by the majority of the Executive.

The General Assembly must draw up the minutes to be approved by the President and signed by the General Secretary of the Assembly.

The General Assembly may deliberate whatever the number of associates members present.

The General Assembly may only make valid decisions on issues on the Agenda, unless all members are present.

Article 15: The General Assembly vote

The following voting rights pertain to the General Assembly:

- Representatives (Charter), whose vote is worth 2
- Certified Members, whose vote is worth 1

Affiliates and Honorary Members have no right to vote

Proxies are not allowed.

General Assembly decisions are sought, in the first instance, with the consensus method. In case of impossibility to reach an agreement, a simple majority vote of the members entitled to vote will suffice. If there is a tied vote: election is decided by lot, in the case of decisions, the vote of the president is decisive.

The Executive Comitee can also propose other decision-making methods, which must be approved by at least three-quarters of the Assembly members.

The dissolution can only be decided by a three-fourths majority of the members entitled to vote.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 16: Composition of the Committee

The Executive Committee is composed of 5 members:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Spokesman of National Representatives (Charters)
- Spokesman of Strategic Commission Representative (Elders)

The members of the Committee will divide the various functions required for the activities of the association.

Article 17: Executive Committee Duration

Committee members are appointed for a period of two years and may be reappointed. The President can not be elected for more than two consecutive mandates.

Article 18: Executive Committee Convening

The Committee is convened by the President as often as is necessary.

Three members of the Committee may request the convening of a meeting to be held in 15 days from the request.

The notices must be sent 10 days before the meeting and must report the order of the day.

Committee meetings may be held with communication technologies at a distance and will be minuted, approved by the President and signed by the secretary or, in his absence, by any member of the Executive Committee.

Members of working groups or Specialist Groups may, by invitation of the President, participate in Executive Committee meetings in an advisory capacity.

Article 19: Executive Committee decisions

The Committee may validly decide if the majority of its members are present.

The decisions of the Board are sought, in the first instance, with the consensus method; or, in the case of impossibility to reach an agreement, with a simple majority vote of the members entitled to vote. If there is a tied vote: election is decided by lot, in the case of decisions, the vote of the President is decisive.

Other decision-making methods may also be considered but, before they can be used to make an official decision, they must be approved by all Committee members.

The Committee may not make decisions on matters not included in the program, or it can do so only on condition that all members are present and that they are recorded in the minutes.

Article 20: Executive Committee competencies

The Executive Committee is responsible for:

- taking steps for achieving the objectives of the IES
- convening general meetings, ordinary and extraordinary
- making decisions on the admission and discharge of members, or their possible exclusion
- ensuring the application of the Statute and administering the assets of the association
- preparing the Internal Regulations of IES, to be approved at the meeting
- proposing annual changes to the Internal Regulations, to be approved at the meeting
- representing the Association towards third parties
- organizing committees and specialist groups

C. NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES (CHARTERS)

Article 21: The definition of the National Representative (Charter)

The Charter is a professional in which the IES places its trust.

The Charter must have a degree related to Ecopsychology or Psychology (humanistic psychology, transpersonal psychology, human sciences, education, medicine).

A Charter who is registered as a Psychologist with the IES must be accredited by the laws of their home country or have an academic background in related disciplines.

Charters must, furthermore, have completed training in an IES accredited Ecopsychology course or have equivalent prior learning.

Other features, on a personal level, needed for an individual to be able to assume the role of a Charter (including the process of their exclusion) are detailed and defined in the Internal Regulations of IES.

Article 22: The role of the National Representative (Charter)

The Charter has the power to take the necessary actions to promote and grow the field of Ecopsychology in his country, abiding by the most appropriate legal structure in its context (company, school, association, etc.). Representation is always nominal, it refers to the individual who has the role of Charter.

The Charter is the intermediary between the IES and national organizations, academic and

other research institutions in their country. The Charter creates and coordinates initiatives related to Ecopsychology and creates connections with national issues according to need and interest.

The Charter can organize courses, seminars and events; can ask for the patronage of the IES by sending, at least 45 days before the event, the appropriate program, requiring the Commission's bequest of patronage. Depending on the content of the program, the Commission will decide on the sponsorship and the ability to use the IES logo. All liability relating to the event in question is to be considered limited to the person of the Charter.

The Charter collaborates with the promotion and management of the IES, assuming institutional roles and coordination within the Association.

The Charter must participate in the International Congress of the IES. The details of participation in the conference by the Charter are outlined in the IES Internal Regulations.

D. STRATEGIC COMMISSION (ELDERS)

Article 23: The definition of the Strategic Commission (Elders)

The Strategic Commission, the circle of elders, consists of four members elected from among the founding members or members with a seniority of at least five years in the association. The term of office is two years.

Article 24: The role of the Strategic Commission (Elders)

The members of the Strategic Commission are the curators and guardians of the spirit of the Association. They have the role of monitoring the ongoing aims and objectives with which it was conceived the European Ecopsychology Society - EES renamed International Ecopsychology Society - IES.

The Strategic Commission take care to ensure that social resolutions are not contrary to law or to the Statute of the Association and that changes in the social order are not imposed on shareholders, in accordance with art. 74 and 75 of the Swiss Civil Code.

The Strategic Commission meets when one member feels the need and reports to the Executive Committee their comments and suggestions.

In the event that the Assembly takes a decision that the four members of the Strategic Committee, unanimously, do not share, such a decision has to be postponed to the following Assembly.

E. OFFICE OF REVIEW

Article 25: Composition and responsibilities of the Audit Office

The General Assembly shall appoint one or more auditors with a 3-year mandate. The auditors may be re-elected.

The auditors, or the external Audit Office, draw up reports and make proposals, presenting them to the Board at least 10 days before the General Assembly. During the year, they can also check the cash held and assets, and the invoices .

The accounts may also be presented when needed, at the express request of the Executive Committee, at any other time during the year.

The general meeting may waive the election of auditors, when:

1. the association does not feel the need for an audit;
 2. all members voted in favor; and
 3. the actual association does not exceed 10 full-time employees in the annual average.
- The renunciation of the limited review is also valid for the subsequent years.

F. WORKING GROUPS AND SPECIALIST GROUPS

Article 26: Composition and competencies of the Commissions (Working Groups) and Specialist Groups

The Executive Committee may delegate certain areas of competence to the Commissions, which are the working groups, and/or to Specialist Groups.

Commissions and Specialist Groups are subject to the Executive Committee and have the function of advisory bodies. They meet at the request of their respective coordinators and the frequency of meetings is dictated by the needs of their specific function.

Meetings are called and Chaired by the coordinator of each Commission.

Commissions and the Specialist Groups must announce their financial requirements to the Executive Committee, which will take account of their demands in the framework of the ordinary budgeting process.

V. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 27: Amendments to the Articles of Association

Any changes or additions to this Statute may be suggested to the Executive Committee with a written justification.

The Annual General Assembly or special resolution about decisions are made by consensus method or, where consensus does not exist, with a two-thirds majority.

Article 28: Dissolution of the Association

Dissolution of the Association can only be decided by a General Assembly convened exclusively for this purpose. To be valid, this decision must receive a majority, in accordance with Article 11, last paragraph.

In case of a merger with another association with the same objectives, the General Assembly decides how to proceed according to the committee's proposals.

Article 29: Settlement of dissolution

The Executive Committee manages the dissolution, presenting a declaration and a final report to the General Assembly.

The surplus will be donated to an organization with similar aims.

Article 30: Entry into force

This Statute was approved at the general meeting of 18 August 2016 and entered into force on the same date. It replaces all previous versions of the Statute of the Association "European Ecopsychology Society" - EES.

Every other aspect of community life, not specified here, is defined in the Rules of IES.

This copy of IES Statute has been translated from the original in Italian.