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## **1. Preamble**

The Edinburgh University Philosophy Society, instituted in 1871 for the prosecution of Philosophical Criticism and Discussion, enacts the following laws, which supersede all previous laws. The society shall abide by any applicable laws, bye-laws and guidelines of the Edinburgh University Students' Association in relation to recognised societies.

## **2. Official Title**

2.1. The Society shall be known as Edinburgh University Philosophy Society, hereinafter referred to as the Society.

2.2. The Society may also be known as Philosophy Society or PhilSoc , both titles having equal validity to the title outlined in Sect. 2.1.

## **3. Aims and Objectives**

3.1. The aims of the Society shall be:

- a) To promote the study and enjoyment of Philosophy within Edinburgh University and outwith the community;
- b) To engage academically renowned speakers to give talks to the Society on varying topics within the domain of Philosophy;
- c) To provide and promote a link between Edinburgh University Philosophy Staff and Students;
- d) To provide academic and moral support for all Edinburgh University Philosophy Students;
- e) To provide a social forum for all Edinburgh University Philosophy Students.

#### 4. **Membership**

##### 5. 4.1. General provisions

4.1.1. The Society shall consist of Regular Members and Honorary Members, both of whom may hereinafter be referred to as 'Members'.

4.1.2. No person may at any one time be both a Regular Member and an Honorary Member of the Society.

4.1.3. No person may at any one time be both an Honorary Member of the Society and a matriculated student of Edinburgh University.

##### 4.2. Regular Membership

4.2.1. Regular membership of the Society is open to all matriculated students of Edinburgh University, notwithstanding 4.2.3.

4.2.2. Any other person, and particularly any present or past staff member or past matriculated student of Edinburgh University, may, at the discretion of the Committee, be admitted as a Regular Member of the Society.

4.2.3. Any person may, at the discretion of the Committee, be barred from Regular Membership of the Society. No such person may become a Regular Member.

4.2.4. At least 75% of the Regular Membership shall be matriculated students of Edinburgh University.

4.2.5. A list detailing Regular Membership should be filed by the Secretary with the Activities Office at least once per semester to ensure membership databases are up to date.

4.2.6. If any dispute over Regular Membership should arise, the list registered through the Students' Association database will be used as the official list.

4.2.7. No new Regular Memberships will become effective in the period between an Annual General Meeting being publicly announced, and the end of that AGM.

4.2.8. Admission to Regular Membership is subject to a membership fee as outlined in 8.1.4–8.1.7.

4.2.9. Any Regular Member may resign their Regular Membership by writing to the Secretary.

##### 4.3. Honorary Membership

4.3.1. Persons may become entitled to Honorary Membership of the Society by only the following means:

4.3.1.1. Any person may become entitled to Honorary Membership by means of a motion passed by simple majority at an AGM or EGM. [4.4.3]

4.3.1.2. All Executive Office Bearers of the Society shall automatically become entitled to Honorary Membership upon the end of their holding office, unless a motion is passed by simple majority at an AGM or EGM to prevent this. Excluded from this are Executive Office Bearers who have been recalled, impeached, expelled or removed from the membership of the Society.

4.3.1.3. Any person giving a guest lecture to the Society as part of the Lecture Series shall automatically become entitled to Honorary Membership once the relevant lecture has been given, unless a motion is passed by simple majority at a Committee meeting, AGM, or EGM to prevent this. Such entitlements to Honorary Membership are subject to ratification at the AGM held in the academic year in which the lectures were given, at which each of the entitlements may be overturned, and Honorary Membership (and entitlement thereto) of the relevant person(s) retroactively revoked thereby.

4.3.2. Should any matriculated student of Edinburgh University be entitled to Honorary Membership, their Honorary Membership shall be void for the duration of their matriculation.

4.3.3. The Secretary shall endeavour to keep the list of Honorary Membership and update it after each EGM and AGM.

4.3.4. Any Honorary Member may resign Honorary Membership by writing to the Secretary.

#### 4.4. Membership entitlements

4.4.1. All Members are entitled to attend all Society events (notwithstanding 4.4.4), except Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings.

4.4.2. All Regular Members who are matriculated students of Edinburgh University are entitled to attend Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings. In addition, they are entitled to stand and vote in elections.

4.4.3. Other persons may be admitted to Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings at the discretion of the Committee. These persons will not be entitled to stand or vote at these meetings.

4.4.4. Attendance at some events may require Members to pay a fee. The admission fee for such events may be priced differently for Members and non-Members. Some events which Members may attend free of charge may carry an admission fee for non-Members.

#### 4.5. Membership responsibilities

4.5.1. Members must not act in a manner which brings the Society into disrepute and must act in good faith to the Society. They must behave in a manner in accordance with the Society's values, aims, and policies.

4.5.2. Members must not cause damage to Society property or venues for Society events.

#### 4.6. Breach of Membership responsibilities

4.6.1. Any person entitled to Honorary Membership may be stripped of such entitlement (and, when such a person is an Honorary Member, lose Honorary Membership thereby) for conduct contrary to the Society's values, aims, or policies by a motion passed by simple majority at an AGM or EGM.

4.6.2. The Committee may impose sanctions for misconduct on Regular Members, based on verifiable evidence collected, taking into account the seriousness of the misconduct with reference to the membership responsibilities and standard code of conduct, any previous warnings, and any mitigating circumstances. When appropriate the following sanctions may be applied:

- a) Informal Warning.
- b) First Written Warnings will be issued for a minor offence or complaint.
- c) Final Written Warnings will be issued for: a further offence or complaint or if the conduct of the member failed to improve following a previous warning, or if the actions are serious enough to warrant a Final Written Warning.
- d) Removal from membership will occur if there is a further serious event of misconduct, or if the conduct of the member failed to improve following a previous written warning, or if the member committed an act of gross misconduct.
- e) Edinburgh University Students' Association ("the Students' Association") Societies department will be notified upon removal of a member and provided with a copy of the evidence pertaining to the sanctions process and removal. All persons removed from membership may appeal to the Societies' department against such removal.

## **6. Management**

### **5.1. The General Committee**

5.1.1. The business of the Society shall be managed by a Committee, which shall consist of all Office Bearers.

5.1.2. Any full student member of the Society shall be entitled to sit on the Committee.

5.1.3. The Office Bearers must be fully paid-up members of the Society and matriculated students of Edinburgh University.

5.1.4. All Office Bearers will complete annual online training as outlined by the Activities Team.

5.1.5 All Office Bearers' terms shall end after the changeover period (7.10) following the next AGM, at which point they are succeeded by the newly elected and appointed Office Bearers.

### **5.2. Executive Office Bearers**

5.2.1. The Executive Committee shall consist of two Co-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer (the Executive Officers).

5.2.2. These Office Bearers will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

5.2.3.1. Executive Office Bearers (EOB) may simultaneously hold an Elected Non-Executive Office (ENO) if: 1) Uncontested, 2) the ENO is otherwise unoccupied, and 3) agreement to the following proviso 5.2.3.2 is established:

5.2.3.2. Upon satisfaction of criteria 1 and 2 in 5.2.3.1, and EOB may occupy and ENO on the condition that: 1) the position remains available for contest. 2) contest will be opened under the general advise for EGM (see: 5.11), and with the specific requirements of 5.2.3.3

5.2.3.3. Applicants running for contest against an ENO occupied by an EOB member must: 1) submit a written statement of intent 2) be a standing member of the philosophy society

5.2.3. No person may hold more than one of these posts simultaneously.

5.2.4. If any of the Executive Committee are to become indisposed of a period of over one week, a member of the General Committee shall be appointed Acting Co-President/Secretary/Treasurer for the duration of their absence.

### 5.3. Co-Presidents

5.3.1. The Co-Presidents will chair the General Committee and Extraordinary General Meetings.

5.3.2. The Co-Presidents shall have a casting vote at all meetings.

5.3.3. The Co-Presidents are responsible for the Annual General Meeting and the General Committee and are ultimately responsible for the conduct of the Society.

5.3.4. It is the Co-Presidents' responsibility to ensure the Society has submitted its annual report, risk assessment and re-registration forms to the Activities Office.

5.3.5 If a Co-President office is vacant (hereafter defined as leaving office with no intention/ability of returning), the Secretary shall resign their office and fill the vacancy, if they so choose. If the Secretary chooses not to fill the vacancy, the same option is given to the Treasurer. If neither occupies the vacancy, a new Co-President will be voted in at an EGM.

5.3.6 Should both Co-President offices become vacant, the Secretary and Treasurer shall resign their offices and fill the vacancies, if they so choose. Should either vacancy remain unfilled, a new Co-President(s) will be voted in at an EGM.

5.3.7. The Co-Presidents shall be responsible for preparing, organising and running all formal Society and Committee meetings, as well as chairing the Annual General Meeting and maintaining an open and accepting environment at all meetings, including enforcement of Safe Spaces.

5.3.8. There shall be two Co-Presidents.

### 5.4. Treasurer

5.4.1. The Treasurer shall be accountable to the Committee and members for the finances of the Society.

5.4.2. The Treasurer shall collect all sums due to the Society and dispose of them by its direction.

5.4.3. The Treasurer shall be responsible for fundraising and grant applications.

5.4.4. The Treasurer shall organise speakers' accommodation and the reimbursements of speakers' costs.

5.4.5. The Treasurer shall keep and prepare accounts of the Society and provide a provisional budget, as exhaustive as possible, to be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

5.4.6. It is the Treasurer's responsibility to ensure the annual financial report is completed and submitted along with the Society's annual report.

5.4.7. The Treasurer shall ultimately be responsible for the finances of the Society.

5.4.8. Should the office of Treasurer become vacant, a new Treasurer will be voted in at an EGM.

## 5.5. Secretary

5.5.1. The Secretary shall be responsible for the administration of the Society.

5.5.2. The Secretary shall conduct and be responsible for any correspondence within or on behalf of the Society, as well as prepare the agendas and the minutes of every committee meeting, AGM and EGM. They shall record and circulate all proceedings of the Society.

5.5.3. The Secretary shall coordinate all meetings of the Society and its Committee and shall be responsible for room bookings.

5.5.4. The Secretary shall keep an up-to-date record of all members of the Society and submit it to EUSA when required in a timely manner.

5.5.5. The Secretary shall ultimately be responsible for the administration of the Society.

5.5.6. Should the office of Secretary become vacant, a new Secretary will be voted in at an EGM.

## 5.6. Elected Non-Executive Office Bearers (General Committee)

5.6.1. The General Committee of the Society shall consist of at least a Discussion Group Organiser, a Reading Group Organiser, a Lecture Organiser, a Social Secretary, a Publicity and Marketing Officer, and a Journal Editor, in addition to the Executive Committee, as well as potentially other Non-Executive Bearers in the other roles specified in the following clauses.

5.6.3. The Discussion Group Organiser or Discussion Group Organisers shall be responsible for organising all weekly discussion groups. There can be two people elected to this role.

5.6.4. The Reading Group Organiser or Reading Group Organisers shall be responsible for organising all weekly reading groups. There can be two people elected to this role.

5.6.5. The Social Secretaries shall be responsible for the organisation of all social events of the Society. There can be two people elected to this role.

5.6.6. The Publicity and Marketing Officer shall be responsible for promoting all Society events both within Edinburgh University and outwith the community.

They are also responsible for the Society's social media and events. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.7. The Historian or Historians (formerly Librarians) is responsible for researching and developing projects concerning the history of the Philosophy Society. In addition, the historian shall be responsible for the upkeep of the Society's Library, as well as ensuring it is accessible during Library Open Hours. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.8. The Department Liaison Officer shall be responsible for representing the Society to the Department and the academic community, as well as ensuring good communication between the Department and the Society. The Department Liaison Officer will also serve as one of the PhilSoc representatives to the PPLS Intersocietal Council. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.9. The Welfare Officer shall be the point of contact for society members about any issues of welfare or discrimination that should arise, and is responsible for signposting to the relevant Students' Association / University department for further support, and advising the committee to prevent such harm. The Welfare Officer shall advise in the organisation of all society events and activities surrounding sensitive topics. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.10. The Logic Group Organiser shall be responsible for organising all weekly logic group meetings. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.11. The Book Club Organiser shall be responsible for organising all weekly book club meetings. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.12. Any Ordinary Members shall be responsible for assisting the Committee with whatever and whenever they see fit. There shall be no more than 5 Ordinary Members in the General Committee. Of these 5 positions, 1 is reserved for a visiting exchange student, and 1 is reserved for a postgraduate student.

5.6.13. Any First-Year Representatives shall be responsible for representing the interests of first-year students in the Society and the Philosophy community to the General Committee. They shall also act as a point of contact for first-year students. All First-Year Representatives shall be first-year students at the time of their election. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.14. Any Postgraduate Representatives shall be responsible for representing the interests of post-graduate students in the Society and the Philosophy community to the General Committee. They shall also act as a point of contact for post-graduate students. All Post-Grad Representatives shall be post-graduate students at the time of their election. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.6.15. Ad-hoc committees comprising of paid up members may be compiled to organise specific events when necessary.

5.6.16. (a) If there are fewer Ordinary Members in the General Committee than the maximum number specified in the Constitution, members may run for election as Ordinary Member at a General Meeting. (b) If, at a General Meeting,



fewer or as many candidates are nominated for Ordinary Member as can be accepted in the role given the prior number of Ordinary Members, then there shall be simple separate votes about electing each of them. (c) If more candidates run for Ordinary Member than can be accepted, there shall first be a preliminary vote about the order in which votes are to be held. In this preliminary vote, each participant of the General Meeting who is entitled to vote may cast a vote for one candidate for Ordinary Member. (d) Votes about whether to accept a candidate as Ordinary Member shall then be held in descending order according to preliminary votes cast for a candidate, until either the General Committee cannot accept any new Ordinary Members, or there has been a vote on every candidate.

#### 5.7. Non-Elected Non-Executive Office Bearers (General Committee

5.7.1. The following roles will not be up for election, but selected through an application process with the incoming executive committee and the outgoing position holders after the AGM, before the end of the academic year.

5.7.2. The Journal Co-Editors-In-Chief shall be responsible for producing a high-quality Philosophical Journal as and when they see fit, but no less than once per academic year. They are also in charge of selecting a journal editorial sub-committee each year. There can be up to two people chosen for this role.

5.7.3. The Lecture Organisers shall be responsible for the planning and organisation of the weekly guest lecture series, with the oversight of the executive committee. Should they so choose, they can select a lecture series sub-committee. The lecture organisers will be in charge of all communication between the society and the invited guests. The lecture organisers will co-host each lecture with a member of the exec. There shall be no more than 24 invited lecturers a year. There can be up to two people chosen for this role.

5.7.4. The Proceedings Organiser shall be responsible for organising the Society's Proceedings seminars where members and others may present their own research. The Proceedings Organiser shall endeavour to organise at least two Proceedings events per year. There can be one person elected to this role.

5.7.5 The PhilPals (Academic Support) Coordinators shall be responsible for organising and developing Peer Support events for first year philosophy courses, as well as provide other peer support resources and advice. They are responsible for recruiting PhilPals volunteers, and must attend EUSA peer support training. There can be up to two people chosen for this role.

#### 5.8. Conduct

5.8.1. All Office Bearers shall act in good faith towards the Society in all actions they undertake on its behalf.

5.8.2. All Office Bearers shall ensure that records of all and any correspondence made by them on behalf of or in the name of the Society are accessible to the Executive Committee and the Chairperson.

#### 5.9. Recall and Resignation, and Suspension

5.9.1. The Regular Members shall have the right at an Extraordinary General Meeting to seek the recall of any or all the Office Bearers by a special resolution. To be effective, such a resolution must pass with a simple two-thirds supermajority.

5.9.2. Grounds for recall may be founded on the failure of any member of the General Committee to comply with the terms of the Constitution, or any other reason deemed legitimate by the General Meeting, such as behaviour contrary to the aims of the Society.

5.9.3. (a) Any Executive or Non-Executive Office Bearer may resign from any or all of their roles by informing the President or the Secretary in writing. (b) A resigned Office Bearer may attempt to withdraw their resignation until either 15 days have passed since it was handed in or a new member or new members have been elected to occupy the role. This is done by informing the President or the Secretary in writing. (c) The acceptance of such a withdrawal is subject to a vote with simple majority in the General Committee. (d) The General Committee will choose an acting office bearer in place of the resigned officer bearer until a new office bearer is chosen.

5.9.4. (a) The General Committee shall have the power to suspend any Office Bearer if it resolves to do so with a super-majority of two thirds. (b) A suspended Office Bearer may not take part in Committee Meetings and may not represent the Society in their former role. (c) If the suspended Office Bearer was a member of the Executive Committee, an Acting Office Bearer shall be appointed to act in their stead until the suspension is lifted or a new member is elected for the office. (d) Within 21 days of the suspension, an EGM must take place at which there will be a vote on the recall of the suspended Office Bearer. (e) If the suspended Office Bearer is not recalled, the suspension shall be lifted.

#### 5.10. Annual General Meeting

5.10.1. The Annual General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as AGM) shall take place between Week 7 and Week 11 of Semester 2.

5.10.2. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to ensure that members receive at least 14 days' written or e-mail notification of the AGM as well as of elections not held at the AGM.

5.10.3. Motions for consideration at the AGM should be presented to the Secretary in advance of the meeting.

5.10.4. All Office Bearer roles shall be subject to election annually at the AGM.

5.10.5. Motions carried by the necessary majority (i.e. a 50% vote in favour of the motion) at quorate AGMs are binding on the Society.

5.10.6. The quorum shall be 3% of the Society's members.

5.10.7. The outgoing Treasurer shall present the final Financial Report for the previous year well as a complete account of the current state of finances. They must present an accurate breakdown of the definite commitment for which the Society has been engaged in the current year, henceforth to be known as the

Budget. Emphasis must be placed on comparing this Budget with current income.

5.10.8. The President shall deliver the President's Report on the administrative affairs of the society, as well as a summary of the year's activity.

5.10.9. Elections shall be held at the AGM for all elected offices (5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6).

**5.11. Extraordinary General Meeting**

5.11.1. The Executive Committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as EGM) for matters arising in the course of the year which require consideration by members.

5.11.2. Any six Regular Members may request that an EGM be convened by writing to any Office Bearer.

5.11.3. Following the receipt of such a request by the Secretary, the General Committee shall have twenty-eight days to implement the request.

5.11.4. All members must receive at least 14 days' written or e-mail notification of the EGM.

5.11.5. The quorum of such meetings shall be 3% of the Society's Regular Members.

5.11.6. EGM procedures shall follow the format of AGM procedures, outlined in Sect. 5.10 above.

5.11.7. Any newly-elected Office Bearers will be communicated to the Societies Team after the election has taken place.

5.11.8. There shall be an EGM held between Weeks 2 and 4 in Semester 1.

5.11.9. There shall be an EGM held in January during Semester 2.

**7. Meetings and Events**

**6.1. Society meetings**

6.1.1. The Society shall meet at least five times, as convenient, throughout each Semester.

6.1.2. Executive Committee meetings between President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be called by the Committee as and when necessary.

6.1.3. The Executive Committee shall meet no less than once a fortnight.

6.1.4. The Committee shall meet no less than six times per academic year.

6.1.5. The society has taken and will continue to take all necessary steps to ensure that meetings, events and socials are accessible to all.

**6.2. Society events**

6.2.1. The society will aim to have at least four events a week:

- a) a Reading Group;
- b) a Discussion Group;
- c) a Guest Lecture;
- d) an Academic Support session for students in philosophy.

6.2.2. (a) The lecture series shall reflect the values of the Society and the lectures should not contain hate speech or other discriminatory content as

defined by the law and EUSA. (b) Furthermore, since each speaker shapes the public perception of our Society, invited speakers should not be known for engaging in hateful behaviour. (c) This clause shall not inhibit the Society's ability to accommodate in its lecture series any philosophical position found within respectable academic discourse to the extent that EUSA's guidelines, bye-laws, rules and regulations allow that.

6.2.3. (a) In order to ensure adherence to the preceding clause, the General Committee may disinvite and ban potential and invited guest speakers if it resolves to do so with a super-majority of two thirds. (b) If a speaker is banned, he or she may not act as a speaker at any Society event or be invited to do so by any member of the committee, and he or she may not receive any monetary benefits or reimbursements from Society funds, except for what the Society is under legal obligations to provide. (c) A ban shall last until the end of the academic year. It may also be lifted by the General Committee with a super-majority of two thirds.

6.2.4. (a) The Society shall not provide travel or accommodation for more than 25 guest lecturers or other invited visitors in one academic year. Excepted from this are speakers at events for which the Society receives external funding. (b) The Society shall not make offers of reimbursement that it could not fulfil without violating this clause. (c) This clause may be overruled with a super-majority of two thirds in the General Committee.

6.2.5. At least two Proceedings events should take place in an academic year (so long as this is feasible). At these events, society members and others may present their own research. These are to be organised by the Proceedings Organiser

## **8. Elections**

7.1. All Office Bearers shall be elected annually at an Annual General Meeting at the end of the second Semester and will enter into office at the end of the academic year, after a period of shadowing of the outgoing Committee.

7.2. Any returning Office Bearer shall still have to be nominated for election.

7.3. A simple majority will be required to win an election.

7.5 Voting shall be done via ranked ballot, in which voters rank the candidates and RON (Re-Open Nominations) from their first choice to their last. Voters may choose not to rank every candidate. Counting of the ballot papers proceeds and when no candidate receives 50% plus one vote of the first preference vote (candidates with a number one), the candidate with the fewest first preference votes is eliminated and that candidate's votes are distributed to the remaining candidates. The process continues until a candidate accumulates 50% plus one vote, or a simple majority. For posts with two positions, when the first candidate wins a majority, ballots will be re-counted with the winning candidate's votes distributed, until a second candidate wins a majority.

7.6 In the event of a tie, the top tied candidates will be required to answer questions from the voters before re-voting. If a candidate is absent, their designated nominator shall answer questions on their behalf.

- 7.7. Candidates are allowed to vote for themselves if they so wish.
- 7.8. Any vacancy that may occur shall be filled at the next meeting.
- 7.9 The Returning Officer shall conduct the election. The Returning Officer must not be standing for election.
- 7.10 One of the outgoing Co-Presidents shall serve as the Returning Officer and conduct the election, unless both are standing for election, in which case the Committee shall nominate the Returning Officer.
- 7.11 The Committee shall approve an external observer who is not a society member to aid the Returning Officer.
- 7.12. There will be an agreement as to a changeover period during the exam block after Semester 2.
- 7.13. (a) Absent Regular Members may delegate their vote to a Regular Member who will be present at the General Meeting and have them vote for them by proxy by informing the Secretary or the chair of the General Meeting of this before the General Meeting. (b) A Regular Member may not have the votes of more than one other Regular Member delegated to them. (c) Regular Members who have delegated their votes shall count as present for the purposes of quoracy.
- 7.14. (a) A candidate may run for election if they are not present at the General Meeting. (b) For this, they must designate a nominator who will be present at the General Meeting by informing the Secretary or the chair of the General Meeting. (c) Their designated nominator may nominate them for any role as well as accepting nominations, answering questions and making decisions about sharing roles on their behalf.
- 7.15. Every Office Bearer is responsible that those who succeed her or him in her or his role are suitably informed about the responsibilities and tasks the role involves.
- 7.16. Re-registration of the society must be submitted prior to re-registration deadline set by EUSA, prior to Week 12 of Semester 2.

## **9. Finance**

### **8.1. Finance Policy**

- 8.1.1. The Treasurer must endeavour to ensure that the ordinary expenditure of any given year is not more than the ordinary income of that year.
- 8.1.2. The financial year shall run from 1st April to 31st March.
- 8.1.3. The definition of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure is the responsibility of the General Committee.
- 8.1.4. Admission as a Regular Member of the Society shall require payment of an annual subscription fee.
- 8.1.5. The annual subscription fee will be determined at the close of the financial year in preparation for the new academic year.
- 8.1.6. The annual subscription fee shall be due at the opening meeting of each academic year or at the time of admission to the Society.
- 8.1.7. All Subscriptions must be paid to the Treasurer, on the penalty of suspension and ultimately expulsion.

- 8.1.8. The society shall have accessible funds of at least £100 at any time.
- 8.1.9. The society shall have accessible funds of at least £500 at the end of the financial year.

## 8.2. General Finance

- 8.2.1. The Society shall be non-profit making. The Office Bearers and members may only receive payment for legitimate expenses.
- 8.2.2. Core income shall be defined as income arising from membership fees and any other source as agreed by the General Committee.
- 8.2.3. Any reserves at the end of the financial year shall be carried over into reserves for the following financial year.
- 8.2.4. A loss carried forward into the following financial year must be notified and explained at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.2.5. The lecture series shall comprise of no more than 80% of the Core Income, excluding externally sponsored lectures (eg. PPLS Initiative Fund).

## 8.3. Fundraising

- 8.3.1. Non-members may be charged a higher rate for attendance of events run by the Society than members.
- 8.3.2. The Society shall raise money through any activities approved by the Committee.
- 8.3.3. If required, the Society shall request Edinburgh University to fund some of its activities and programmes.

## **10. Policies**

### 9.1. Re-registration, Annual Reports and Financial Reports

- 9.1.1. Re-registration of the society must be submitted in accordance with the deadlines set by the Activities Team.
- 9.1.2. Annual and Financial Reports must be completed and submitted as part of the re-registration process following the AGM in the second semester.

### 9.2. Society Status

- 9.2.1. A Society may not register to obtain any legal status, including a limited company or a charitable status.

### 9.3. Equal Opportunities Policy

- 9.3.1. The Society shall uphold and maintain its policy on the equality of opportunity as defined in the Equal Opportunities Policy.
- 9.3.2. The Society will take all necessary steps to ensure that their meetings, events and socials are accessible to all.
- 9.3.3. The Society will ensure that it complies with any relevant data protection legislation.
- 9.3.4. The Society believes that discrimination or harassment, direct or indirect, based on a person's gender identity, sex, age (except where it relates to licensing laws), race, skin colour, nationality, religious belief, socio-economic background, disability, HIV status, sexual orientation, family situation, domestic

responsibilities or any other irrelevant distinction, is detrimental to the Society, the university and wider society, and will not be tolerated.

9.3.5. The Society shall abide by any applicable laws, bye-laws and guidelines of the Edinburgh University Students' Association in relation to recognised Societies.

#### 9.4. Other policies

9.4.1. The official society anthem is "It's the Hard Knock Life", sung by Quvenzhané Wallis, Zoe Margaret Colletti, Nicolette Pierini, Eden Duncan-Smith, and Amanda Troya, from the film Annie (2014) soundtrack.

9.4.2. The society anthem shall be played at the start of each annual general meeting, extraordinary general meeting, and committee meeting.

### **11. Dissolution**

10.1. The Society shall not be wound up except by a resolution of three quarters of those present at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.

10.2. All funds remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities following such a resolution shall be passed on to a charitable organisation having objects similar to those of the Society at the discretion of the General Committee.

### **12. Constitutional Matters**

11.1. The Students' Association and the Society considers the ruling Society Constitution to be that which is displayed on the Society Profile.

11.2. Any motion to alter the Constitution will have to be passed by a 2/3 supermajority at an AGM or EGM.

11.3. All motions shall be laid in writing with the Secretary, who shall convey these motions to the Committee as soon as possible.

11.4. All motions require either the sponsorship of three Regular Members or an executive Office Bearer of the Society.

### **13. History**

This constitution was accepted at the EGM held on 21/01/2021. It replaces the Constitution adopted on 28/03/2013 and last amended on 09/10/2020.

#### **21/01/2021 EGM**

Added: 5.6.10, 5.6.11

Altered: 5.6.9

#### **09/10/2020 EGM**

Altered: 5.7.4, 6.2.5

#### **03/04/2020 AGM**

Added: 5.1.5, 5.2.3.1, 5.2.3.2, 5.2.3.3, 5.3.5, 5.3.6, 5.7.5, 5.10.11, 5.11.5, 5.11.7, 5.11.8, 7.9, 7.10, 7.11, 8.2.5, 9.4

Altered: 4, 5.2.1, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 5.4.8, 5.5.6, 5.6.9, 5.6.10, 5.7.4, 5.9.1, 5.9.3, 5.10.2, 5.11.1, 5.11.2, 7.12, 8.1.4, 8.2.1, 9.3.4, 11

Removed (Listed by old section numbers): 5.3.5, 5.6.11, 5.9.2, 5.9.3, 5.10.1, 5.10.3, 5.11.6, 6.2.5, 7.9, 7.11, 7.15

#### **07/02/2020 EGM**

Added: 5.3.6, 5.3.7, 5.7 (5.7.1, 5.7.2, 5.7.3, 5.7.4), 7.5, 7.6

Altered: 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.6, 5.6.1, 5.6.3, 5.6.4, 5.6.5, 5.6.6, 5.6.7, 5.6.8, 5.6.9, 5.6.11, 5.6.12, 5.6.13, 7.9

Removed (Listed by old section numbers): 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 5.3.1(b), 5.3.3, 5.3.7, 5.3.8, 5.3.9, 5.4 (5.4.1, 5.4.2, 5.4.3, 5.4.4, 5.4.5), 5.7.2, 5.7.7, 5.7.8, 5.7.15, 5.7.19, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6

**03/05/2019 EGM**

Added: 4.2.3., 5.4.5., 5.9.6.

Altered: 5.7.2., 5.7.9., 5.7.11., 5.7.19., 5.9.5.

Removed: 7.4.