

Statutes

§1 Name

The name of the Society is European Colloid and Interface Society e.V. (ECIS), is registered in the register of associations and has its seat in Mainz. The fiscal year of the Society is the calendar year. The English version of the present Statutes is only a translation of the legally binding German version.

§ 2 Purpose

The purpose of ECIS is the promotion of science and research. The society promotes pure and applied colloid and interface research in Europe. For this purpose, the cooperation between European scientists shall be supported as before. In particular, young scientists shall be supported. ECIS cooperates with national and international scientific societies.

To achieve these goals,

- the ECIS aims at organizing an international conference in Europe in the field of colloid and interface research every year (Annual Meeting);
- ECIS awards prizes on the occasion of this conference to recognize outstanding scientific achievements in the field of colloid and interface research;
- ECIS organizes, if possible every two years, a conference for students in Europe in the field of colloid and interface research.

The ECIS exclusively and directly pursues non-profit purposes in the sense of the section "tax-privileged purposes" of the German Tax Code. The association is selflessly active, profit-making and other self-economic purposes are excluded. Funds of the association may only be used for statutory purposes as before.

The members may not receive any shares in the profits and, in their capacity as members, no other benefits from the funds of the Society. No person may be favored by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the Society or by disproportionately high remuneration.

§3 Membership

Members of the association can be:

- natural persons
- Legal entities
- Legal entities under public law

The Council decides on the written application for membership at its own discretion. Each member has a seat and a vote in the general meeting. Members who are legal entities must indicate their representatives or authorized agents who are to exercise the membership rights.

§4 Membership fees

Members shall pay an annual membership fee. The amount of the annual contribution is at the discretion of the members. However, the General Assembly shall set minimum membership fees. Changes to the minimum contributions shall be decided by the General Assembly.

Membership begins after approval of the application for membership in the year of payment of the annual fee and continues until the General Assembly of the following year. Membership fees may only be used for administrative costs of ECIS or to achieve the expressly stated goals. The Society accepts funds and donations in kind offered to it for Society purposes. The Council decides on the use of the funds in accordance with the statutes. The treasurer is responsible for the cash management of the donations.

§5 Termination of membership

Membership expires, except in the case of death

- by written notice of resignation, which must be submitted to the office no later than three months before the beginning of a new fiscal year;
- by non-payment of the membership fee despite two written reminders. The cancellation may only be decided after three months have passed since the second reminder was sent and the amount owed has not been paid. The member must be notified of the deletion in writing;
- by exclusion. This shall be effected by the Executive Board if the retention of a member in the Society is contrary to its reputation or its purposes;
- by termination of the legal capacity of the Society

Members shall not receive any refund of dues paid upon their resignation or upon dissolution of the Association, nor shall they have any claim to the assets of the Association.

§6 Elements of the Society

Elements of the society are:

1. the General Assembly
2. the Board of Directors (Council)

§7 The Council

The Council consists of the Directorate (Board) and the Secretariat (Secretariat). Council members are volunteers.

The President presides over the Council.

Two members of the Council represent the Society externally - judicially and extra-judicially - including the President, and in his absence, the former President or the Vice-President (in that order).

In addition to an annual meeting of the Council, which will be held at the invitation of the President during the period of the annual conference, the President may call an extraordinary meeting of the Council at any time if it is in the interest of the Society.

§8 Board

The business of the Society is conducted by the Council. The Board is responsible for all scientific matters as well as the external representation.

The Board consists of the President, the Vice-President and the former President. A new Vice-President is elected every two years. The vice president becomes president, the president becomes past president. The past president retires from the board. So, in total, one member remains on the Board for 6 years. The current Council continues to manage the business until the new election at the General Assembly is legally registered in the Register of Associations. Only members can be elected to the Board. After the 6 years of membership in the Board, direct re-election to the Board is not allowed.

The Board

- conducts the business in accordance with the Statutes and the resolutions of the General Assembly;
- supervises the activities of the Society and ensures that the objectives are pursued;
- investigates in which countries future conferences can be held and proposes suitable countries and organizers to the General Assembly;
- assists the local organizers of a conference in hosting it. This is regulated in detail in a contract between the organizers and ECIS;
- establishes guidelines for the Award Committees. The guidelines and the composition of the committees are published on the website of the society.

§9 The secretariat

The task of the secretariat is the administration of the society. The secretariat consists of the secretary, the treasurer and the webmaster. They are elected for 6 years by the General Assembly. A single re-election is possible. Only members of the society are eligible for election.

The secretary

- prepares the General Assembly and prepares the minutes,
- invites by e-mail or in writing the members to the conferences and the General Assembly and asks the members for nominations for the awards,

- ensures cooperation with other national and international professional societies as well as with EU initiatives.
- solicits nominations for candidates in upcoming elections of the Board or the Secretariat.
- collects applications for membership and sends them to the Board for approval, collects membership lists from local organizers of the last conference and sends a copy to the Council.
- Sends membership lists to the Treasurer for fiscal and legal concerns.

The Treasurer

- Maintains the day-to-day administration as well as the ECIS bank account,
- prepares the income and expenditure account,
- reports at the General Assembly on the income and expenses of the past year,
- prepares the budget for the next year,
- keeps the list of members,
- has the conference organizers sign the contract with ECIS, and
- has the income and expenses controlled by a member who is not on the council.

The Webmaster

- in close contact with the Council, creates and updates the ECIS homepage and other types of communication tools,
- Works with the Council to ensure the timely and accurate delivery of information,
- advises the Council on all matters relating to the Internet, in particular copyright issues, and data security and compliance with the Data Protection Regulation (DSGVO).

§10 The General Assembly

The General Assembly shall be held once a year, preferably at the place and time of the annual conference. The General Assembly shall be open to all members present at the Annual Conference and may be made available to members online upon decision of the Council, provided that the Annual conference is held entirely online or in a hybrid modality (i.e., in attendance and streaming).

All participating members present are entitled to vote. The President shall chair the meeting. If the president is unable to do so, the deputy or another member of the Council shall chair the General Assembly. If no member of the council is present, the General Assembly shall appoint the chairman. The secretary shall take the minutes. If the secretary is unable to do so, the General Assembly shall elect a person who takes the minutes.

The General Assembly makes all fundamental and important decisions. The General Assembly decides in particular on:

- Place and organizers of the regular conferences of ECIS;
- changes to the amount of membership fees;

- the General Assembly elects the members of the Council, the Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster;
- about a discharge of the council

§11 Call for the General Assembly

The secretary invites the members to the General Assembly. The invitation must be sent in writing or by e-mail with three weeks' notice. The invitation shall be deemed to have been received by the member if it is addressed to the last address made known to the Society by the member. It is the responsibility of the members to notify the Secretary of any change in contact information.

In addition to the regular General Assemblies, the President may call extraordinary General Assemblies when it is in the best interest of the Society to do so.

The agenda is set by the Council. Each member may request in writing to the President at least 10 calendar days before the date of the General Assembly that additional matters be added to the agenda. The updated agenda shall be distributed to the members at least one week before the General Assembly. The chairperson of the meeting shall add items to the agenda at the beginning of the General Assembly. The General Assembly decides on requests for additions to the agenda that are made during the General Assembly. A majority of three quarters of the votes cast is required to accept the proposal.

§12 Resolutions of the General Assembly

Every member attending the General Assembly is entitled to vote. Online voting is permitted.

Decisions are generally made by simple majority vote of all participating voting members. Voting is usually by a show of hands. Voting must be conducted in writing if a quarter of the members present so request.

The election of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster shall be by secret ballot and in writing. The following applies: If no candidate has obtained a majority of the votes cast in the first ballot, a run-off election shall be held between the candidates who have obtained the two highest numbers of votes.

The following resolutions require a three-quarters majority of the voting members present:

- Amendments to the Statutes of the Society,
- liquidation of the Society

In the event of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote.

Minutes are to be taken of the resolutions of the General Assembly, which are to be signed by the respective chairman of the Assembly and the keeper of the minutes. It should contain the following statements: Place and time of the meeting, name of the chairman of the meeting and the keeper of the minutes, the number of members present, the agenda, the individual voting results and the type of voting. In the case of amendments to the Articles of Association, the exact wording shall be specified.

In urgent cases a written resolution by letter or e-mail is possible. In this case, the votes of the members who have responded within a set time limit shall count.

§ 13 Liquidation of the Society and Incidental Entitlement

The liquidation of the Society can only be decided in a General Assembly with the majority of votes stipulated in § 12. Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, the president or the vice-president and the treasurer are jointly authorized liquidators. The above provisions shall apply accordingly in the event that the Society is dissolved for any other reason or loses its legal capacity.

In the event of liquidation or termination of the Association or in the event that tax-privileged purposes cease to exist, the assets of the Association shall pass to the International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists IACIS, which shall use them exclusively and directly for non-profit purposes in the field of colloid and interface science.

§ 14 Entry into force

The Statutes shall enter into force upon entry into the Register of Associations.

The above statutes were established in the Founding Assembly of 6.9.2011 and amended by resolution of the General Assembly of 3.9.2012 (Malmö), and 4.9.2013 (Sofia) and 09.09.2021 (Athens).