

CONFIRMED
in Rīga Stradiņš University
Students Council meeting
October 17th, 2018
Prot. Nr. 40-4-9-P

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF
the Foundation “RĪGA STRADIŅŠ UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION
FOUNDATION”

Section 1. General Provisions

- 1.1. The name of the foundation is “Rīga Stradiņš University Student Union Foundation” (hereinafter referred to as RSU SU).
- 1.2. RSU SU operates in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Latvia, RSU Constitution, RSU SU Articles of Association and RSU SU laws and regulations, including RSU SU Rules of Order, RSU SU Election Regulations (hereinafter referred to as the Election Regulations).
- 1.3. RSU SU is a form of organisational and legal activity of Rīga Stradiņš University (hereinafter referred to as RSU) student self-governance body. These Articles of Association shall be at the same time considered as the Student Union Regulations for the purpose of Section 53 (1) of the Law on Institutions of Higher Education.
- 1.4. RSU SU may cooperate with the governmental and administration institutions of the Republic of Latvia, scientific, national and other businesses, political and public organisations, as well as individual persons in the Republic of Latvia and beyond the borders for achieving its goals.
- 1.5. RSU SU has its own symbols, a stamp and a form approved by RSU SU Council.

- 1.6. RSU SU aims to represent RSU students (hereinafter - students) and provide them with support in the following areas:
 - 1.6.1. improvement of the quality of higher education;
 - 1.6.2. carrying out scientific research;
 - 1.6.3. organisation of cultural events;
 - 1.6.4. organisation of health promotion events;
 - 1.6.5. organisation of sporting events.
- 1.7. Tasks of RSU SU activities:
 - 1.7.1. defend and represent the interests of students in matters of academic, material and cultural life in RSU and other public authorities;
 - 1.7.2. represent students in Latvia and abroad;
 - 1.7.3. ensure respect for students' views on issues related to RSU, including the election of student representatives to RSU Senate and other RSU collegial institutions;
 - 1.7.4. prescribe the procedure for electing students to RSU Constitutional Assembly, the Senate, Faculty Boards and other collegial institutions;
 - 1.7.5. propose adopting RSU internal laws and regulations, as well as propose amending or cancelling RSU internal laws and regulations if they do not comply with the interests of RSU students;
 - 1.7.6. request and receive information and explanations from any authorised representative of RSU department within their competence, on all matters affecting the interests of students;
 - 1.7.7. enhance the quality of studies and academic traditions, social welfare of students, democracy and individual initiative, student self-confidence and personality development, healthy lifestyle, youth civic integration and participation in the society.
- 1.8. RSU SU may also have other goals and tasks arising from laws and regulations.
- 1.9. RSU SU was established for an indefinite period of time.

Section 2. Financial Resources and Transfer of Property to RSU SU

- 2.1. The financial resources of RSU SU shall be composed of:
 - 2.1.1. the Founder's payments, including in accordance with the rules of the Law on

Institutions of Higher Education regarding the financing of the student self-governance bodies;

2.1.2. donations from legal and natural entities;

2.1.3. income from economic activity of RSU SU;

2.1.4. other income authorised by laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia.

2.2. The Founder, when transferring the funds to RSU SU, shall pay them into the bank account of RSU SU.

2.3. If non-registrable movable property is transferred to RSU SU, the acceptance-delivery certificate shall be drawn up.

2.4. The transfer of registrable movable and immovable property shall be made by registering it with an entry in the Land Register or in the relevant register.

2.5. The contributors shall have the right to transfer financial resources or property to RSU SU, provided that the financial resources or property transferred are to be used according to the procedure prescribed by a person who has transferred the financial resources or property, or for certain purposes corresponding to the goals of RSU SU.

Section 3. Procedures for Use of RSU SU Resources

3.1. The resources of RSU SU shall be used by decisions of the Board for:

3.1.1. achievement of the goals and fulfilment of the tasks prescribed in RSU SU Articles of Association;

3.1.2. hiring employees;

3.1.3. covering other expenditure related to the operation of RSU SU.

3.2. All penalties specified in the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia may be applied to the members of the Board for the unjustified, useless or unauthorised use of the financial resources of RSU SU.

Section 4. Procedure for RSU SU Property Distribution in the event of RSU SU Liquidation

4.1. In the event of the liquidation of RSU SU, all property that remains after the settlement of

creditors' claims shall become the property of its legal successor, or, if not, shall pass into RSU ownership.

Section 5. Founder

5.1. Rīga Stradiņš University is the Founder of RSU SU. The Founder shall operate in accordance with the Law on Institutions of Higher Education and the Constitution of Rīga Stradiņš University (approved by the Law on the Constitution of Rīga Stradiņš University) and with the Associations and Foundations Law.

5.2. The Founder shall be represented by Rīga Stradiņš University Rector. The Founder's decision shall be approved by another representation, management or decision-taking body of Rīga Stradiņš University, if provided by the Law on Institutions of Higher Education or the Constitution of Rīga Stradiņš University.

5.3. The Founder's competence shall include the following matters:

5.3.1. Approval of RSU SU budget;

5.3.2. Proposal of agenda items to the Board;

5.3.3. Appointment and removal of an Auditor;

5.3.4. Removal of the Board members in the event of receiving the relevant Auditor's report on violations and information from the law enforcement authorities, confirming that administrative or criminal proceedings have been initiated in relation to the violations identified by the Auditor.

5.3.5. Decision taking on the provision of an agreement for the termination of the activities of RSU SU [Associations and Foundations Law, hereinafter - AFL, 104.4] or for reorganisation of RSU SU [AFL 109 (2), (3)];

5.3.6. Any other issue related to the activities of RSU SU, which according to the Associations and Foundations Law is not within the exclusive competence of RSU SU Board (Article 7.2 of the Articles of Association).

Section 6. Elections of RSU SU [AFL 93 (2)]

6.1. Elections of RSU SU:

6.1.1. The elections of RSU SU Council, Board and other representatives of student interests

shall be held once a year unless otherwise specified by the Election Regulations.

6.1.2. The Election Regulations shall be an internal regulatory enactment of RSU SU, which is drawn up by the Board of RSU SU and approved by the Council of RSU SU.

Section 7. RSU SU Structure [AFL 93 (2)]

7.1.The Council:

7.1.1. Is the highest decision-making body of RSU SU. The Council shall be elected for a period of one year in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Election Regulations and as follows:

7.1.1.1. RSU SU Board shall organise elections by ensuring the individual vote of the students and the fulfilment of other requirements of the Election Regulations.

7.1.1.2. The Council elections shall be proportional, direct, equal and voluntary elections by secret ballot. The members of the Council shall be elected for the period of one year.

7.1.1.3. Students of each Faculty study programme shall have the right to vote only for the students included in the candidate list of their Faculty.

7.1.1.4. During the Council elections students vote “for”, “against” or “abstain”.

7.1.1.5. The result for the candidate shall be obtained by summing up votes “for” and “against”. “For” shall be considered as “+1”; “against” shall be considered as “-1”, and “abstention” shall be considered as “0”.

7.1.1.6. The elections shall be held in the second week of November and they shall last for 5 working days. The final results of the counting of votes shall be announced not later than seventy-two hours after the conclusion of vote, if no complaint has been submitted regarding the procedure of the elections.

7.1.1.7. In case of the same result, the number of votes “for” shall be decisive. If also this result is the same, the order in which the documents were submitted shall be decisive.

7.1.1.8. Any Rīga Stradiņš University student may become a member of the Council.

7.1.1.9. The Council shall represent the interests of the students of all Rīga Stradiņš University faculties. Each year the Council shall determine the distribution of the number of Faculty representatives within the Council depending on the number of students. The

candidates of each Faculty candidate list who won the most votes shall become members of the Council.

7.1.1.10. Requirements for the candidate:

7.1.1.10.1. The candidate has to be a Rīga Stradiņš University student;

7.1.1.10.2. The candidate nomination, signed by at least ten Rīga Stradiņš University students, shall be submitted;

7.1.1.10.3. The candidate shall complete the Council member's candidate member form (drawn up by RSU SU Board).

7.1.1.11. The submission of documents shall take at least one week. When submitting documents to the elections, the candidate shall certify by signature that he/she has no objection to the fact that RSU SU Board provides the participants of the elections, Rīga Stradiņš University students, with the opportunity to get acquainted with the documents submitted by the applicants.

7.1.1.12. The Electoral Commission consisting of at least three members, which is approved by the Council in compliance with the Election Regulations at least three weeks before the announcement of the elections to the Council, shall be responsible for holding of elections. Students who are nominated as candidates for elections must not be included within the Electoral Commission.

7.1.1.13. The powers of the Council shall enter into force at the first meeting of the Council convened by the Board no later than 2 weeks after the announcement of the election results.

7.1.1.14. In the event that a member of the Council has been excluded from the University, has resigned his/her seat, has been removed from office or otherwise cannot perform his/her duties, the next applicant in the order of the election results shall take his or her place.

7.1.2. The Council shall approve RSU SU budget estimate, strategy and the Board model for the next term.

7.1.3. The Council shall approve RSU SU Rules of Order and the Election Regulations and their amendments.

7.1.4. The Council shall approve regulations and other regulatory documents of organisations, interest groups and clubs organised by RSU students, if they comply with the goals and

mission of RSU SU.

7.1.5. The Council shall be entitled to take decisions if more than half of the total number of members of the Council participates in the meeting.

7.1.6. An extraordinary Council meeting shall be convened on a proposal of one third of the members of the Council or Chairperson of the Board.

7.1.7. Council meetings shall be open. Council meetings shall be closed, if so requested by more than a half of the Council members who have registered at the Council meeting.

7.1.8. The Council shall be entitled to take a vote of no confidence in a Board member upon a written request by one third of the total Council members. If two thirds of the total Council members express their lack of confidence, the Board member shall resign from office. A new Board member shall be elected in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the Regulations.

7.1.9. The powers and rights of the Council shall be maintained until the first meeting of the next Council.

7.1.10. Powers of the member of the Council shall be the following:

7.1.10.1. elect the Board and other members representing the students' interests in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the Election Regulations;

7.1.10.2. request and receive information on the functioning and activities of the Board from any member of the Board within their competence;

7.1.10.3. freely express their own opinions and participate in the achievement of RSU SU goals;

7.1.10.4. withdraw from RSU SU Council at any time, informing the Board in writing.

7.1.11. A member of the Board shall have the obligation to comply with RSU SU laws and regulations and regularly participate in the Council meetings, engage in a working group of at least one direction, as well as inform RSU SU Board of the shortcomings observed in the activities of RSU SU.

7.1.12. A member of the Council may be withdrawn from a member's post following a proposal submitted by the Board to the Council in the event that a member of the Council:

7.1.12.1. has not attended two regular consecutive meetings of the Council without justification; The absence shall be considered justified if a written notice is given at least

24 hours in advance;

7.1.12.2. has not involved in the activity of any direction;

7.1.12.3. resigns from the post of a Council member by submitting a written application;

7.1.12.4. is excluded (exmatriculated) from RSU. In the event that a student (a member of the Council) is excluded from the list of Students on obtaining RSU Diploma and he/she intends to continue the studies at RSU, the Council shall be entitled to retain the powers of the Council member on the basis of his/her application;

7.1.12.5. does not comply with all ethical standards and defames RSU and RSU SU either by spoken words or action.

7.1.13. In the cases referred to in paragraph 7.1.13. of these Articles of Association, a member of the Council may be dismissed, if a majority of the Council members have voted for it at the meeting of the Council.

7.2. Board:

7.2.1. The Board, composed of at least 8 members of the Board, shall be the management body of RSU SU. It shall be composed of the President of RSU SU and the Heads of RSU SU Board directions, acting in accordance with the descriptions of the posts approved by the Council. The number of directions indicated may be modified following the proposal of the President of RSU SU Board, which has to be approved by the Council and by subsequent introduction of corresponding amendments to these Articles of Association.

7.2.2. Any RSU student may become a member of the Board in accordance with the requirements referred to in the Election Regulations. Members of the Board shall be elected for the period of one year, in accordance with the results of the elections of RSU SU that have been conducted in compliance with these Articles of Association and the Election Regulations. A member of the Board whose term of office has expired and who has not been dismissed shall exercise the powers of the member of the Board until the entry is made in the Register of Associations and Foundations regarding the appointment of a new member of the Board instead of him/her.

7.2.3. The Board shall ensure the activities of RSU SU in accordance with regulatory enactments and these Articles of Association. The Board shall be obliged to submit to the

Founder a quarterly report on the spending of its budget by the 15th of the following month. The Board shall be entitled to take a decision on matters that are within the competence of the Board in accordance with the Associations and Foundations Law, other laws and regulations and these Articles of Association.

7.2.4. The President of the Board shall be entitled to represent RSU SU unilaterally and any five members of the Board jointly.

7.2.5. Members of the Board shall carry out their duties for remuneration, the amount of which has been approved by the Council.

7.2.6. Board meetings:

7.2.6.1. shall be convened by the President of the Board not less than three times a month. The decision of the Board shall be taken by a simple majority of the present Board members by open vote.

7.2.6.2. Meetings of the Board shall be chaired by the President or a member of the Board delegated by him/her.

7.2.7. The Board shall be entitled to take decisions, if more than half of the elected members participate in the Board meeting.

7.2.8. The Board shall be obliged to establish permanent working groups chaired by the respective Heads of the existing Board directions. Any RSU student may participate in the work of the permanent working group.

7.2.9. The Board shall ensure the implementation of the Council decisions.

7.2.10. The Board shall draw up draft resolutions for meetings of the Council.

7.2.11. The Board shall draw up a proposal for a budget estimate for RSU SU.

7.2.12. The Board shall report on its activities at each meeting of the Council for the period since the previous meeting of the Council.

7.2.13. The President of RSU SU Board shall manage the activities of RSU SU and the Board. Shall organise the cooperation with RSU institutions, other institutions of higher education and organisations. Shall ensure the expression of the official opinions of RSU SU in all RSU institutions, as well as at local and international level.

7.2.14. The minutes of meetings of the Council and the Board shall be taken. The minutes of the

Council meetings shall be signed by the Chairperson of the meeting and the minute taker. The minutes of the Board meetings shall be signed by the members of the Board present at the meeting. The President of the Board shall ensure that the minute taking of the Board meetings is in accordance with the requirements of the Associations and Foundations Law.

Section 8. Auditor

8.1. The audit of financial and economic activities of RSU SU shall be carried out by an Auditor appointed for one year by the Founder. RSU SU Auditor may not be a member of RSU SU Board or Council.

8.2. The Auditor shall:

8.2.1. carry out an audit of RSU SU property and financial resources;

8.2.2. give feedback regarding the work of the Board and the Council;

8.2.3. give an opinion on RSU SU budget and the annual report;

8.2.4. evaluate the accounting and record management of RSU SU;

8.2.5. provide recommendations on the improvement of the financial and economic activities of RSU SU;

8.3. The Auditor shall perform the activities referred to in paragraphs 8.2.1. - 8.2.5. of the Articles of Association not less than once every six calendar months. The Auditor must also perform audit at the individual request of the Founder.

8.4. The auditor shall immediately inform the Board, the Council and the Founder of the irregularities identified.

Section 9. Amendments to the Articles of Association

9.1. Amendments to these Articles of Association may be suggested by any member of the Board or Council.

9.2. The decision to make amendments to these Articles of Association shall be taken by the Board.

[AFL 101 (1)]

9.3. The Board may amend these Articles of Association only if approved at the Council meeting by absolute majority of the Council.

9.4. The Founder shall give their consent to the amendments to the Articles of Association in writing, in the form of agreement. [AFL 101 (2)]

9.5. The Founder's agreement to the amendments shall be added to these Articles of Association by notifying the Register authority about the amendments to the Articles of Association. [AFL 101 (4)]

Section 10. Termination of RSU SU

10.1. RSU SU may be reorganised only if proposed by the Council [AFL 109(2)]

10.2. The decision on the reorganisation of RSU SU shall be taken by the Board. The decision of the Board regarding the reorganisation of RSU SU requires the consent of the Founder, which is given in writing in the form of agreement. The Board decision regarding the reorganisation of RSU SU shall not be valid without the agreement of the Founder. The decision of the Board regarding the reorganisation of RSU SU shall be taken if all the members of the Board vote for it. [AFL 109 (3)]

10.3. The Founder's agreement to the Board decision regarding the reorganisation of RSU SU shall be added to the application for making a record on reorganisation in the Register of Associations and Foundations. [AFL 109 (6)]

10.4. RSU SU may be liquidated by a Council decision approved by the Founder. If a decision is taken on termination of RSU SU, its liquidation shall be carried out by a liquidator appointed by the Council. [AFL 107 (2)]

Chairman of the Board

Linda Skulme