

# **“Josef Cardijn Association for the Development of Workers Education”**

## **Extract from the Constitution**

(English Summary of Key Chapters - full text available in German on the Association Web Site German pages or from the Chairperson)

### **§1**

#### **Name, Seat and Scope of the Association**

The Association is called “Josef Cardijn Association for the Development of Workers Education”.

The Association has its seat in Linz (Austria).

The activity of the Association extends across Europe.

### **§ 2**

#### **Aims of the Association**

The Association is non-profit making.

The Association follows the ecumenical tradition of Christian Social Thinking and Ethics, of the fundamental thoughts of Joseph Cardijn and of Liberation Theology.

The Association supports training, research and documentation in the fields of work, economy, society and theology.

It obtains financial resources to enable it to fulfil its tasks.

### **§ 3**

#### **Activities to Achieve the Aims of the Association**

The aims of the Association are to be achieved by:

- (1) courses, seminars, events
- (2) research and publications
- (3) co-operation with workplace chaplaincies, the worker movements, social movements and youth and adult education on the regional, the national and the European level.
- (4) financial support for movements as well as for other activity consonant with the aims of the Association.

### **§ 4**

#### **Financial Resources**

- (1) Member fees
- (2) Contributions, subsidies and various grants
- (3) Donations, legacies and endowments
- (4) Income from events, activities and publications.

§5

**Forms of Membership**

The Association is consists of ordinary members, supporting members and honorary members.

- (1) **Ordinary** members are those who take part in the activities of the Association and pay the annual member fees.
- (2) **Supporting** members are those who support the activity of the Association through periodic or occasional contributions and through other actions.
- (3) **Honorary** members are those who merit special recognition for their contribution to the Association and are accepted as such by the assembly of members.

§6

**Acquisition of Membership**

- (1) Ordinary members of the Association may be actual persons as well legally constituted bodies.
- (2) The admission of normal and supporting members is decided by the Executive.
- (3) Admission can be rejected without giving reasons.

§7

**End of Membership**

Membership ends with death or, for legally constituted bodies and legally responsible societies, with the loss of their legal status. It also ends with members leaving voluntarily or with their exclusion.

- (1) A member can be excluded from the Association by the Executive in case of gross violation of the members' duties.

§8

**Rights and Duties of the Members**

- (1) All members have the right to take part in members' assemblies, but only ordinary members have the right to vote, to elect and to be elected.
- (2) All members have a duty to contribute to the Association according to their capacity. Members have to observe the constitution and the decisions of the assembly and of the Executive of the Association. Members have to refrain from any action which could cause damage to the purpose and aims of the Association.
- (3) All members have the duty of faithfully implementing the tasks which they have accepted from the Association.

§ 9

**Bodies of the Association**

- (1) Executive (§ 10)
- (2) Members' Assembly (§ 12)
- (3) Auditors (§ 14)
- (4) Arbitration (§ 15)

§10

**Executive**

- (1) The Executive is a Chairperson, a Vice-chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. It is possible to co-opt additional Executive members. Executive Members have to be chosen out of the normal members of the Association. The mandate of the Executive is for 2 years. It can be re-elected. The Executive abides by its ecumenical and international constitution.
- (2) The Executive comes together as needed. It is able to make decision when at least three members

are present. Meetings are led by the Chairperson or, if they are absent, by the Vice-Chairperson. Invitations to meetings are sent by the Chairperson. The Executive takes decisions by a simple majority. In case of a tie the Chairperson has a casting vote.

- (3) The Association is represented externally by the Chairperson or, if prevented, by the Vice-Chairperson.
- (4) The Chairperson has the right to engage the Association on her/his signature alone but financial matters require the “four-eyes-principle”. In her/his decisions the Chairperson is bound by decisions taken by the Executive and the Assembly. In urgent cases she/he has nevertheless the right to take decisions which cannot be postponed and to submit them to the Executive or the Assembly to be subsequently confirmed.
- (5) The Treasurer takes care of the regular management of the Association but if prevented, the Secretary.

#### § 12

#### **Members' Assembly**

- (1) The Assembly of members is normally gathered together every two years.
- (2) The Executive can invite an assembly of members at any time if needed.
- (3) All normal members have to receive a written (or e-mail) invitation including agenda points at least three weeks before the date of an assembly. The invitation is sent by the Chairperson.

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