



CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY WITH CHILDREN
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NAME AND DOMICILE

Article I: The name of the organization shall be the International Council for Philosophical Inquiry with Children. The Council has its seat where the President is located.

PURPOSES

Article II: The purpose of the Council shall be:

- (a) To promote, coordinate and disseminate research and to organize international congresses as well as specialized symposia.
- (b) To promote relationships between philosophers and educators and others concerned with the fostering of children's cognitive development through philosophy.
- (c) To establish relationships among such philosophers and educators committed to introducing philosophy into elementary and secondary schools throughout the world.
- (d) To encourage rapprochement among scholars with regard to problems of pedagogical method.
- (e) To coordinate efforts of those seeking to introduce philosophy into all elementary and secondary school curricula.
- (f) To promote the setting up of regional centers of philosophy to assist in the designing and dissemination of courses in philosophical inquiry with children.
- (g) To encourage philosophers to devote themselves to continued improvement of the quality of education for all children.

MEMBERSHIP

Article III:

- (a) The membership shall consist of all members in good standing in the organization. A member in good standing is one who has paid dues for the current

membership year or, in the case of the honorary members, participates in the activities of the organization.

(b) These are the two classes of members:

1. REGULAR MEMBERS are those individuals or institutions that are interested in learning about philosophical inquiry with children and desire to investigate ways in which they can help the Council carry out its purposes as described above.

2. HONORARY MEMBERS are persons who have rendered outstanding service to education and whose work has been consistent with the purposes of the Council as described above or who have expressed their good will toward the organization. Admission to honorary membership shall be determined by majority vote of the Executive Committee as described in Article V. Honorary members shall pay no dues.

(c) The decision-making responsibilities of the membership are elections of officers and representatives of the organization as well as amendment of the Constitution. Honorary members shall have no decision making responsibilities in the organization.

(d) The membership at large, except for honorary members, is co-responsible with the Council's officers and representatives for carrying out the purposes of the Council as described above and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the officers and representatives and all committees of the organization.

(e) Since the International Council for Philosophical Inquiry with Children is a non-governmental organization, governmental bodies, such as ministries of education, are not eligible for membership. However, persons employed by such bodies are eligible for membership as individuals.

(f) An individual regular member in good standing shall have the privilege of (1) making proposals to the officers and representatives of the organization, (2) suggesting candidates for election or appointment, (3) being nominated for election, (4) voting in elections, (5) attending meeting and conferences sponsored or co-sponsored by the organization, and (6) receiving publications designed for distribution to the membership.

(g) Member institutions may designate one person to represent that institution in all matters relating to the Council, such as making proposals, casting votes, participating in meetings and conferences, and receiving publications.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Article IV: The Structure of the Organization shall be as follows:

(a) The Officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, together with such members at large that the general membership shall designate, and they shall be elected by the general membership.

(b) The President, as the chief elected officer of the organization, shall preside over meeting of the Executive Committee, and the general membership. With the help of the Secretary, the President shall prepare an agenda for each of these meetings, to be circulated in advance. The President or substitute designated by the President, shall represent the organization at meetings to which the organization had been invited to send a representative, whenever feasible and desirable.

(c) The Vice-President shall preside at any meetings at which the President is unable to preside and shall undertake such other duties as the President assigns from time to time. If the President is unable to serve a full term, the Vice-President shall so serve until the next election.

(d) The Secretary shall maintain the files of the organization, serve as a mailing point for all publications, notices, and ballots to the membership. The Secretary will be responsible for sending a copy of all minutes to all other members of the Executive Committee.

(e) The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues, maintaining the treasury, keeping all the books of the organization, paying bills, and suggesting a tentative budget for each fiscal year. The Treasurer will also cooperate with the Secretary in maintaining a current list of all members in good standing and will keep the Executive Committee informed of the organization's financial status.

Article V: .

(a) The Executive committee shall consist of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, together with the former holders of those posts.

(b) The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for terms of two years, as explained below in Article VII.

(c) The functions of the Executive Committee shall be to make policy proposals to the Council, execute the policies set by the Council, attend to the administrative responsibilities of the organization, and report to the membership on policies and procedures, activities and financial status of the organization. The Executive Committee shall also create and utilize standing and ad hoc committees for purposes consistent with the purposes of the organization. The Executive Committee shall appoint the Secretary and any other personnel that may be needed to carry on the business of the organization.

(d) The Executive Council shall conduct its business by mail, cable, telephone, computer network, face-to-face meetings, or any combination thereof. The decision of a majority of the voting members of the Committee shall constitute the decision

of the Committee. At a duly called meeting, four voting members shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

MEETINGS

Article VI:

(a) A general meeting of the organization shall be held every two years. In addition, as many regional meetings will be held as necessary to carry out the purposes of the organization as described above.

(b) The Secretary, at the direction of the President or the President's designated representative, shall notify the general membership of the dates and location of the general meeting at least two months in advance of the meeting. Such notices shall be accompanied by a provisional agenda, and shall include authority, in approved form, to vote by proxy, as approved below in Article VII.

ELECTIONS

Article VII: New officers will be elected at the biennial meetings. Proxy ballots will be sent to all those who cannot attend the meeting.

RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL

Article VIII:

(a) Any individual member, officer, member of the Executive Committee may resign by giving written notice to the Executive Committee through the Secretary, in which case the Executive Committee is authorized to appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

(b) The Council may, with approval of two-thirds of its members voting on the matter, remove any member, officer, member of the Executive Committee for cause. Such action shall be taken only after thirty days' written notice to the person whose removal is proposed, giving that individual an opportunity to respond. Proceedings against an individual may be initiated by an action of at least one-fourth of the members of the Council or by a petition signed by at least fifty members in good standing.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Article IX: The official language of the organization to be used in meetings and correspondence shall be English.

AMENDMENTS

Article X: The Constitution may be amended by approval of two-thirds of those members in good standing. Amendments may be proposed through the Secretary by either ten percents of members in good standing, by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, or by a majority vote of the Council. The Secretary will mail proposed amendments to the membership not less than sixty days before approval or disapproval is to be granted.

DISSOLUTION

Article XI: After all debts have been fully satisfied, the remaining assets of the Council shall be distributed and paid over to one or more tax-exempt and not for profit organizations which have identical or similar purposes to those of the Council, as may be determined by the Executive Council.