

Statutes of the ACC (Association for Community Colleges)

§ 1 Definitions of the ACC

- a) The ACC is a European, non-profit and non-governmental organisation.
- b) The ACC is domiciled in Odder Kommune, Denmark.

§ 2 Objective of the ACC

ACC advocates for forming a European public sphere by means of European education.

European education is when education reflects the learners' relation to Europe as a whole. This manifests itself in the contents of the course, the teaching methods employed, the composition of the group of learners and of staff, and the institutional setting.

§ 3 ACC value and mission

European education that takes place at European Community Colleges¹ is the preferred but not exclusive vision of the ACC.

The ACC pursues its objective and makes its vision a reality by

- a) working for the establishment of a European judicial framework that supports European Community Colleges
- b) putting the ideas into practice by organising European Community College Courses²
- c) lobbying authorities that could be expected to support the development of common European Community Colleges
- d) being in itself a European debating network
- e) acting as a General Assembly (alone or together with other organisations) of community college(s). This is in accordance with a set of statutes for the community college(s)
- f) cooperating with organisations having similar objectives and visions.

§4 Language of the ACC

The language of the ACC is English.

§5 Types of membership

ACC operates two types of membership, *full* and *network membership*.

¹ We define community colleges as schools

- (i) taking as their point of departure an idea and an object defined by a non-governmental group of people (this could be interpreted as a principle of subsidiarity),
- (ii) having as their ideal long-term (preferably minimum one month) residential school courses,
- (iii) organising courses on topics of common (European) interest,
- (iv) "coloured by culture" in the sense that life at the school is characterized by local traditions and habits,
- (v) having adults as their target group; adults having the will to learn and who for that reason are funding (part of) the courses themselves.

² For an exact understanding of the inspiration for the ACC please refer to the reports "Report: The Minority Course 1997" and "Report: The Minority Course 1998".

Individuals are accepted as *full members* if they agree with the idea of developing a European transcultural (and transnational) public sphere, and if they agree to work by democratic means only. The decision of the board is final in matters of dispute. *Full members* are entitled to propose to and to vote at general assemblies, if they have paid their fee before the general assembly is called.

Individuals and organisations are accepted as *network members* if they wish to support the idea of developing a European transcultural (and transnational) public sphere, and if they agree to work by democratic means only. The decision of the board is final in matters of dispute.

§6 Membership fee

The amount of the annual membership fee for *full members* shall be decided by the ordinary general assembly. If a *full member* does not pay the fee in due time, the member loses the status as *full member*.

Network members can show their support by voluntary payments.

§7 Ordinary general assembly

The ordinary general assembly is to be held every year, preferably in August.

General assemblies shall take place at different destinations every year, to offset advantages and disadvantages caused by location.

§8 Call for and agenda of the ordinary general assembly

Call for the general assembly must take place three months ahead of the assembly.

The call for the ordinary assembly must include an agenda with at least the following points and information on candidates for point four:

- 1: Election to the chair and secretary of the assembly.
- 2: Statement of the chairperson of the board.
- 3: Presentation and adopting of the accounts.
- 4: Election of board members.
- 5: Election of an auditor.
- 6: Proposals received.
- 7: Site of next year's ordinary general assembly.
- 8: Any other business
- 9: Adopting of the minutes

§9 Proposals for the ordinary general assembly

Proposals for the ordinary general assembly must be received by the board before April 15th in the year of the ordinary general assembly. Included are proposals for candidates for the board (but not for substitutes).

§10 Extraordinary general assembly

Extraordinary general assemblies can be called by the board with a notice of one month, an agenda included. Calls for extraordinary assemblies must take place when at least 50% of the *full members* apply for it in writing to the board.

§11 Procedure of decision-making at general assemblies

Decisions are taken by majority vote among those present and entitled to vote.

§12 Income, assets and accounts.

The activities of the ACC should be funded by income derived from annual fees, grants and gifts.

The expenses of the ACC shall be kept within the limits of its income. The ACC may only in exceptional cases take loans, and in such cases only for short periods of time.

The liability of the association is limited to its own assets.

The year of accounts is the calendar year.

§13 The role, composition and constitution of the board

The board is in charge of the day-to-day running of the association and of the initiatives taken in accordance with §2&3.

The board consists of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson, a treasurer and four (4) ordinary members. In addition to this there are two (2) substitutes. Three (3) members are elected in even years and four (4) members are elected in uneven years. Substitutes are elected every year. The board constitutes itself.

If necessary, the board shall find a sufficient number of candidates for the board.

§14 Meetings and decision-making process of the board.

- 1) Board meetings are held when the chairperson (alternatively the deputy chairperson) finds it necessary or when four (4) board members demand it. There must be at least two face-to-face board meetings per year. Regardless of the form of the meeting (internet, telephone, etc.) a report must be taken. Decisions are taken by majority vote (the vote of the chairperson holds sway in case of parity of votes). The presence of five (5) board members is needed for decisions to be taken. The board can set up committees to take care of special tasks. The initiatives of a committee must be presented to and adopted by the board to be binding. Committees must cooperate with the board.
- 2) The chairperson together with either the deputy chairperson or the treasurer is entitled to sign on behalf of the ACC.
- 3) The board can authorize the committees to sign on behalf of the ACC in relation to their individual projects. Every authorization has to contain a clear definition of the issues to which it applies. Authorizations can only be given for the term of one project and with a maximum validity of one year. The Board reserves the

right to withdraw authorizations at any time if the prevention of misuse makes it necessary.
Before the authorized committee binds the project by signature, it will inform the Board. Within two days of signing the committee shall send a copy of the binding document to the Board.

§15 Decision-making process for changing the statutes.

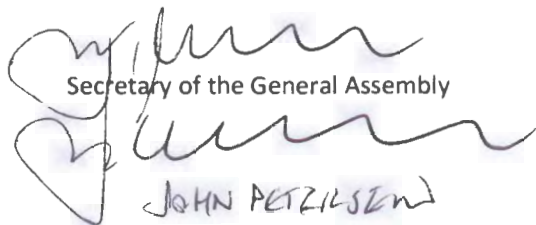
Decisions on changing the statutes need an 80% majority vote among those present and entitled to vote. Excepted from this is the domicile (§1b), which can be changed by the board.

§16 Dissolution of the association

The association can be dissolved in accordance with the procedure in §15. However, this can only take place on an extraordinary general assembly. In case that there are assets remaining at the dissolution, the assets are granted to an association or institution with aims similar to the ACC in accordance with the decision of the board.

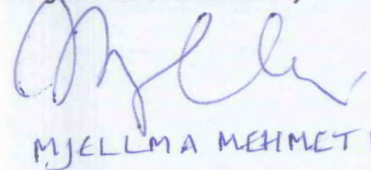
- Thus decided at the statutory general assembly at Peoplesite, Aabenraa, Denmark August 11th, 1999
- Revised, General Assembly 2000, August 15th, Rite, Latvia
- Revised, General Assembly 2003, August 11th, Reggello, Italy
- Revised, General Assembly 2004, August 7th, Pliskovica, Slovenia
- Revised, General Assembly 2010, October 24th, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Revised, General Assembly 2014, October 8th, Skopje, FYR Macedonia

Chairing the ACC
John Petersen



Secretary of the General Assembly
JOHN PETERSEN

Chairing the General Assembly



MJELMA MEHMETI