

Cosyland e.V.

Bylaws

(Translated by ChatGPT, the German original counts)

§ 1 Name and Location of the Association, Fiscal Year

1. The association is named Cosyland e.V. It is to be entered into the association register and thereafter carries the suffix "e.V."
2. The association is located in Berlin.
3. The fiscal year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose, Non-profit Status of the Association

1. The association, based in Berlin, exclusively and directly pursues non-profit purposes within the meaning of the "Tax-Privileged Purposes" section of the Fiscal Code.
2. The purpose of the association, according to § 52 paragraph 2 of the Fiscal Code, is:
 - (a) Promotion of science and research;
 - (b) Promotion of education and vocational training, including student aid;
 - (c) Promotion of arts and culture.
3. The statutory purpose is realized in particular by:
 - (a) Providing and promoting educational opportunities on cooperation, career opportunities, life planning, personal development, basic income, and dealing with the societal impact of digital technologies and artificial intelligence;
 - (b) Conducting research projects on the aforementioned topics and timely publication of the research results;
 - (c) Offering and implementing coaching and mentorship programs for vulnerable groups on the aforementioned topics;
 - (d) Ongoing exchange of experiences with all interested individuals, associations, organizations, welfare institutions, companies, and institutions, such as conducting information events, workshops, and seminars;
 - (e) Providing eLearning materials and online courses on the aforementioned topics;
 - (f) Conducting physical, digital, and hybrid events on the aforementioned topics, such as film screenings, readings, art exhibitions, and concerts;
 - (g) Arranging and conducting educational trips and excursions on the aforementioned topics;

- (h) Offering and implementing consultancy on organizational development and digitalization for cooperatively oriented organizations and teams, such as cooperatives;
 - (i) Self-publishing and supporting the publication of media, such as informational materials or multimedia documentations;
 - (j) Facilitating and implementing career perspectives for vulnerable groups (e.g., young graduates), such as freelance activities, internships, and training positions;
 - (k) Networking of experts, activists, and needy individuals on the aforementioned topics;
 - (l) Providing digital tools and platforms for realizing the purposes under (a)-(l).
4. The association operates non-profit oriented; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
 5. Funds of the association may only be used for the purposes as defined in these bylaws. Members do not receive any benefits from the association's funds.
 6. No person may be favored by expenses that are foreign to the purpose of the association, or by disproportionately high remunerations.

§ 3 Acquisition of Membership

1. Any natural person can become a regular member of the association.
 - (a) Supporter membership is open to any natural or legal person.
2. Admission to the association must be applied for in writing to the board. For minors, the application must be submitted by their legal guardians. The board decides on the application at its own discretion. The board is not required to justify a rejection of the application.
 - (a) The board can initially grant a probationary membership. In this case, the board must set criteria that probationary members must meet to apply for regular membership unless the General Assembly sets different rules.
3. At the suggestion of the board, the General Assembly may appoint members or other individuals who have made special contributions to the association as honorary members for life.

§ 4 Termination of Membership

1. Membership in the association ends through death (for legal entities upon their dissolution), resignation, or expulsion.
2. Resignation must be declared in writing to the board.

(a) Resignation of regular members is only possible with a notice period of three months to the end of the fiscal year.

(b) Resignation of supporter members and probationary members can be declared at any time with effect from the end of the month.

3. A member can be expelled by a resolution of the General Assembly if they a) culpably damage the reputation or interests of the association in a significant manner, or b) are more than three months in arrears with the payment of their admission fee or membership fees and despite written reminder with threat of expulsion, the arrears are not paid. The member must be given the opportunity to respond to the reasons for expulsion at the General Assembly. These reasons must be communicated to them at least two weeks in advance.

(a) Supporter members and tentative members can be expelled by a resolution of the board at any time unless the General Assembly sets different rules.

§ 5 Rights and Duties of Members

1. Every member has the right to use the facilities of the association and to participate in joint events. Every member has equal voting and election rights in the General Assembly.

(a) Every supporter member and every tentative member has the right to use the facilities of the association and to participate in joint events, unless otherwise determined by the board. The general meeting may set general rules in bylaws.

(b) Every supporter member and every tentative member has the right to attend the general meeting.

2. Every member has the duty to promote the interests of the association, in particular to regularly pay their membership fees and to support the association's activities to the best of their ability.

§ 6 Admission Fee and Membership Fees

1. Every member is to pay a monthly membership fee due in advance.

2. Every regular member must pay a monthly membership fee of at least 1 euro.

(a) Every supporter member must pay a monthly membership fee of at least 10 euros.

(b) Tentative members are not required to pay a monthly membership fee.

(c) The amount of the admission fee and membership fees can be set differently by the general meeting.

3. Honorary members are exempt from the admission fee and membership fees.

§ 7 Organs of the Association

1. The organs of the association are the board and the General Assembly.

§ 8 Board

1. The board consists of the chairperson, their deputy, and the treasurer.
2. The chairperson, their deputy, and the treasurer each represent the association individually.
3. Board members may receive compensation. The amount of compensation is determined by the General Assembly.

§ 9 Responsibilities of the Board

The board represents the association according to § 26 BGB (German Civil Code) and manages its affairs. Its particular responsibilities include:

- a) convening and preparing the General Assembly s, including setting the agenda;
- b) implementing resolutions of the General Assembly;
- c) managing the association's assets and preparing the annual report;
- d) admitting new members.

§ 10 Appointment of the Board

1. The board members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. Only members of the association can be board members; membership in the board ends with membership in the association. Re-election or early dismissal of a member by the General Assembly is permissible. A member remains in office after the end of their regular term until their successor is elected.
2. If a board member resigns prematurely, the remaining board members are entitled to elect a member of the association to the board until the successor is elected by the General Assembly.

§ 11 Deliberation and Decision-making of the Board

1. The board meets as needed. Meetings are convened by the chairperson, or in their absence, by their deputy, with a notice period of one week. The board is quorate if at least two members are present. Decisions are made by a majority of valid votes cast. In the event of a tie, the chairperson's vote decides, or in their absence, that of their deputy.
2. Board resolutions must be recorded. The minutes must be signed by the minute-taker and the chairperson, or in their absence, by their deputy or another board member.

§ 12 Responsibilities of the General Assembly

The General Assembly is responsible for decisions in the following matters:

- a) amendments to the statutes;
- b) setting the admission fee and membership fees;
- c) appointing honorary members and expelling members from the association;
- d) electing and dismissing board members;
- e) receiving the annual report and discharging the board;
- f) setting financial, business, and procedural rules;
- g) dissolving the association.

§ 13 Convening the General Assembly

1. An ordinary General Assembly is to be convened by the board at least once a year, preferably in the first quarter. The meeting is convened in writing with a two-week notice period and stating the agenda. The written invitation can also be done electronically. The General Assembly can be conducted digitally or in a mixed meeting of attendees and video conference/other media/telephone.
2. The agenda is set by the board. Any association member can request an addition to the agenda in writing to the board at least one week before the General Assembly. This can also be done electronically. The board decides on the request. The General Assembly decides by a majority of the votes of the present members on agenda items not included by the board or first introduced at the General Assembly; this does not apply to items concerning amendments to the statutes, changes to membership fees, or the dissolution of the association.
3. The board can also obtain resolutions of the General Assembly in written procedure. Resolutions in writing are adopted if at least 51% of all association members agree in writing. If the statutes prescribe a higher quorum than a simple majority, the resolution is only adopted if a percentage of all members agree to the resolution, corresponding to the quorum required for the resolution.
4. The board must convene an extraordinary General Assembly if the interest of the association requires it or if at least one-tenth of the members request it in writing, stating the purpose and reasons. The General Assembly is to be held as a presence meeting if requested.

§ 14 Decision-making of the General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is chaired by the chairperson of the board, or in their absence, by their deputy, and in their absence, by a chairperson elected by the General Assembly.

2. Any properly convened General Assembly is quorate.
3. The General Assembly makes decisions by open vote with a majority of the votes of the present members. In the event of a tie, a motion is rejected.
 - (a) If no candidate can achieve a majority of the votes of the present members in elections, a runoff vote is conducted between the candidates with the most votes.
 - (b) Resolutions on amending the statutes require a three-quarters majority; resolutions on changing the purpose or dissolving the association require the consent of nine-tenths of the valid votes cast.
 - (c) Abstentions are considered as not cast votes.
4. A record of the General Assembly's proceedings and the resolutions passed must be made, to be signed by the minute-taker and the meeting chairperson.

§ 15 Dissolution of the Association, Termination for Other Reasons, Loss of Tax-Privileged Status

1. In the event of the association's dissolution, the chairperson of the board and their deputy are jointly authorized liquidators, unless the General Assembly appoints other persons.
2. Upon dissolution or annulment of the association or loss of its tax-privileged status, the association's assets shall be transferred to a public law entity or another tax-privileged corporation for the purpose of promoting education, popular and vocational training, including student aid.
3. The above provisions shall apply accordingly if the association is deprived of its legal capacity.