

Pursuant to Article 13 of the Associations Act (Official Gazette no. 74/14, 70/17 and 98/19) the General Assembly of Faktograf - Association for the Informed Public held on 30 June 2021 has adopted the:

STATUTE
of Faktograf - Association for the Informed Public

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Statute regulates the name of the association, the seat of the association; territory of association's operation; goals of the association; areas of activity in accordance with the goals; association's target groups; activities for achieving the goals of the association; manner of ensuring the publicity of association's activity; conditions and manner of becoming a member and terminating membership, rights, obligations and responsibility and disciplinary responsibility of members and manner of maintaining the list of members; bodies of the association, their composition and manner of convening meetings, the election, revocation, authorities, manner of decision making and duration of term and the manner of convening the general assembly in the event of term end; the election and revocation of the association liquidator; the termination of the association; assets of the association, and the manner of acquiring and managing assets; procedure with the assets in the event of association termination; manner of settlement of disputes and conflicts of interest within the Association and other issues significant for the operation of the association "Faktograf - Association for the Informed Public".

Article 2

The association is non-partisan and independent in its operations.

Article 3

The name of the association is: Faktograf – udruga za informiranu javnost (hereinafter the Association).

Shortened name of the Association: Faktograf.

In addition to the Croatian name, the English name is used: Faktograf - Association for the Informed Public.

Article 4

The Association acts in the Republic of Croatia.

The seat of the Association is in Zagreb. The General Assembly decides on the change of the address of the registered office.

The Association collaborates with similar organisations in Croatia and abroad.

Article 5

The Association has a sign.

The sign of the association is a stylised capital letter F and the stylised black meter.

Article 6

The Association has a stamp.

The stamp is round and 4 cm in diameter, with the full name of the association FAKTOGRAF - UDRUGA ZA INFORMIRANU JAVNOST along the edge, and the Association sign in the middle, i.e. the stylised capital letter F and a stylised meter.

Article 7

The executive director of the Association and the deputy executive director present and represent the Association and are responsible for the legality of the Association's operations.

II GOALS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 8

The Association has been founded for the purpose of promoting, developing and advancing professional and ethical journalism in the public space, fact-checking and combating disinformation in the public space, verifying claims made in the public space by digital media and social media users, ensuring the public's rights to information about issues from the spheres of politics, culture, social science, civil society, independence of the journalist profession.

The target groups of the Association's activities are general population citizens and general population youth.

Article 9

The association's areas of activity in accordance with goals are:

- a culture of democratic politics
- culture and art
- human rights
- international cooperation
- education, science, research.

Article 10

The activities for achieving the goals of the Association are:

- a) creation of media content
- b) creation and publishing of electronic newspaper (portal) pursuant to special regulations
- c) creating and publishing other internet and printed publications pursuant to special regulations
- d) publishing of various multimedia content in accordance with the association's goals

- e) literary-publishing, journalistic-publishing, audio and audio-visual activity
- f) creation of films, videos and television programme, etc.
- g) organising public discussions, forums, lectures and similar public gatherings on topics stated in the association's goals
- h) conducting research in accordance with the association's goals
- i) cooperation with organisations in the country and abroad
- j) participation at domestic and international assemblies and seminars.

In order to perform and advance the association's activities and for the purpose of achieving the goals prescribed in Article 8 of this Statute, the Association performs the following economic activities:

- a) publishing activity
- b) providing advertising services via the portal
- c) education activities in the field of media, journalism, and internet through workshops, courses, seminars, lectures, etc. to third parties, i.e. to non-members of the association
- d) production of media content

The Association's operations are performed through projects and programmes run by the Association with the participation of its members.

III PUBLICITY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITY

Article 11

The activity of the Association is public.

The Association achieves the publicity of its activity via the internet page, promotional materials and the media.

The Association informs its members of its activity at the General Assembly sessions, and between the sessions via the internet pages and via its offices.

IV MEMBERSHIP

Article 12

Members of the Association shall pay an annual membership fee of EUR 13.50 (in words: thirteen euros and fifty cents).

Members of the Association may be natural persons, journalists, other media workers, as well as other persons of related professions and legal entities.

The natural and legal person referred to in the previous paragraph who wishes to become a member of the Association must cumulatively meet the following conditions:

- a) previous continuous cooperation with the Association not less than one year,

- b) acts in accordance with the goals and values of the Association in their professional and public work,
- c) must not be an official of any political party,
- d) must not hold office at the local, national, or European level institutions.

The Assembly shall decide on the admission to membership by a two-thirds majority of all members on the basis of the request of a natural or legal person who meets the conditions for membership, at the proposal of the Executive Director or half of the members of the Assembly.

The candidate is obliged to pay the membership fee within 15 days from the date of receipt of the decision on admission to membership.

Membership begins on the day of payment when the member is enrolled in the list of members.

Each member of the Association holds all the rights and obligations arising from this Statute, which relate to their membership status.

Article 13

The Association manages a list of members by consistently collecting and processing data pursuant to the Personal Data Protection Act.

The list of members is managed electronically and contains the data on the personal name (company name), personal identification number (OIB/PIN), date of birth, address, e-mail, phone number, date of accession to the association and date of cease of membership in the association.

The personal data of Association members are collected and further processed for the purpose of recording membership and reporting members of the work and activities of the Association.

Entry into the list of members is done after joining the Association. The Association collects personal data, with the member's consent, by filling out an application form

Person appointed by the executive director takes care of the orderly management of the list.

The list of members is always available for inspection to all members and competent bodies, upon their request.

Upon a member's request, the Association will change or delete the personal data if the data is incomplete, inaccurate or out of date. Regardless of the member's request, if the Association should establish that the personal data is incomplete, inaccurate or out of date, it shall update the data with the member's consent.

The Association will provide appropriate protection of the personal data in the list from accidental or intentional abuse, destruction, loss, unauthorised changes or access, pursuant to legal provision.

Article 14

The rights, obligations and duties of the members are:

- a) participate in the operation of the Association and provide assistance,
- b) be present at General Assembly sessions,
- c) contribute to the Association's reputation with their work in the Association and outside of the Association,
- d) provide opinions and suggestions,

- e) respect the provisions of the law, the Statute and other acts of the Association.
- f) to choose and be chosen as members of the bodies of the Association in accordance with the Statute,
- g) propose decisions to the Association's management bodies
- h) pay the yearly membership fee.

Article 15

The membership in the Association is terminated by:

- a) written statement of withdrawal from membership,
- b) exclusion

A member may be excluded from membership if they do not participate in the operation of the association in accordance with the obligations arising from their membership status, if they break the provisions of the Statute and other acts as well as decisions by the Association bodies, if their actions damage the Association's reputation, if they cause material damage to the Association, if they are in a conflict of interest, if they do not pay the membership fee for the previous one-year period.

Before deciding on the exclusion, the executive director shall warn the member of their breaking of statutory obligations and request their explanation.

The decision on exclusion is rendered by the executive director and it must be confirmed by the General Assembly.

The member has a right to submit to the General Assembly their appeal against the executive director's decision on exclusion within 15 days.

The General Assembly renders a decision on the appeal with a one-third vote of all regular members. The General Assembly's decision is final.

Article 16

Members of the Association shall present the data pertaining to their possible conflict of interest in a timely manner.

Members who are part of the Association's management bodies shall not decide on issues that directly pertain to the membership status, position within the association and the material income of themselves and members of their family.

The existence of a conflict of interest may be grounds for exclusion.

All issues/conflicts of interest within the Association are managed by the executive director.

The member has a right to submit to the General Assembly their appeal against the executive director's decision on conflict of interest within 15 days, and the General Assembly shall decide on the appeal with a one-third vote of all of the regular members.

All issues/conflicts of interest of the executive director are managed by the General Assembly with a one-third vote of all of the regular members.

V. ASSOCIATION AND ORGANISATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 17

The Association may join national and international associations and institutions.

The decision on joining is rendered by the General Assembly following the proposal by the executive director.

VI MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS BODIES

Article 18

The Association is managed by the members of the Association directly at the General Assembly and via chosen representatives in other bodies of the Association.

Article 19

The bodies of the Association are:

- a) General Assembly
- b) Executive director
- c) deputy executive director

1 General Assembly

Article 20

The General Assembly is the highest body of the Association.

The General Assembly comprises of all legally competent members of the Association and the representative of the legal persons members of the Association appointed by the authorised person of the legal person, unless another condition for appointment is prescribed by the legal person's internal act.

Article 21

The General Assembly is held as needed, at least once a year.

The General Assembly is convened by the executive director.

The executive director shall convene the General Assembly if so requested by at least 1/3 of the Association members.

The executive director shall deliver the invitation to the General Assembly meeting to the members at least 14 days before convening the session.

The Executive Director shall submit to the members the materials to be voted on at the Assembly by e-mail no later than 7 days before the Assembly.

If the executive director does not convene the General Assembly session pursuant to Item 3 of this Article, the session may be convened by the proposers.

In the event that the term ends for the bodies of the Association authorised to convene a General Assembly session, the session is convened by the last executive director entered in the Association Register as the person authorised for representation or by at least 1/3 of the Association members.

Article 22

Minutes are kept of the General Assembly's operations, signed by the registrar and stored permanently at the Association's archives. The General Assembly selects the registrar and two minutes verifiers from the present members.

At the start of each session, the General Assembly uses public vote to appoint three members to preside over the session.

Article 23

The decisions of the General Assembly are valid if more than half of the members are present at the session.

General Assembly sessions may be held electronically as well.

The General Assembly renders decisions by a simple majority of members present.

The decision on the termination of the Association and the decision on accepting new members into the Association is rendered by a two-third vote of all of the members.

The voting is public and the General Assembly may decide to conduct secret voting for certain issues.

Article 24

At its sessions, the General Assembly:

- a) adopts the Statute, its amendments, as well as other acts of the Association
- b) selects and resolves of duty the executive director and the deputy executive director
- c) decides on the termination and the distribution of the remaining assets of the Association
- d) adopts the work plan and the financial plan for the following calendar year
- e) adopts the annual financial accounts
- f) decides on including the Association in association federations and other formal coalitions
- g) renders a decision on status changes
- h) oversees the work of the executive director and the deputy executive director
- i) considers and resolves members' complaints pertaining to the breach of the Statute or other general acts of the Association
- j) decides on acceptance into membership
- k) decides on appeals against the decision of the executive director regarding exclusion from membership
- l) appoints and dismisses the Association liquidator
- m) decides on all issues for which no competence of other bodies of the Association has been determined by this Statute
- n) reaches the medium's program basis

- o) performs other activities envisaged by the Statute

2 Executive director

Article 25

The executive director is authorised to represent the Association.

The executive director performs executive and other activities set forth by the Statute.

The General Assembly selects the executive director for a term of two years with the possibility of re-election.

For their work, the executive director answers to the General Assembly and submits an annual report to it.

Article 26

The executive director:

- represents the Association
- is responsible for the legality of the Association's operations
- prepares a draft of the Statute and other acts
- convenes the General Assembly session, proposes the agenda and prepares all the materials to be discussed by the General Assembly
- executes the General Assembly's decisions
- proposes to the General Assembly new members to be accepted in the Association
- proposes exclusion from membership
- manages the Association's affairs in accordance with the General Assembly's decisions
- takes care of informing the public of the Association's operations
- pursuant to the Media Act, together with the representative of the journalists, co-decides on rendering of internal editorial rules at the Publisher's council.
- participates in the activities of the Publisher's council
- is responsible for submitting the annual financial report and the annual report to the General Assembly
- proposes to the General Assembly the work plan and the financial plan for the following calendar year
- proposes amendments to the Association's Statute
- proposes projects and programmes of the Association and similar, and decides on their execution
- enters into agreements and conducts other legal actions in the name and on the behalf of the Association
- conducts and decides on the fundraising policy and on the policy regarding employment in the Association

Article 27

The executive director may be relieved of duty before the end of their term:

- upon own request
- by dismissal

Article 28

The executive director can be dismissed due to breach of obligations or duties pursuant to the Statute.

The procedure for the dismissal of the executive director may be initiated upon the request of at least 1/3 of the Association members.

The request for the dismissal of the executive director is discussed on the General Assembly session which is convened pursuant to the provisions of the Statute.

The executive director will be dismissed if the decision on dismissal is rendered by a simple majority of all members of the Association's General Assembly.

Article 29

In the event of termination of the executive director's term before the expiration of the time for which they had been selected or in the event of dismissal, the procedure for the selection of a new executive director for the remainder of the term is conducted at the General Assembly session.

3 Deputy executive director

Article 30

The deputy executive director is selected by the General Assembly for a term of two years, and the same person can be re-elected as the deputy executive director.

If the executive director is not present or in the event of their impediment, they are replaced by the deputy executive director, with the deputy having the same authority as the executive director prescribed by the Statute while they are acting as the replacement.

Upon learning that he/she will be absent for more than one month, the Executive Director shall inform the members of the Assembly thereof by e-mail and that the Deputy Executive Director shall take over the responsibilities of the Executive Director prescribed by the Statute during his/her absence.

4 Association's operative bodies

Article 31

The Association may establish operative bodies for achieving its goals in accordance with the Statute.

The decision on establishing an operative body is rendered by the General Assembly following the proposal by the executive director.

The decision on establishment of an operative body determines the organisation of the operative body, the goals of establishment, the rights and obligations of the operative body and the members of

the operative body, as well as the term for which the operative body is established.

Article 32

The main editor of the internet portal is selected pursuant to the editorial acts of the internet portal.

5 Appointment and dismissal of the liquidator

Article 33

The General Assembly appoints and dismisses the Association's liquidator, with the Liquidator having to provide their written consent for the appointment.

The liquidator may also be a person who is not member of the Association, and they must possess appropriate expert (financial and legal) knowledge in order to take care of the distribution of the Association's assets.

The liquidator is entitled to remuneration for their work in the amount determined by the General Assembly.

VII ASSETS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND TERMINATION

Article 34

The assets comprise of financial assets, immovable property, movable property and other property rights by which the association obtains property: payment of membership fees, voluntary contributions, gifts, organisation of games of chance pursuant to special regulations, grants, performing of own permitted activities and revenue from property and property rights in accordance with the law.

The Association may save, invest, take out a loan and obtain property. The procedure of taking out a loan or gaining property as well as other acts of financial management is regulated by a special Decision rendered by the General Assembly, which decision may also be decided upon on an electronic session.

Article 35

The Association is liable for its obligations with all its assets. The surplus of revenue achieved by the Association by performing permitted activities or from its property shall not be distributed by the Association among its members but shall rather be used for performing and enhancing their activities aimed at fulfilling its goals.

Article 36

The Association may be terminated for grounds prescribed by the law and by the decision of the General Assembly adopted by 3/4 of all of the members of the Association.

Article 37

In the event of Association termination, the Association's assets belong to an association with similar

goals, the decision on which is rendered by the General Assembly.

VIII MANNER OF RESOLVING DISPUTES AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION

Article 38

If there exists a dispute within the Association which makes it difficult or impossible to perform the Association's activities and cannot be resolved using procedures prescribed by this Statute, members of the Association shall attempt to resolve the dispute via mediation.

Should the mediation procedure fail, members of the Association shall resolve the dispute before the territorially competent county court.

Article 39

Members of the Association must act honourably, fairly, conscientiously, responsibly and unbiasedly by preserving own credibility and the credibility of the Association in all activities that are of interest and significance for the Association.

Members of the Association must not put their private interests before the interests of the Association in performing the Association's activities.

Article 40

In the event that private interests of a members of the Association are contrary to the Association's interests, or when private interests influence or may influence the unbiased work of a members of the Association while performing the Association's activities, the member of the Association which is in a conflict of interests shall report this to the executive director without delay and if possible, exempt themselves from further working on the activity in question.

Article 41

In the event of a doubt regarding the potential conflict of interests, any member of the Association can ask the opinion of the executive director.

In the event of appearance of a potential conflict of interests, the executive director shall resolve it by protecting the interests of the Association.

IX FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 42

The initiative for amending the Statute may be launched by at least 1/3 of members.

The initiative for amending the Statute is submitted in writing to the executive director who shall include it in the agenda of the first upcoming session of the General Assembly.

The proposal for the amendment of the Statute must be presented with a clarification and must contain the precise formulation of the articles of the Statute which are to be amended.

Article 43

The General Assembly decides on all the procedural and statutory issues not covered by this Statute.
The General Assembly provides all interpretations of the Statute.

Article 44

The Statute shall enter into force on the day of its adoption by the General Assembly.

Faktograf executive director

