

## Statute

### CHAPTER I

#### **Article 1: Name**

The name of this association is *International Network for Discourse Ethics* (RED - *Red internacional de ética discursiva*).

#### **Article 2: Headquarters**

Contact details:

Fundación ICALA (Pers. Jur. 333A/03)

Mendoza 850

5800 Río Cuarto – Argentina

e-mail: [red.etica.discursiva@gmail.com](mailto:red.etica.discursiva@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.eticadiscursiva.org>

#### **Article 3: Scope**

The RED aims to connect scholars and academics interested in discourse ethics around the world.

#### **Article 4: Characteristics**

The RED is an academic, non-profit organization; it is independent of political institutions and ideological doctrines.

#### **Article 5: Aims and Objectives**

- To promote the theoretical and practical development of discourse ethics as a counter-weight to the general trend of framing practical questions as technical problems.
- To contribute to democratic deliberation processes by giving voice to the tenets of discourse ethics.
- To encourage critical dialogue between discourse ethics and other ethical-political intellectual traditions and schools of thought
- To create an academic space for debate and collaboration between academics interested in discourse ethics research and the topics and problems related to it. This goal will be achieved by various means:
  - the publication of an academic journal;
  - the organization of academic workshops, symposia, conferences etc. on discourse ethics;
  - the publication of research related to discourse ethics;

- the organization and coordination of national and international research projects;
- the translation of relevant texts;
- the publication of an international bibliography in the field of discourse ethics.

## **Article 6: Funding**

- 6.1 The RED will seek financial support from its members, donations, private and public sponsorships, as well as from revenue generated by various academic activities organized by the network itself.
- 6.2 Support from members consists in payment of an annual membership fee: the Assembly will define its amount and the Administration Council will determine the method of payment.
- 6.3 Honorary Members of the RED will be exempted from paying the annual membership fee.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Article 7: Members**

- 7.1 Member of RED can be any person who has an interest in the study and development of discourse ethics and who endorses the terms of the present Statute.
- 7.2 The Assembly, by majority of votes, can designate RED Honorary Members researchers with outstanding performance in the development and promotion of discourse ethics theory.
- 7.3 RED members have the right to be informed about RED activities, to participate in the events it organizes, to intervene, with voice and vote, in the Assembly, and to elect and be elected for directive positions.
- 7.4 The dismissal of a RED member will be decision of the Administration Council, after consulting the other RED members. Any kind of action or behaviour that damages the interests of the RED may be a reason for dismissal.

### **Article 8: Benefactors and sponsoring institutions**

- 8.1 Anyone who supports the activities of the RED (academically and/or financially) can be designated RED BENEFACTORS by the Administration Council.
- 8.2 Institutions supporting the activities of the RED (academically and/or financially) can be designated RED SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS by the Administration Council.

## CHAPTER III

### **Article 9: Operating bodies and administration of RED**

The RED will be directed and administered by the Administration Council and the Assembly.

#### **9.1 Administration Council**

##### **9.1.1 Composition:**

The Administration Council will be composed of five members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board Member. They will be elected in the Annual Ordinary Assembly and will last two years in their positions; there are no restrictions on re-election. Positions are personal and non-transferable. Members will not receive any financial compensation for their work in these positions.

##### **9.1.2. Functions**

The main function of the Administration Council is to coordinate the activities of the RED. Furthermore, it will be in charge of organizing the following activities: the creation and maintenance of a RED web page; the organization and running of regular (regional, national, and international) meetings, seminars, and conferences; the coordination of national and international research groups; the development of non-periodic publications and an electronic periodic journal.[??]

##### **9.1.3. Meetings, quorum, and voting**

The Administration Council will hold periodic ordinary meetings with the physical presence of its members or consult them virtually. Resolutions will be made by the vote of a simple majority of those present or consulted. In the event of tie, the vote of the President will decide.

##### **9.1.4. Functions of President and Vice-president**

Functions of the President are: to represent the RED; to call for meetings and sessions of the Administration Council; to preside over them; to take, together with the Secretary, minutes.

In case of absence, impediment, resignation, or decease of the President, the Vice-President will occupy the Presidency with the same functions as the President.

##### **9.1.5. Functions of the Secretary**

Functions of the Secretary are: to write and sign all correspondence and all communication coming out of the Administration Council; to execute tasks related to the administration and registration of members; to keep the Minute Book of the meetings of the Administration Council and of the Assemblies and to write the Annual Memoir, which will be submitted to the Assembly. In case of absence, impediment, resignation, or decease, the Secretary will be replaced by the Board Member.

##### **9.1.6. Functions of the Treasurer**

Functions of the Treasurer are: to guard the funds of the RED; to keep the books, and, in collaboration with the Secretary, to elaborate and keep

the records of RED benefactors; to keep up-to-date records of member fees and informing the Administration Council about the situation of members in default; to prepare annually the general balance, inventory, and summary of RED expenses and resources.

In case of absence, impediment, resignation, or decease, the Treasurer will be replaced by the Secretary.

#### **9.1.7. Functions of Board Member**

Functions of the Board Member are: participating in the sessions of the Administration Council with voice and vote; exercising the position of Secretary in the case foreseen/mentioned in 9.1.5.

## **9.2 The Assembly**

### **9.2.1. Composition**

The Assembly is the highest body of the RED. It will be constituted by all the ordinary members with up-to-date membership payment, who will have voice and vote in all the issues to discuss.

### **9.2.2. Ordinary and Extraordinary Assemblies**

The Ordinary General Assembly will take place once a year, within the first one hundred and fifty days after the closing of the Annual Memoir. The Administration Council will determine its date and agenda. The Extraordinary Assemblies will be called whenever the Administration Council considers it necessary or by request of forty per cent of the members with up-to-date fees. In this last case, the Administration Council, together with the petitioning members, will decide on date and agenda of the Assembly. The call for Ordinary and Extraordinary Assemblies will be communicated to all the members in a reliable way, by mail or e-mail, no less than thirty days before the date set for the Assembly. All the Assemblies may be performed in the virtual modality, through an electronic medium that permits to identify the participants and the effective exchange of the different proposals, with a reliable system for counting the votes. The Administration Council will select the media that it finds most suitable for the development of virtual Assemblies.

### **9.2.3. Functions**

The Ordinary General Assembly will have the following functions: evaluation of the annual Memoir, General Balance, Inventory, and Balance of Expenses and Resources, submitted by the Administration Council; election of the members of the Administration Council; discussion and resolution of all other points in the agenda set by the Administration Council. An Extraordinary Assembly will discuss and resolve only the issues for which it was called.

### **9.2.4. Direction, quorum, and voting**

a) Assemblies will be led by a President and a Secretary named by the members present; the Assembly will be constituted with the presence of half-plus-one members.

b) In case of not having enough number of members present, the session will start with the presence of twenty per cent of the members. In case not even this minimal assistance is reached, to avoid a paralysis of the RED, urgent resolutions will be made by the Administration Council and communicated to the members in a period no longer than fifteen calendar days from the date of the Council meeting.

c) Assembly resolutions will be taken by simple majority of votes of the members present, except in the cases in which this Statute requires a special majority. These resolutions will not be appealable and have to be recorded in the Minutes subscribed by the President, the Secretary, and two associates appointed by the Assembly for this purpose.

#### **9.2.5. Election of the members of the Administration Council**

The election of the members who compose the Administration Council will be secret and by simple majority of votes. Lists of candidates must be presented to the Administration Council no later than seven days before the date set for the Assembly. The only members eligible for candidacy are: ordinary members with more than two years of membership and whose fee contributions are up-to-date at the moment of submitting the list.

### **CHAPTER IV**

#### **Article 10: Reform of this Statute**

- 10.1 The present Statute can be modified by petition of the Administration Council, or by at least forty five per cent of the members with voting rights. In both cases, the Administration Council will call for an Extraordinary General Assembly, which will approve of reforms by a majority of two thirds of the present members.
- 10.2 In case of not meeting the required (by article 9.2.4 a) quorum for the functioning of the Assembly, the Administration Council will call for a new Extraordinary Assembly within the next ninety days.

#### **Article 11: Dissolution of the RED**

- 11.1 The RED can be dissolved by the will of its members. The dissolution needs approval of the General Assembly by absolute majority of the members of the RED.
- 11.2 In case the dissolution of the RED is decided, the Administration Council will appoint a settlement committee and after paying all the debts of RED, if any, the remaining assets will be destined to an institution of public good.