

**Charter**  
**of the**  
**Young Königswinter Alumni**  
**[non-binding convenience translation only]**

**§ 1**

**Name, legal form, Domicile of the Association**

- (1) The Association is named „Young Königswinter Alumni“ and will receive the additional specification „e.V.“ (*eingetragener Verein / registered association*) once it is registered.
- (2) The Association is registered as a legal person in the registry at the Magistrates Court of Berlin Charlottenburg.
- (3) The domicile of the Association is Berlin.

**§ 2**

**Purpose of the Association**

- (1) The Association pursues the promotion of internationalism and the idea of international understanding, the promotion of education, education of the general public and occupational education, the general promotion of democracy and the promotion of civil commitment. The purpose of the Association in particular is to cultivate, deepen and develop the friendship between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and their citizens at all levels of state and society.
- (2) At the centre of the Association's activities shall be the organisation of conferences, talks, seminars, workshops and other events, within the scope of the Association's purpose as mentioned in paragraph 1. These activities may take place in Germany or Britain and under exceptional circumstances other places.
- (3) The Association may take further measures in pursuit of the realisation of the aims laid out in paragraph 1.

- (4) Further obligations of the Association are fund raising in order to fulfil the the aims laid out in paragraphs 1 to 3, the promotion of an increased public and private advancement of its aims as well as the promotion of related events and relaying of their results to the public.
- (5) The Associations Activities are not restricted to Germany.
- (6) The Association cultivates and advances its co-operation with the Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft e.V.

### § 3

#### **Preferred tax status**

- (1) The Association pursues solely and directly non-profit purposes as defined in the chapter „tax-advantaged activities“ (*Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke*) of the „*Abgabenordnung*“. The Association does not pursue commercial business activity and is not seeking profit. The Association is unselfish.
- (2) Nobody shall be unduly advantaged by means of rewards which are alien to the purposes of the Association or disproportionately high.
- (3) The Association's assets shall only be used for purposes determined within this charter. Members are not entitled to payments for activities that are part of their membership. Neither in case of the liquidation of the Association nor with resignation of a member will Membership fees, donations and donations in kind be reimbursed

### § 4

#### **Revenues and Expenditures of the Association; accounting control**

- (1) The Association gains revenues from
  1. donations,
  2. contributions of private, public and church institutions,
  3. miscellaneous revenues.
- (2) Donations and miscellaneous revenues to the Associations that, as far as they are legal, are contributed for a certain purpose by the donor, may only be used for that purpose. If there is no such appropriation, the Association is free to decide how to apply, within the frame of the sub-purposes mentioned paragraph 1. The Association is explicitly

allowed to choose freely and to abandon temporarily from pursuing certain sub-purposes.

- (3) Revenues and costs of the Association have to be accounted for in accordance with the generally accepted accounting rules. At the end of each year, annual accounts in accordance with these rules (containing balance sheet and P&L) must be prepared.
- (4) Business year of the Association is the calendar year.
- (6) The accounts, falling within the competence of the Boards, have to be approved by two auditors appointed by the General Assembly. The auditors shall not be members of the Board. The Board may only be discharged a business year, if the accountant did not object. The General Assembly is entitled to appoint instead of an auditor a certified accountant to check the annual balance sheet.

## § 5

### Membership

- (1) Only natural persons may become members of the Association, provided they have participated in a Young Königswinter Conference of the Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft.
- (2) The admission of new members is upon application and at the discretion of the Board. A rejected admission does not have to be justified to the applicant.
- (3) Membership ends with:
  1. death
  2. resignation,
  3. expulsion,
- (4) The resignation has to be declared to the Board in writing. It has to be submitted at least three months prior to and only takes effect upon the end of a business year.
- (5) A member who shall be expelled, is entitled to comment on the issue orally or in writing. If the member does not comment on the issue, within one month or even though he or she has been asked to do so in writing twice, the Board may expel him. However, if the member comments on the issue, the General Assembly may expel the member only after being notified of the members' statement..

## § 6

### **Rights and Obligations of the Members**

- (1) Members are entitled, to take part in the General Assembly and events, organised by the Association for its members. This does not interfere with the right of the board, to invite at its own discretion only a group of members or guests to events connected to specific projects.
- (2) Members are obliged to support the Association's work as far as possible.
- (3) Members do not have to pay membership fees. Voluntary contributions are possible and encouraged.

## § 7

### **Patrons and Honorary Members**

- (1) Persons who seems to be qualified, to contribute in an outstanding way to the aims of the Association, may with their consent, upon proposal by the Board and by vote of the General Assembly be appointed patron of the Association. This person does not have to be member of the Association.
- (2) Patrons are relieved from all obligations of a member, however they are entitled to all rights that a member is entitled to.
- (3) Persons, that have contributed in an extraordinary way to the Association may with their consent, upon proposal by the Board and by vote of the General Assembly be appointed Honorary Members of the Association. They do not have to be Members of the Association.
- (4) Honorary Members are relieved of all obligations of a member, however they are entitled to all rights that a member is entitled to.

## § 8

### **Bodies of the Association**

- (1) The bodies of the Association are
  1. the General Assembly,
  2. the Board.

- (2) The Association may institute advisory groups in order to fulfil its obligations, employ auxiliary persons to deal with administrative work and transfer obligations as such or partly to third parties.

## § 9

### The General Assembly

- (1) Every Member with a right to vote belongs to the General Assembly.
- (3) The General Assembly in particular decides upon
1. the election of the Board,
  2. the verification of the annual balance sheet,
  3. the discharge of the board,
  4. the dismissal of members of the board,
  5. the appointing of an auditor or a certified accountant,
  6. changes to the charter,
  7. the liquidation of the Association.
- (3) The General Assembly is called by the Chairman whenever required, at least once a year, stating the agenda and with one month notice in writing or via e-Mail. A meeting has to be held, upon written requirement of the board or by written request of one third of the members of the Association, giving reasons for their request. The meeting is convened by the Chairman.
- (4) The General Assembly constitutes a quorum regardless of the number of attending members, as long as it has been legally summoned. Members may be represented by another member via written authority.
- (5) The General Assembly enacts with the majority of votes. In case of equality of votes the proposal is rejected. Resolutions concerning amendments to the charter, the liquidation of the Association and the early dismissal of a member of the Board have to be made by a majority 2/3 of the votes cast.
- (6) Resolutions of the members may upon the resolution of the Board be taken by written circulation or via e-Mail. Paragraph 5 is applicable accordingly.

- (7) Minutes of the General Assembly's meeting and the resolutions enacted by circulation or via e-Mail have to be taken, signed by the Chairman, forwarded to all members and be authorised at the following General Assembly.

## § 10

### The Board

- (1) The Board consists of four to seven members, namely the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and up to three other natural persons. The Executive Board consists of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer. A member of the Executive Board can be elected as representative of the Executive Board by the General Assembly.
- (2) The members of the Board are elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years.
- (3) The members according to paragraph 1 are elected simultaneously, if not otherwise determined by the General Assembly. The election is by acclamation, or by ballot if so requested by 10 per cent of the present members.
- (4) The elected members of the board appoint a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer amongst them immediately after being elected.
- (5) The Board may appoint further members if the maximum amount of members mentioned in paragraph 1 is not yet reached. These members are appointed for a term that ends with the next General Assembly.
- (6) The Board governs the Association, conducts the Association's business and executes the decisions made by the General Assembly. The Association is represented before court and extra-judicially by a member of the Executive Board.
- (7) The Board meets whenever required. The chairman, in his absence the vice-chairman, invites for the meeting in writing or by e-mail. A weeks term has to be met unless all members of the board waive such a term. An announcement of the agenda is not required. The Board constitutes a quorum, if at least three members including the chairman are present. Resolutions are accepted, if the majority of the Board approves them.
- (8) The Chairman chairs Board meetings. The Chairman is substituted by his or her Vice-Chairman during his absence, in case of the absence of both another member of the

Executive Board shall substitute them, the order is determined by the age of the members. The representative shall within the inner relationship only act on behalf of the Chairman.

- (9) If no member of the Board disagrees, resolutions by circulation may be made in writing as well as via e-Mail.
- (10) The Board enacts measures, which the Association has to take in order to fulfil its aims.
- (11) Resolutions of the Board have to be minuted, the minutes signed by the Chairman and circulated to the Board members
- (12) Members work on a non-profit basis. Cash expenditures may be reimbursed.
- (13) The Board may enact its own byelaws.

## **§11**

### **Advisory Boards**

- (1) The Association upon resolution of its Board may install an Advisory Board.
- (2) The resolution shall regulate the obligations, constitution and operating principles of the Advisory Board.
- (3) Members of the Advisory Board do not have to be Members of the Association.
- (4) The Obligation of the Advisory Board is to consult and support the Association and its bodies. Authority to take decisions shall not be transferred upon these Assemblies.

## **§ 12**

### **Liquidation of the Association**

- (1) Should the Association decide, by the will of its members, to terminate the pursuit of its objectives and the termination of the Association as such, the Association shall be liquidated.
- (2) The winding up order shall only be valid, if also a liquidator is appointed.

- (3) In case of liquidation of the Association or if the tax-advantaged status is rescinded, remaining assets, will be transferred to the Königswinter-Stiftung, Bonn. It shall only use them for "tax-advantaged" purposes as they are stated at § 2 paragraph 1 of this charter.

Enacted on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at the founding meeting of Young Königswinter Alumni in Berlin.