



Statutes of the European Small Islands Federation

§ 1. Purpose

ESIN is a non-political federation of associations for small islands and archipelagos in Europe.

The federation is a forum for cooperation between member associations that are working for living islands and archipelagos.

ESIN aims to work for better all-year round lives for small islands in Europe with no permanent land connection and less than 5000 inhabitants. ESIN accepts that individual ESIN member association's definition of their member islands may differ from this definition.

The federation shall represent the members on issues of mutual importance before the European Union parliament and institutions.

The federation shall also be a forum for comparison of experience between the members.

The federation has no formal influence of the governance of the member associations.

§ 2. Membership

Associations with national or autonomous region responsibility in Europe, representing small islands and archipelagos, as defined by each member association can be accepted as members of ESIN.

The applicant association must have as its aim the overall sustainable development of small islands and the improvement of living conditions for the resident island population in that nation.

Membership will not be open to applicants with a more limited objective.

There will be only one member from each country/or autonomous region.

Membership applications can be approved only by consensus decision of the ESIN board.

A member that fails to comply with these statutes or does not act in accordance with the aims of ESIN or does not fulfill its membership obligations, as set out in the ESIN membership policy, can be expelled by consensus decision of the ESIN board.

Associate Membership: Associate membership is available to individual islands or organisations representing a group of islands in cases where there is no national/autonomous region island federation. It would be preferable if a group of Islands from the same country join together to form a Federation.

Admitting Associate members will be at the discretion of the ESIN Board. Associate members must also have no permanent land connection and less than 5000 inhabitants. Associate membership is available to individual island or organisations representing a group of islands that meet the criteria for ESINs aims.

Associate members will not have voting rights and will pay half the fee of full members.

§ 3. Membership Fee

All members pay an annual membership fee for ESIN running and administrative costs- the fee to be determined according to budget at the annual meeting.

Above this, project funding and other contributions can finance activities.

§ 4. Delegates and voting rights

Each member appoints two delegates, one of whom should be nominated voting delegate and a substitute as representatives to the annual meeting. These delegates must be appointed by the board of the member association.

§ 5. Costs

Each member pays for travel and subsistence costs for their delegates at annual meetings and board meetings.

Exceptional costs, i.e. attendance at relevant conferences or other meetings by the Chair, other nominated board member or experts working on behalf of ESIN, papers written for ESIN to be delivered at conferences by the chair or other nominated board members may be co-funded by agreement among the members, or may be considered to be part of the ESIN running costs once agreed by the board.

§ 6. Board, auditor

The board of the Federation is responsible for the annual work plan.

The board is elected for a one year period at the annual general meeting, AGM.

Each ESIN member is entitled to one board member and one nominated substitute. The number of board members therefore is the same as number of ESIN members.

The AGM also appoints the chair in board and treasurer.

The board is allowed to nominate one or more vice-chairs if desired.

Vacancies in the membership of the board occurring between AGMs may be filled by nomination by the relevant association for the period up to the next AGM. It is recommended that gender equality be maintained where possible.

An auditor shall be elected on the AGM.

§ 7. Board meetings

The board shall meet when necessary.

It is recommended that a formal Board meeting should take place at least once every quarter and preferably every two months in addition to the AGM. These may be conducted by phone or videoconference.

Communication relating to normal business of the federation shall be carried out through email/internet and phone.

For board meetings, at least 1 week notice should be given.

Annual General Meeting, AGM

An annual general meeting, AGM, shall be arranged in the third or fourth quarter of the year. The location of the annual meeting shall rotate among the federation members or by agreement of the board in other relevant location (such as Brussels).

It is recommended that the place and date for the next coming annual general meeting is decided at the previous AGM, one year in advance.

Notice to attend the annual meeting including a draft agenda shall be addressed to the secretary of each member association, board members, nominated delegates and substitutes.

At least twelve weeks notice shall in as much as is possible be given for the AGM, and at least eight weeks notice for other special general meetings.

Only ESIN members can raise proposals and motions to the AGM.

The ESIN board shall receive motions for the AGM at least 5 weeks in advance

The final agenda for the AGM shall in as much as possible be agreed by the chair and vicechair(s) at least 4 weeks in advance and include motions for the AGM.

The business of the AGM shall include:

Chairman's report

Treasurer's report including Audited statement

Appointment of Auditor

Adoption of reports

Motions and proposals

Agree an annual general work plan

Annual membership fees

Election of board, chair, treasurer and secretary

Next years meeting location and dates

§ 8. Protocols

Minutes shall be taken at all meetings and sent to attendees and other board members and substitutes within two weeks.

Amendments to the minutes may be officially adopted at the following meeting.

§ 9. Decisions

The Board may make binding decisions when at least half of the board members or nominated substitutes are present. There is one vote per country. For ordinary decisions is it a simple majority. The Chairman will have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

§ 10. Financial year

The calendar year is the financial year of the federation.

§ 11. Fiscal signatures

Signing for the federation is by the chairman and any other elected officer. Should the chair be unavailable for any reason, another elected officer can sign on their behalf.

§ 12. Change of statutes

Amendments to these statutes may be made by at least two thirds majority of the delegates of the annual meeting. Proposed changes must be sent to members at least 5 weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.

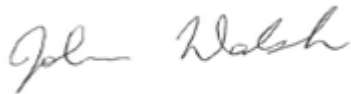
§ 13. Dissolution

The federation can only be dissolved if such a decision is taken by at least two thirds majority on two consecutive annual meetings or extraordinary general meetings. The proposal for dissolution of the federation must be sent to members at least 8 weeks in advance of the annual general meeting or extraordinary general meeting.

Assets, if any after deduction of debts, shall be shared equally among members.

These statutes were approved for the first time on September 4th 2004, at the 4th annual meeting at Eigg, Scotland, the second time on September 15th 2005, at the 5th annual meeting at Belle-Ile, France, the third time on September 8th 2009 at the 9th annual meeting at Elba, Italy, the fourth time on September 25th 2018 at the 18th annual meeting in Brussels and the fifth time on April 19, 2021 at an extraordinary meeting, held virtually.

Date and signatures



John Walsh, Chair

Camille Dressler, vice chair (West)

Pia Prost, vice chair (Baltic)