



International Legal Association

Excellence through Collaboration

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

§ I. Name, headquarters, applicable laws

We, the Founding Members, hereby establish International Legal Association (ILA), a nonprofit, unincorporated, non-political association, to have its principal office in Phoenix, Arizona, pursuant to U.S. federal and state laws.

Pursuant to applicable laws and regulations, International Legal Association may establish and operate national or regional chapters, subdivisions, representation offices, service centers, research institutes, and the like in various countries.

§ II. Management and administration

International Legal Association is to be governed by a Board of Founders consisting of the Founding Members, their successors, or their designees. Board members serve for renewable terms of five (5) years. Any Board member may resign permanently or temporarily at any time by giving written notice of resignation to the Advocate-General, at which time the resigning Board member shall be entitled to appoint his or her successor or designee. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if such time is not so specified, immediately upon its receipt by the Advocate-General.

There shall be an annual meeting of the Board members in January or at such other time as the Board may determine. The purposes of such meeting shall be the appointment of the Advocate-General and such other business as may come before the meeting. Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the Advocate-General or any Board member. Protocols shall be kept of decisions made during Board meetings.

The Advocate-General, appointed by the Board and acting under its supervision, is authorized to represent International Legal Association in any and all matters.

The Treasurer, appointed by the Board and acting under its supervision, shall: Render bills to all Members for dues and other assessments as designated by the Board; maintain records of all dues and other funds received; make financial information available as needed; Deposit all funds into ILA's bank account(s); pay all bills and maintain payment records; prepare an Annual Financial Statement; perform additional duties as may be assigned by the Advocate-General.

International Legal Association will establish a Secretariat responsible for all administration and management, subject to supervision by the Advocate-General. The Secretariat may offer secretarial and administrative support to Members.

International Legal Association encourages its members to submit proposals and requests to the Secretariat. The Advocate-General may establish one or more advisory



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committees consisting of Members who are willing and able to serve in an advisory, unpaid capacity.

§ III. Means and objectives for legal professionals

International Legal Association seeks to promote, facilitate, and maintain high standards and ethical conduct among legal professionals. To further these objectives, we will:

- 1) build and maintain several “Main Networks” comprising attorneys and jurists specializing in various fields of law as well as several “Support Networks” comprising providers of valuable products and services aimed at legal professionals. The purpose of these networks is to facilitate international collaboration for the advancement of professional excellence;
- 2) publish and/or distribute various law-related publications, including legal opinions, advisories, and quality-of-regulation assessments, to enlighten and educate legal professionals and others about legal issues of international importance;
- 3) initiate, arrange, coordinate, participate in, or offer financial assistance to various events such as seminars, conferences, and/or colloquia covering a wide range of law-related issues with emphasis on good governance, ethics, and professional conduct. Priority will be given not only to activities that educate legal professionals about these matters, but also to activities that enable qualified professionals to share their knowledge and experience with public institutions, companies, and various organizations.

§ IV. Means and objectives for regulations and governance

International Legal Association will seek to advance high-quality regulations, good governance, and ethical conduct among public institutions, corporations, and organizations of international significance. To further these objectives, we will:

- 1) distribute, promote, inform about, and work for the continuous improvement of the Advocate-General’s Basic Principles for Governance;
- 2) contribute to assessments and discussions of whether laws, rules, regulations, business practices, and various other measures of international legal significance adhere to the Advocate-General’s Basic Principles for Governance.

§ V. Professional Code of Conduct

- 1) Legal professionals and law-related professionals should observe any Professional Code of Conduct that may be applicable to their professional activities within their jurisdiction.
- 2) Legal practitioners, government officials, and other professionals who provide legal services should serve their clients courteously, expeditiously, and diligently.



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- 3) Legal practitioners should treat as confidential any privileged information about their clients, subject to any applicable laws curtailing attorney-client confidentiality.
- 4) Legal practitioners, legal consultants, and other legal professionals serving in an advisory capacity should exercise due diligence, discourage their clients from any unlawful conduct, and encourage their clients to adhere to basic norms for good governance and ethical conduct.
- 5) Legislators, judges, and other public servants should abstain from any acts that may be indicative of corruption, make timely disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest, and avoid any acts of discrimination or nepotism. They should not act in a manner which will cause reasonable doubt about their ability to function effectively or diminish the authority and integrity of the institution which they represent.
- 6) Legal scholars and scholars in law-related fields should adhere to standards for objectivity, fairness, and truthfulness. Scholars who become aware of imperfections such as regulations of poor quality, bad governance, unprofessional behavior, or unethical conduct should express their concerns in an appropriate forum.
- 7) Legal practitioners, lobbyists, scholars, and others who represent special interests should openly and voluntarily disclose that they are engaging in issue advocacy and on behalf of whom. These professionals should treat their opponents with respect, apply reasonable rationalization and argumentation methods, and refrain from slander or gossip, misrepresentation of facts, or other falsehoods of any kind.

§ VI. Eligibility for membership

Approval of an application is contingent upon the applicant fulfilling all eligibility requirements. The applicant's fulfillment of all eligibility requirements, however, does not automatically guarantee approval of the application, as ILA reserves the right to decline any application upon its sole discretion.

Section 6.01 Legal professionals

Eligible to become a non-voting Member is any individual who, in the opinion of International Legal Association:

- 1) Is an attorney, a jurist, or a member of the legal profession in some other capacity;
- 2) In rendering services, is willing and able to make a good faith effort to ensure a consistently high quality and an overall satisfying experience for his or her clients;
- 3) Shares our objectives and agrees to the means to further these objectives;



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- 4) Accepts our Professional Code of Conduct and agrees to pay any applicable fees.

Section 6.02 Non-jurists

Eligible to become a non-voting Member is any individual who, although not a legal professional, in the opinion of International Legal Association:

- 1) Can make a valuable contribution to Association due to his or her particular background, skills, knowledge, experience or interest in law-related matters of international significance;
- 2) Shares our objectives and agrees to the means to further these objectives;
- 3) Accepts our Professional Code of Conduct and agrees to pay any applicable fees.

§ VII. Final provisions

Amendment to these Articles of Association may be accomplished anonymously by the Founding Members, their successors, or their designees.

International Legal Association may be dissolved by a resolution adopted anonymously by the Founding Members, their successors, or their designees. In the event of dissolution, the Board of Founders shall be responsible for its liquidation and shall authorize the payment of all indebtedness and any remaining funds, investments and other assets of the Association to be distributed to one or more receiving organizations the purposes and objectives of which are similar to the purposes and objectives of ILA.

These Articles of Association were adopted this 1st day of October, 2005.

Founding Member, Advocate-General

Founding Member, Treasurer



International Legal Association

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