

# STATUTES Moniheli ry

## 1. Name and location of association

The name of the association is Moniheli ry. In an international context the unofficial name Moniheli - Network of Multicultural Organisations can also be used. The association is registered in Helsinki. In these statutes below the association will be referred to as “the network”.

## 2. Purpose and forms of operation

The purpose of the network is:

1. to function as advocate of the multicultural society and its members
2. to develop the cooperation between migrant associations and associations active in multicultural work
3. to influence questions related to migration policy as a network
4. to promote active participation in influencing the society, especially with regards to matters of migration and multiculturalism
5. to advance equality and non-discrimination in the Finnish society
6. The network is a politically and religiously independent non-profit organisation.

The aim of the network is:

1. to plan and implement projects that advance the network's purpose
2. to support the integration of migrants into the Finnish society
3. to promote the dialogue between its members and other actors in society
4. to promote the immediate cooperation among its members
5. to promote the employment and entrepreneurship of people with migration background
6. to advice, guide and support its member associations when cooperating and when implementing projects that support the network's overarching objectives
7. to organise events, seminars and trainings
8. to participate actively in public discussions
9. to take care of diverse information spreading and giving out publications
10. to collaborate with actors supporting its objectives nationwide

To support its operations, the network may

- accept donations and bequests
- on obtaining the appropriate permits, run raffles, collections and carry out publication work
- own for the purpose of its operations the necessary fixed or moveable property

### 3. Members

Registered societies (rekeristeröity yhdistys) or incorporated societies (oikeuskelpoinen yhteisö) which accept the purpose of the network and support its values of a diverse and equal Finland and undertake to observe the network's statutes, ethical guidelines and values may be accepted as full members of the network.

Private individuals or incorporated societies (oikeuskelpoinen yhteisö) wishing to support the aims and operations of the network may be accepted as supporting members. Applications for full or supporting membership will be processed and approved by the organisation's board, which may request the appointment of a working group to assist it in processing applications and issuing recommendations on them to the board.

Individuals who have greatly contributed to the network and supported its endeavours may be invited to become chairperson of honour or board member of honour upon suggestion by the board. Member associations can make suggestions for members of honour to the board. Members of honour are exempt from paying the membership fee.

### 4. Joining and membership fees

Each full member and supporting member will be charged a joining fee and an annual membership fee the amount of which will be determined for each membership category separately at the autumn general meeting.

The membership fees of registered societies which are full members may be tiered in proportion to their number of members.

### 5. Members leaving and being expelled

A member is entitled to leave the network by notifying the board or its chairman of this in writing or by announcing they are leaving at the network's meeting for this to be noted in the minutes.

The board may expel a member from the network if the member has failed to pay the membership fee due or has otherwise failed to fulfil the obligations which he or she has undertaken to perform by joining the network or by his or her behaviour in the network or outside it has significantly damaged the network or no longer meets the membership criteria laid down in the network's statutes or by law.

The network will approve ethical guidelines for its operations. Failure to comply with the network's ethical guidelines may lead to the member being given a written warning and, if breach of the guidelines continues, will lead to expulsion.

Before expulsion the person or body to be expelled is to be given an opportunity to present its side apart from where the reason for dismissal is failure to pay the membership fee. The expulsion decision must be issued in writing and must state the reason for expulsion.

## 6. The network's board

The network's affairs are run by the network's board. At the autumn general meeting members elect a chairperson of the board and eight to sixteen (8-16) full members. In addition, at least one (1) and a maximum of four (4) deputy members are elected. Deputy members act in place of full members in the order set out in a list of deputies approved by the network's meeting.

The board members are elected from the candidates nominated by the member association. Every member association can nominate one candidate for the position as chairperson and one person for the position as board member. After the chairperson was elected, the remaining nominees for this position may become nominated as board members, if their association had not nominated another person as board member

Persons nominated (as chairperson) for the General elections have to be reputable /irreproachable and have their main residence in Finland.

The chairperson and the board's full members serve a term of two (2) calendar years. 3(5) Deputy members serve for one (1) calendar year. A member may be elected to the board for a maximum total of four (4) consecutive years. Each year half of the board's full members are due to resign.

The board elects a vice chairperson and, if required, a second vice-chairperson from among its members. It also elects, either from among its members or externally, a secretary, a treasurer and the other necessary functionaries. The board meets at the invitation of the chairperson or, where the chairperson is prevented from so doing, the vice chairperson, when considered necessary or when at least 1/3 of the board's members so demand. However, the board must meet at least seven (7) times a year.

The board is quorate when at least half of its members are present, including the chairperson or the vice chairpersons. Votes are decided by a simple majority. Where votes are equal, the chairperson has the deciding vote, however for elections, by drawing lots. The board may appoint the necessary working groups required to assist it and determine their composition and term of service.

## 7. Signing on behalf of the network

The board's chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, treasurer may sign on behalf of the network, where two such signatures are always required. The signing authority of persons outside the board will be confirmed separately

## 8. Financial year and accounts

The network's financial year is the calendar year.

The accounts with the necessary documents and the board's annual report must be given to the auditors no later than four weeks before the spring general meeting.

The auditors must submit their written statement to the board no later than two weeks before the spring general meeting.

## 9. The network's meetings

The network must hold two general meetings each year.

The network's spring general meeting is held in January-May and the autumn general meeting in September-December on a day determined by the board.

Additional meetings are held when the network's meeting so decides or when the board considers it necessary or when at least a tenth (1/10) of the network's members entitled to vote demand in writing that a meeting be held regarding a matter especially notified.

A meeting is to be held within thirty days of a request for a meeting being presented to the board. 4(5) The decision of the network's meeting is the opinion which receives over half of the votes cast. At network meetings each full member has one (1) vote.

A single person may only represent one member at the meeting. Supporting members (members of honour) have no right to vote but do have a right to be present and to speak. Where votes are equal, the chairperson of the meeting has the deciding vote, however for elections by drawing lots. The right to vote and to attend network meetings are conditional upon membership fees due having been paid. Via/With the letter of attorney which has to be fetched in advance, the same person can represent only one member.

## 10. Calling network meetings

The board is to announce network meetings at least twenty-one (21) days before the meeting in a newspaper published in the Helsinki region, by letter sent to members by post or by e-mail to the addresses notified by members

## 11. General meetings

The agenda of the network's spring general meeting will be as follows:

1. Meeting declared open
2. Election of the meeting's chairperson, secretary, two people to check the minutes and where necessary two vote counters

3. Declaring the meeting legal and quorate
4. Approval of the agenda
5. Presentation of the accounts, annual report and the auditors' statement
6. Decision to approve the accounts and release the board and other responsible people from liability
7. Other issues

The agenda of the network's autumn general meeting will be as follows:

1. Meeting declared open
2. Election of the meeting's chairperson, secretary, two people to check the minutes where necessary two vote counters
3. Declaring the meeting legal and quorate
4. Approval of the agenda
5. Approval of the operating plan, estimated income and expenditure and the joining and membership fees for the following calendar year
6. Every other year election of the chairperson of the board for a term of two years, who also is also called the chairperson of the organisation, and other full members of the board to replace those at the end of their two-year term and election of deputy members for a one-year term
7. Election of the network's advisory board for the following calendar year
8. Election of one or more auditors and their deputies
9. Other issues. If a network member wishes to have a matter addressed at the network's spring or autumn general meeting, he or she must notify the board of this in writing at least 2 weeks before the invitation to the meeting is sent out to members.

## 12. Amending the statutes and disbanding the organisation

A decision to amend the statutes or to disband the organisation must be made at a network meeting by a majority of at least three quarters (3/4) of the votes cast. The invitation to the meeting must mention amending the statutes or disbanding the organisation.

When the network is disbanded, the network's funds are to be used to promote the aims of the network in a manner as set out by the meeting that decides to disband the network. When the network is terminated its funds are used for the same purpose.