

Statute for Democracy in Europe - DiEM25

Preamble:

We, the members of Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25, unite to share and create a peaceful future together on the basis of transnational, feminist and democratic values, by working for a political and collaborative coalescence of the European continent and the world.

This party is founded in full awareness of the indivisible and universal values of the dignity of men and women, of freedom, equality and solidarity. We place the human being at the center of our work. Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25 contributes to the preservation and the development of our common values while respecting the diversity of cultures and traditions of humankind.

We find inspiration in the common constitutional traditions, the Treaty on European Union and the Community Treaties, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the Social Charters adopted by the Community and the Council of Europe, and the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights. The exercise of these rights entails responsibilities and duties both towards fellow human beings, towards the human community in general, and towards future generations.

Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25 is the German electoral wing of the transnational pan-European movement DiEM25. As an integral part of DiEM25, Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25 is the first pan-European, transnational German party whose goal is the profound democratization of the European Union and all European countries. Bodies and representatives of Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25 commit themselves to make their decisions in accordance with the recognizable majority will of the members of DiEM25.

Section A: Basics

§ 1 Name, registered office and field of activity

- (1) "Democracy in Europe" is a party and part of the European movement DiEM25. It unites people without distinction of nationality, status, origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical condition and creed, who wish to participate in the establishment and development of a democratic constitutional state within the framework of a European Republic and a modern liberal social order characterized by the spirit of social justice. Totalitarian, dictatorial and fascist aspirations of any kind are resolutely opposed to democracy in Europe.
- (2) The acronym of Demokratie in Europa is DiEM25.
- (3) The name is: Demokratie in Europa - DiEM25.
- (4) The seat of "Demokratie in Europa" is Berlin.
- (5) As a part of DiEM25 we work on the whole European continent for a democratic, social and ecologically sustainable Europe and especially for a democratization of the European Union.
- (6) The members organized in Demokratie in Europa are referred to as members in a gender-neutral way.

§ 2 Membership

- (1) Membership of democracy in Europe is open to any human individual who has reached the age of 14, is a member of the DiEM25 movement and agrees to the DiEM25 manifesto, the DiEM25 Organisational Principles, and the Statutes and Principles of Demokratie in Europa.

The Executive Board may reject an application without giving reasons. ~~The rejection by the executive board must be justified in writing to the applicant. The applicant can appeal against the rejection with an application for admission to the responsible general meeting, which will decide by simple majority.~~

(2) Only natural persons can be members of Demokratie in Europa. Demokratie in Europa keeps a central membership directory.

(3) Members of Demokratie in Europa may also be members of another party, electoral group or political organisation (in a competitive relationship with it), provided that its aims are compatible with those of Demokratie in Europa.

~~(4) Members of another electoral wing of DiEM25 can become members of the German electoral wing "Demokratie in Europa".~~

§ 3 Becoming a member

~~The decision on whether or not to accept a member is taken by the Board of Demokratie in Europa.~~ (1) Membership begins 6 weeks after the confirmed acceptance of the application for admission, provided that the first membership fee has been paid by then. In individual cases, the executive board can allow an accelerated admission. ~~Every member of Demokratie in Europa is provided with a membership card.~~

~~(2) If membership is established according to §2, part 4, no membership fee is to be paid.~~

§ 4 Rights and duties of members

(1) Every member of Demokratie in Europa has the right and duty to promote the purposes of Demokratie in Europa and to participate in the political and organisational work of Demokratie in Europa within the framework of the present Statute.

(2) All Members in Demokratie in Europa have equal voting rights.

(3) Voting rights may only be exercised if the member is not more than three months in arrears with his or her membership fees. Voting rights can only be exercised at general meetings **and digitally** if all membership fees have been paid. Differing from sentences 1 and 2, every member is entitled to vote for the list of candidates for election.

(4) Every member is entitled to withdraw from Demokratie in Europa at any time (requiring the written form).

§ 5 Termination of Membership

(1) ~~Membership ends by death, resignation, cancellation, loss or withdrawal of eligibility or voting rights, exclusion from the party or exclusion from the DiEM25 movement.~~

~~(2) Upon termination of membership, the membership card must be returned.~~ There is no entitlement to reimbursement of membership fees.

§ 6 Administrative measures

(1) Disciplinary measures shall in principle be pronounced by the competent arbitral tribunals.

(2) Against a member,

1. which contravenes the statutes of the Demokratie in Europa party or the manifesto of the DiEM25 movement

2. or otherwise damages the reputation of the party or movement to an extent that does not yet justify exclusion may be imposed:

1. a warning,

2. removal from any party office or disqualification from such an office up to a maximum period of 2 years,

3. the temporary suspension of membership rights for up to 2 years

(3) A member who

1. intentionally violates the statutes or seriously infringes the principles of the party or the manifesto of the DiEM25 movement, thereby causing serious damage to the party and/or the movement

2. or is 12 months or more in arrears with its membership fees, can be excluded from the party.

(4) In urgent and serious cases requiring immediate intervention, the national executive board or the provincial executive board responsible for the member may exclude a member from exercising his or her rights until the Arbitral Tribunal has reached a decision. In this case, the Executive Board shall simultaneously initiate party exclusion proceedings at the competent Arbitral Tribunal. If the measure is not confirmed by the competent Arbitral Tribunal within three months, it shall cease to have effect upon expiry of this period.

(5) Territorial associations or organs of the Party which disregard provisions of the Statute, in particular those of higher Party organs, fail to implement decisions of higher Party organs, or refuse to take up substantiated complaints and refer them to an arbitration tribunal, or act against the Party's political objectives in essential matters, may be sanctioned by:

1. a reprimand, possibly accompanied by a requirement to take a specific measure within the time limit set

2. the removal from office of members of the Executive Board or individual members thereof; in this case, the Arbitral Tribunal may, on the recommendation of the National or State Executive Board, appoint one or more party members to act provisionally as members of the Executive Board until the immediate election of a new Executive Board in accordance with the statutes,

3. the dissolution of the regional association, if the board of the next higher level of the association so requests.

(6) Dissolution of the regional association, if the executive board of the next higher level of the association so requests.

§ Section 7 Structure

(1) Demokratie in Europa sees itself as part of the European movement DiEM25. The party is structured from bottom to top. It currently exists at federal level. The aim is to form state, district and local associations. Their territorial scope can be oriented to the respective political borders. It is also possible to form associations beyond political borders. The state, district and local associations decide autonomously on their programme and statutes, including finances and personnel, as long as these do not contradict the party's objectives.

(2) All regional associations, without exception, shall be based on full acceptance of the founding manifesto of DiEM25, the organisational principles of DiEM25, the programme of Demokratie in Europa and these statutes.

(3) Election programmes for elections taking place exclusively within the scope of the association shall be adopted independently by the association. The programme may not contradict that of the

next higher unit. Programmes may also be put to the vote of all members of the federal party and also all members of the parties of the DiEM25 movement (All Members Vote, AMV). At the request of 10% of the members of the regional association concerned, the programme must be submitted to the board of the next higher unit for a vote in order to check whether it is in accordance with its programme. In the case of the federal party, at the request of 10% of its members, the programme must be submitted to all members of the DiEM25 movement (AMV) for a vote to check that it is consistent with its programme.

(4) Lists of candidates for public elections taking place exclusively within the territory of a regional association shall be drawn up independently by the respective regional association.

(5) The aim of each regional association shall be to ensure that all members participate in the programme work at all times. At the request of 10% of the members of an area association, amendments to the party programme must be submitted to all members of the federal party or all members of DiEM25 for a vote.

(6) Applications for cooperation and joint electoral lists with other movements, organisations or democratic parties must be submitted to all regional associations involved for decision. A higher regional association is involved if the regional association concerned is subordinate to it or to a level below it. A subordinate level is involved if the regional group concerned is subordinate to it or to a regional group superior to it. The consent of the members of the DiEM25 movement (All Member Vote, AMV) must be obtained at the request of two local or district associations concerned or at the request of a regional association or at the request of the executive board of the federal party.

Applications for cooperation and joint election lists with other movements, organisations and democratic parties at federal level should also be submitted to all members of the DiEM25 movement for a decision (AMV).

§ 8 Organs of Demokratie in Europa

(1) Organs are the Executive Board and the General Assembly.

(2) Demokratie in Europa has an arbitration tribunal. The Rules of Arbitration for the independent settlement of disputes form part of these Statutes.

(3) The Programme Commission

1. Demokratie in Europa maintains a permanent programme commission responsible for the participatory development and modification of a national policy programme and for assisting regional associations in drawing up election programmes. It ensures that the political positions, demands and objectives of Demokratie in Europa do not contradict those of DiEM25.

2. The Programme Commission is composed of

- members elected at the general meeting
- a person delegated from the federal executive board of the party, unless at least one member of the federal executive board is already among the elected members of the programme commission
- a person delegated by DiEM25 from the German National Collective of DiEM25 with party membership, unless at least one member of the National Collective is already among the elected members of the Programme Commission
- non-elected members appointed by the programme commission in an advisory capacity

3. The number of unelected members (delegated plus appointed) may not exceed half of the total number of members of the Programme Commission. As long as no appointed members exist, the number of delegated members may not exceed one third of the total members of the programme commission. The elected members shall be elected by the general meeting at least every second calendar year. The membership of the appointed members may be thematic or temporary. Only

elected and delegated members have voting rights at meetings of the programme commission. The composition of the programme commission is subject to the quota system. This applies to both elected and non-elected members.

4. The programme commission elects two coordinators from among its elected members by internal vote, who coordinate the work of the programme commission. At least one of the two coordinators must be a woman.

5. The programme commission shall submit an activity report to the general meeting.

6. The programme commission meets at least twice a year at the invitation of its coordinators. It may meet online.

7. The programme commission shall adopt its rules of procedure and publish them appropriately. They shall include, inter alia, regulations on:

- documentation of the meetings
- form and scope of the activity report
- authentication of decisions of the programme commission
- procedures and processes for the development of a manifesto and election programme
- involvement of appointed members and external advisers

§ 9 The Executive Board

(1) The Executive Board of Demokratie in Europa is elected by the members in accordance with the Election Rules.

(2) The Executive Board consists of two chairpersons, two vice-chairpersons and 3 other members.

(3) The board is to determine which board member is responsible for finances.

(4) If an executive board member resigns from the board, his or her deputy takes over the office. If responsibilities are affected for which no deputy has been appointed, the responsibilities shall be reallocated within the board.

(5) The Executive Board conducts affairs on the basis of the decisions of Demokratie in Europa and its organs. The Executive Board is organised on a collegial basis and, unless the Standing Orders provide otherwise, takes its decisions jointly.

Close cooperation and coordination with the German National Collective of DiEM25 (hereinafter referred to as "NC") is expected. To ensure this, the Party's Executive Board invites the NC to delegate one person from the NC to attend meetings and communicate with the Executive Board.

The delegated person

- may attend all meetings of the Executive Board without voting rights,
- has the same information privileges as an ordinary member of the Executive Board,
- is integrated into the internal multilateral communication structures of the Board,
- and is subject to the confidentiality and non-disclosure obligations towards the public, provided that a selected member of the Party Executive Board can participate in the meetings of the National Collective in the same way and under the same conditions and has access to the above-mentioned communication channels.

The Executive Board represents Demokratie in Europa judicially and extra judicially, both internally and externally.

(6) The members of the Executive Board are elected by the General Assembly of Members at least every second calendar year. The Executive Board shall remain in office until a new Executive Board is elected. If an office of the board is vacant due to resignation or voting out, it

can be filled by the General Assembly of Members through a supplementary election for the remaining time.

(7) The Executive Board meets at least twice a year. It can meet online.

(8) At the request of one tenth of the members, the Executive Board may be called upon to meet and deal with current issues.

(9) The Executive Board decides on all questions in the sense of the resolutions, the General Assembly and the program.

(10) The Executive Board shall establish its own rules of procedure and publish them as appropriate. They shall include, among other things, regulations on:

- (a) Administration of member data and the access and safeguarding thereof
- (b) Tasks and competencies of the members of the board
- (c) Documentation of the meetings
- (d) Virtual or teleconferences of the Executive Board
- (e) Form and scope of the activity report
- (f) Certification of resolutions of the Executive Board
- (g) Establishment and management of an office

(11) The Executive Board shall submit a written report of its activities to the General Assembly. This report covers all areas of activity of the members of the board, whereby the report is drawn up on the individual's own responsibility. If a member of the board resigns, he/she must immediately prepare an activity report and forward it to the board.

(12) The Executive Board shall be deemed not to be able to act if it

1. has less than four members capable of acting or
2. declares himself incapable of acting.

If the Executive Board is incapable of acting, an Extraordinary General Assembly must be convened without delay and a provisional representative must be appointed by the rest of the Executive Board to continue the affairs of the Board. This ends with the election of a new Executive Board.

§ 10 The General Assembly

(1) **The general assembly is a meeting of the members of Demokratie in Europa. It may adopt its own rules of procedure.**

(2) The general assembly meets at least once a year. It is convened by resolution of the board or if one tenth of the members request it. The Board invites each member at least 6 weeks in advance; the invitation is issued in text form or by publication on the website of Demokratie in Europa. If the invitation cannot be issued in time either in text form or on the website, the invitation is issued by the Federal Gazette. The invitation must contain details of the venue and start of the meeting, provisional agenda and details of where further, current publications will be made. At the latest two weeks before the General Meeting, the agenda in its current version, the planned duration of the meeting and all motions submitted to the Executive Board by then must be published in text form.

(3) If these requirements are not met, a general meeting can still be held, provided that all the information required by this regulation is announced in writing, usually by e-mail, at least 14 days before the meeting. If 10 members or, if the number of members exceeds 100, ten percent of the members object at the latest on the 7th day after notification (the day of notification is day one for this purpose), the meeting cannot take place. The announcement must indicate the right to object and the deadline to be observed.

(4) If the executive board is unable to act, an extraordinary general assembly can be called. This takes place with a period of notice of two weeks under indication of the agenda and the meeting place. It serves exclusively for the election of a new executive board.

(5) The general assembly receives the activity report of the executive board and decides thereupon on its discharge.

(6) The general meeting also decides on the financial regulations, which are part of these statutes.

(7) A record of the results of the general assembly, the resolutions and elections will be drawn up and signed by the minute-taker, the chairperson of the meeting and the newly elected chairman or the deputy chairman. The election protocol is signed by the election supervisor and at least two election assistants and is attached to the protocol.

(8) The general assembly elects two auditors, who examine the financial part of the activity report of the executive board before passing a resolution on it. The result of the audit is announced to the general meeting and recorded in the minutes. The auditors are then released from their function.

(9) The general assembly elects at least two financial auditors. These are responsible for the preliminary examination of the financial activity report for the following general meeting and the preliminary examination of whether the financial regulations are adhered to. They have the right to demand inspection of all financially relevant documents at short notice, which must then be handed over to them in full. They are required to carry out the last preliminary audit of the finances about two weeks before the general meeting. The term of office of the financial auditors is congruent with the term of office of the members of the executive board.

(10) The decisions of the general meeting are decided with a simple majority of the valid votes cast. In the event of a tie, a motion shall be deemed rejected. Abstentions from voting are considered invalid votes.

(11) General Assemblies can also be held without the presence of members at the place of assembly and members' rights can be exercised by means of electronic communication. It is possible for members to cast their votes in writing before the general meeting even without attending the meeting. A resolution without a meeting of the members is valid if, within one month of the announcement of the draft resolution to all members, at least half of the members have cast their votes in text form and the resolution has been passed with the required majority.

§ 11 Candidates for elections ~~to the European Parliament~~

The list of candidates for elections ~~to the European Parliament~~ is governed by the provisions of the electoral laws and regulations.

§ 12 Admission of guests

(1) All general assemblies must be held in public. An exclusion of the public can only take place temporarily and only to protect personal rights.

(2) Guests do not have the right to vote, but may be granted the right to speak upon resolution of the meeting.

§ 13 Amendments to the Statutes and the Program

(1) Amendments of the statutes can only be decided by a general meeting with a 3/4 majority of the valid votes cast. If there is an urgent need for an amendment to the statutes between two general meetings, the statutes can also be amended if at least 3/4 of the members agree in writing to the application(s) for amendment.

(2) A motion to amend the statutes at a general meeting can only be voted on if it is received by the executive board at least four weeks before the start of the general meeting and if it is requested in the wording by five members of Demokratie in Europa.

(3) The program is decided by the general meeting.

(4) Each amendment can be changed at the general meeting before the vote by one of the applicants or their authorized representatives. Individual words and phrases can be changed; text passages can be deleted or added. The basic intention of the motion may not be changed.

(5) The general meeting decides with a simple majority whether it wants to vote on the original or on the modified proposal.

(6) For all other questions concerning the submission of motions before the general meeting, rules of procedure and/or election regulations apply. These are implemented by the executive board and can be changed with effect to the next meeting of the members with simple majority. The application for change requires the support of at least five members.

(7) The Executive Board is required to implement an electronic voting tool that enables the creation of virtual opinion patterns even between physical General Assemblies. It is important to note that the voting must meet the requirements of the principle of equality, traceability and sufficient secrecy. It is also important to ensure that this tool is as low-threshold and barrier-free as possible.

§ Section 14 Dissolution and Merger

(1) The dissolution of the party or its merger with another party or group of voters can only be decided by a resolution of the General Assembly with a majority of 3/4 of the persons entitled to vote at the General Assembly.

(2) A motion for dissolution or merger can only be voted on if it is received by the Executive Board at least four weeks before the General Meeting begins.

(3) A resolution on dissolution or merger must be confirmed by a ballot among the members. The members express their will in connection with the ballot in writing.

§ 15 Offices and Functions in Demokratie in Europa

Those functions and activities in Demokratie in Europa that are not professionally exercised are honorary offices until further notice. Notwithstanding § 13, paragraph (1), an amendment to § 15 requires only a 2/3 majority. Remuneration shall only be paid in justified exceptional cases, shall only apply to commissioners and employees, but under no circumstances to members of the executive board, and shall require a resolution of the executive board.

§ 16 Election Rules

The election regulations for all internal party election procedures including the election to party offices and the election of candidates for public elections are part of these statutes.

Section B: Financial Regulations

A. ANNUAL REPORT

§ 17 Accountability of Demokratie in Europa

The member of the Executive Board responsible for finances shall ensure that an accountability report in accordance with the fifth section of the Law on Political Parties is submitted to the President of the German Bundestag in due time. This report shall include assets, income and expenditure.

§ Section 18 Right of intervention

The member of the executive board responsible for finances controls the orderly bookkeeping of his commissioned employees and thus ensures that the random checks required for the preparation of the audit certificate for the statement of accounts in accordance with §29 Para. 3 of the Political Parties Act are possible at any time.

B. MEMBERSHIP FEE

§ 19 Amount of Membership Fee

(1) Each member determines a contribution level within the scope of his income. There are the regular contribution levels of 72,- Euro, 48,- Euro and 36,- Euro per year, which can be chosen individually. If no selection is made by the member, the member is placed in the highest contribution level. The membership fee is due on January 1 of each year. If a member joins in the course of a year, the full annual membership fee is payable.

(2) Demokratie in Europa recommends its members, similar to the recommendation of other voter groups and parties, to donate a voluntary membership fee of 1% of their annual net income in addition to the fixed membership fee.

(3) The single reduced membership fee is 24,- Euro per calendar year and is valid for the following group of people: precariously employed, working poor receiving top-up benefit, severely disabled persons from a degree of disability of 50, **Persons whose financial and income situation entitles them to receive BaföG benefits**, single parents.

(4) The fully reduced contribution is 12,- Euro per calendar year and applies to the following group of people: recipients of transfer payments according to ALG II, recipients of transfer payments according to SGB XII.

(5) The existence of a reason for the reduction must be reported to the Federal executive board annually. Deviating from this, the Federal executive board may agree a reduction of several years with the member in justified individual cases.

C. DONATE

§ 20 Collection

(1) Members of the executive board and persons responsible for collection are entitled to accept donations. Excepted are donations that are inadmissible in the sense of §25 of the German Political Parties Act. If inadmissible donations cannot be returned, the Federal Executive Board shall immediately forward them to the President of the German Bundestag.

(2) Inheritances and bequests are accepted without limitation.

§ Article 21 Publication

(1) Donations made by one donor whose total value exceeds 10,000 Euros per year must be recorded in the publicly accessible statement of accounts, stating the name and address of the donor.

(2) All individual donations of more than 1000,- Euro will be published without delay, stating the donors name, amount and, if applicable, the purpose of use.

(3) In all other cases the executive board decides whether a donor can remain anonymous. In doing so, it weighs up the donor's interest in privacy against the public interest in transparency. In well-founded cases, especially if the board does not know for sure but has a well-founded suspicion that the donation is intended to influence the political action of Demokratie in Europa,

the interest in transparency prevails. In this case the donor will be informed and the donation will either be published or, if the donor objects within a set period of time, returned. § 25 (2) No. 7 PartG remains unaffected.

§ 22 Certificate of donation

Donation receipts will be issued by the member of the board responsible for finances, as well as, if applicable, by his deputy or representative at the end of the year, provided that they exceed the amount of 200,- Euro per year in connection with the membership fee. Upon request, a donation receipt will be issued in justified individual cases, even for smaller amounts.

D. STATE PARTIAL FINANCING

§ 23 State Partial Financing

The member of the board responsible for finances or his deputy applies for the payment of possible state funds to the President of the Bundestag accordance with § 19 para. 1 sentence 1 PartG annually before the summer break, but no later than September 29 for Demokratie in Europa. At the same time, he/she submits the statement of accounts for the previous year to the President of the Bundestag in accordance with § 19a para. 3 sentence 1 PartG. Furthermore, he/she shall take all necessary steps in due time to receive advance payments.

E. ETAT

§ 24 Budget

(1) Each calendar year, the member of the Board responsible for finances prepares a budget in advance, which is approved by the Board. If it is foreseeable that the budget will not be sufficient, the member of the Board responsible for finances shall immediately submit a supplementary budget.

(2) The member of the Executive Board responsible for finances shall be bound by the principles of provisional budget management until the budget has been adopted.

§ 25 Allocation

An edition that has been decided upon must also be possible by means of an appropriate budget title. Decisions having financial implications and for which no corresponding budget title is provided shall be implemented only by reallocation from other budget items.

§ 26 Exceeding

If the approved budget is not adhered to, the budget for the following year must be reduced by the same amount in expenditure by means of budgeting or a budget freeze.

F. ECONOMIC BUSINESS OPERATIONS

§ Section 27 Economic Business Operations

Individual members of Demokratie in Europa are not allowed to open or maintain an economic business in the name of Demokratie in Europa on their own authority. The handling of business activities is to be carried out by a representative appointed by the executive board and his or her employees.

§ 1 Scope of application

These Election Rules govern all internal party election procedures including the election to party offices and the election of candidates for public elections.

§2 Election Principles

(1) All elections held in accordance with these Election Rules shall comply with the principles of free, equal and secret elections.

(2) Elections for the composition of the executive board and other organs of the party, as well as elections to determine the list of candidates for public elections must be held by secret ballot. Other elections may be held openly (provided that no person present and entitled to vote objects to this).

§ 3 Personal and digital voting

In principle, elections within the meaning of these electoral regulations can be held both in person (presence) and in the form of electronic elections. In the case of digital elections, it must be ensured that voting secrecy, data protection, and security against manipulation and documentation are guaranteed.

§ 4 Valid votes

Votes in the sense of these Election Rules are only validly casted votes.

§ 5 Announcement of elections

(1) Elections shall be held if new elections or by-elections are prescribed by the party statutes or if there is a valid application for new elections or by-elections or a valid application for deselection.

Elections must be announced with a notice period of not less than ten days.

§ 6 Election Commission

(1) For the purpose of holding one or more elections, the Assembly shall appoint an election commission by open ballot. The size of the election commission shall be determined by the meeting management (in consultation with the plenum). The election commission appoints internally one person to lead the election.

(2) The election commission directs the election activities and determines the election result.

(3) The members of the election commission need not be members of the assembly. The Election Commission may call in additional election assistants if necessary.

Persons who are candidates for a party office or mandate to be elected may not be members of the election commission. If a member of the election commission accepts a candidacy, he or she shall leave the election commission immediately.

§ 7 Election for different party offices or mandates

Elections for different party offices or mandates take place in separate ballots one after the other.

§ 8 Election for equal party offices or mandates

(1) Elections for the chairperson, deputy chairperson and other members of the Executive Board, as well as elections for the list of candidates for public elections, shall be conducted according to the following system:

(2) Each voter has as many votes as there are candidates to be elected. Each candidate may be given a maximum of one vote.

(3) In order to be elected, a candidate must obtain more than half the number of votes cast on valid ballot papers. If more candidates obtain this number of votes than are to be elected, the result shall be determined on the basis of § 13.

(4) If not all deputy chairmen or members of the board are elected in the first ballot, this election procedure is repeated in the same way for the positions still open.

If, in elections for the creation of a candidate list, an applicant is defeated in one ballot, he/she may be proposed for a further, lower ranking, not yet filled list position.

§ 9 Nominations

(1) Each party member may apply for elections himself/herself and/or submit election proposals for others. For further elections in accordance with § 12, only eligible voters may submit election proposals.

(2) Nominations must be submitted in writing. The written consent of the nominated persons must be available (electronic transmission is sufficient).

(3) If a nominated person is present at the election meeting himself/herself, both the election proposal and the consent of the candidate may be given by acclamation. However, only eligible voters may submit election proposals by acclamation.

(4) Nominations are permitted until the list of candidates for the corresponding round of voting has been finalized.

All proposed candidates shall be given adequate speaking time for their presentation. A decision on the appropriate time and on the possibility and extent of questions to applicants and statements on applicants shall be made by resolution of the meeting. Candidates for equal party offices or mandates are to be treated equally.

§ 10 Voting

(1) All ballots in a ballot must be uniform in form and color.

(2) In each ballot, all candidates shall be included on one uniform ballot paper. The inclusion on the ballot paper may also be affected by a clear system of variables in order to avoid that ballot papers have to be elaborately produced in the case of nominations by acclamation.

(3) Ballot papers may be designed in such a way that all eligible voters have the right to vote yes, no or abstain behind the name of each candidate or in such a way that the names of candidates can be ticked off. In this case, not ticking a name (= "abstention") is equivalent to voting against it.

(4) The number of permissible yes-votes in an election is limited to the number of party offices or mandates to be filled. The permissible number of yes-votes need not be exhausted when voting.

If the number of candidates in one ballot is greater than the number of party offices or mandates to be filled, the possibility of no votes shall not apply.

§ 11 Counting of votes and invalid votes

(1) The counting of votes by the electoral commission is open to the public. The proper counting of votes may not be impaired by the public. During the vote count it must be ensured that no conclusions can be drawn about voting behaviour.

The Electoral Commission shall declare ballot papers invalid if they do not indicate the will of the voter in accordance with these Election Rules, if more votes than permitted have been cast on them or if they violate the principle of secret ballot.

§ 12 Required majorities

In principle, with the exception of the rule in paragraph 8, those are elected in one ballot, where the number of valid yes-votes is greater than the combined number of valid no-votes and valid abstentions.

§ 13 Order of Election and Procedure in the Event of a Tied Vote

(1) If more candidates have achieved the required majority in one ballot than there were party offices or mandates to be filled at all, the candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected.

(2) In elections of delegates, all other candidates shall be elected as substitute delegates with the required majority in the order of the number of votes, unless separate ballots are held to elect substitute delegates.

If the same number of votes is cast for several candidates, a run-off ballot shall decide. If the second ballot also fails to produce a result, the decision shall be made by drawing lots. The election commission decides on the drawing of lots. It may also take into account procedural proposals from the plenary session.

§ 14 Further rounds of voting and run-off elections

(1) If party offices or mandates remain vacant after a ballot, either

- the election is adjourned or
- a further ballot (according to §§ 7 to 13) is called or
- a run-off vote can be brought about.

In a run-off election, those candidates who have not yet been elected are eligible for election, who received the most yes votes from the unelected candidates in the previous ballots, provided they do not withdraw their election application. New applications are inadmissible. At most twice as many candidates are available for election as there are still party offices or mandates to be filled, in the event of a tie of votes of the last candidates, exceptionally one more person. It is not possible for candidates who have withdrawn their application to be re-elected to the run-off ballot. The candidates with the most votes are elected. If, after a previous ballot, so many election applications are withdrawn that only as many applications remain as there are positions to be filled, another ballot must be called instead of a run-off ballot.

§ 15 Acceptance of the election, election protocol and by-elections

(1) An election shall be deemed to have been accepted if the person elected does not object to it immediately after the announcement of the election result.

(2) Each election must be recorded. The minutes must contain all supplementary assembly resolutions to these election regulations and all election results. It must be signed by the election management and two other members of the election commission. The election documents (election minutes, ballot papers, counting slips, electoral lists, etc.) must be kept for the duration of the electoral period of the person elected.

Party offices that have not been allocated or have become vacant shall be filled by by-elections.

§ 16 Redials

(1) If an electoral error is discovered during the electoral process or during the counting of votes, which may have a relevant influence on the election result, the Election Commission must immediately stop the electoral process or the counting of votes and arrange for the electoral process to be repeated. The reason for the re-election shall be recorded in the election protocol. Otherwise, a re-election can only take place as a result of a challenge to the election.

§ 17 Electoral challenge

(1) Elections may be challenged before the competent arbitration commission if the violation of provisions of these Election Rules, the party statutes, the law on political parties, the electoral laws or constitutional law is alleged and if such a violation of rights appears at least possible.

(2) Challenges to elections shall not have a suspensive effect.

(3) Persons entitled to contest the elections are entitled to appeal:

- the party's executive board or the executive boards of the respective level affected by the election
- meeting participants entitled to vote
- inferior election candidates

(4) A challenge to an election shall be admissible within two weeks of the end of the day on which the election took place.

(5) An election challenge is only justified if and insofar as the alleged defect may have had an influence on the result of the election.

In the event of a justified challenge to the election, the Arbitration Commission is authorized to order a rerun of the election.

§ 18 Quota regulation

(1) At least half of all committees of Demokratie in Europa and of committees to be filled by Demokratie in Europa are to be filled by non-male persons; whereby the non-male persons are reserved the odd number of seats in list elections or election proposals (minimum quota). The election procedures are to be designed in such a way that separate elections are held for non-male candidates and for all candidates (open positions). Lists without men are possible.

(2) If no non-male candidates are running or are elected for non-male positions, these positions remain vacant. The assembly decides on the filling of the open place. Only in the case of electoral lists can the electoral assembly vacate the place for non-male persons.

Rules of arbitration to be adopted by Demokratie in Europa – DIEM25

§1 Framework

These arbitration rules shall govern the procedure to be followed at the arbitration courts of the federal party and all other existing organisation levels. The rules are binding for all arbitration courts.

§2 Courts of arbitration

(1) Arbitration courts shall be established at the federal level and every other level of the party.

(2) State-level arbitration courts shall rule on disputes within the corresponding territorial association.

(3) The federal arbitration court shall rule on any other dispute concerning the federal party or multiple territorial associations.

(4) The arbitration courts shall be independent and shall not be bound by any instructions.

(5) The arbitrators make their decisions on the basis of the applicable statutes and legal stipulations in accordance with their best knowledge and belief.

(6) Arbitrators shall treat all proceedings of the arbitration court as confidential. However, the arbitration court shall immediately inform the executive board of the corresponding territorial association of any attempts to influence proceedings.

Each arbitration court shall adopt its own rules of procedure. In particular, they shall include provisions on the internal allocation of responsibilities and on its administrative organization, the allocation of file numbers, the publication of rulings, the announcement of public hearings, other announcements and the documentation of the work of the arbitration court as well as the storage and inspection of files.

§3 Election of arbitrators

(1) The corresponding regional or federal party conference shall elect three party members to be arbitrators along with a first substitute arbitrator and a second substitute arbitrator. In this connection, it shall be ensured at least one arbitrator and at least one substitute arbitrator is a woman.

(2) The three arbitrators shall elect a chief arbitrator from among themselves who shall preside over the arbitration court and manage the court business. The two arbitrators not elected to the position of chief arbitrator shall be referred to hereafter as associates.

(3) Elections to the arbitration court shall be held at least every two years. The arbitration court shall remain in office until the election of a new arbitration court has been concluded.

(4) During their term on the court, arbitrators cannot perform an official function or fulfil a mandate for the party or a territorial association, cannot be employed by the party or a territorial association, and cannot be paid regular income by either.

(5) If the party membership of the arbitrator is terminated, the appointment as arbitrator shall also be terminated.

(6) An arbitrator can terminate his/her appointment with a declaration to the court. If an arbitrator leaves the court, he/she shall be permanently replaced by the next substitute arbitrator in line with the order of precedence. If the chief arbitrator leaves the court, a new chief arbitrator must be elected in accordance with (2).

If there is no substitute arbitrator left upon the departure of an arbitrator, the vacant position can be filled through a special election. New substitute arbitrators can be determined with a special election as well. However, the original number of arbitrators and substitute arbitrators shall never be exceeded this way. Substitute arbitrators determined with a special election shall take a lower position in the order of precedence than the already-incumbent substitute arbitrators. Special elections shall only pertain to the remainder of the current term. The minimum number of woman arbitrators and substitute arbitrators stipulated in (1) shall be satisfied in any special elections.

§4 Bias or prejudice

(1) Arbitrators may declare themselves biased or prejudiced and recuse themselves from the proceedings.

(2) Any party to any arbitration proceedings may request the exclusion of specific arbitrators from the proceedings due to concerns of prejudice or bias. The request has to be submitted without delay after the grounds for the exclusion have become known. The exclusion grounds cannot be asserted retrospectively.

(3) The arbitrator in question may respond in written form to the request for him/her to be excluded due to bias or prejudice. The request shall be reviewed by the other arbitrators joined by a substitute arbitrator and shall be granted or denied with a simple majority. If the court member is found to be biased or prejudiced, he/she shall be excluded from the further proceedings.

(4) If an arbitrator is excluded due to bias or prejudice, he/she shall be replaced by the next substitute arbitrator in line with the order of precedence.

If only one arbitrator is a woman and if this arbitrator is excluded from the proceedings, she shall be replaced by a substitute arbitrator that is also a woman.

§5 Debarment of any arbitrator from attending to the same matter in two separate proceedings

(1) Any arbitrator who already attended to any specific matter in his/her role as arbitrator in a lower court shall be barred from any involvement in the proceedings. The arbitrator in question must then be replaced by a substitute arbitrator.

If only one arbitrator is a woman and if this arbitrator is excluded from the proceedings, she shall be replaced by a substitute arbitrator that is also a woman.

§6 Parties to the arbitration

(1) The parties to any arbitration include claimants, defendants and any interested parties.

(2) Interested parties shall be determined by decision of the arbitration court. The decision cannot be challenged and shall be served to each party to the arbitration.

The interested parties may consult a legal representative or counsel. Any such legal representative or counsel has to present a written certificate of authority to the arbitration court.

§7 Motions and proceedings

(1) The following parties shall be entitled to bring forward a motion:

- any directly affected party member;
- any party organ;
- a group with a minimum of 10 members who bring forward a joint motion;
- 1/10 of assembly participants entitled to vote if an election or a decision of the assembly is being challenged.

(2) A party member expulsion procedure may be proposed by a group with a minimum of 25 members submitting a joint motion.

(3) Any motion must be submitted in written form with a statement of grounds and substantiating evidence.

(4) The arbitration court has to be invoked no later than two months after the legal violation has become known.

Any objection against a regulatory measure must be raised no later than 14 days after the corresponding decision has been announced.

§8 Dispute settlement procedure

Before the proceedings are launched, the conflict parties shall be recommended to take part in a dispute settlement procedure, such as the mediation procedure of DiEM25. If at least one conflict party declares in written form that they consider such a mediation procedure to be hopeless, the dispute settlement procedure may be skipped and the proceedings can be launched immediately upon receipt of the written declaration.

§9 Proceedings

(1) Any claim must be submitted in written form to be valid. Apart from presenting the allegations, it also has to include a statement of grounds, substantiating evidence and a reference to any potential witness. The claim must be submitted in digital or written form (three copies shall be submitted in the latter case) to the registry of the lowest arbitration court having jurisdiction over the defendant.

(2) A claim that is obviously inadmissible or that is incomplete under the terms stipulated in §8, paragraph 1 may be rejected through a preliminary decision of the chief arbitrator in agreement with the associates. No oral hearing is required for this decision. After the arbitration court has named the shortcomings, the claimant has to remedy these shortcomings within a period of two weeks. Failing this, the claim shall be rejected through a court decision. The decision cannot be challenged.

(3) The proceedings shall commence with the receipt of the claim at the responsible department of the arbitration court.

(4) The decision to commence proceedings must be served without delay in written form to each party to the arbitration proceedings and must specify the further course of proceedings.

(5) The executive boards responsible for the defendant(s) must be notified concurrently as well.

(6) The hearings shall be held within a period of six months after the proceedings have commenced. If the hearings are not held within this period, the claimant(s) and the defendant(s) may file an appeal on grounds of default with the next higher arbitration court. A written notification sent to both arbitration courts shall be sufficient for this.

(7) The arbitration court shall reach its decisions on the basis of oral hearings which may be held in person or by video conference. Decisions may also be reached on the basis of written proceedings upon request and with the consent of all parties to the arbitration.

(8) Decisions shall only be based on what is known to all parties to the arbitration and what they had a chance to comment upon.

(9) Party members shall be admitted as audience to the oral hearings. The general public within the party may be excluded if such exclusion is deemed necessary in the interest of a party to the proceedings or in the interest of Demokratie in Europa – DiEM25. The hearings may also be opened up to non-party members with the consent of all parties to the arbitration. Any party to the arbitration proceedings, any counsel and any member of the audience may be permanently or temporarily barred by the chief arbitrator from further hearings if they fail to comply with orders issued by the chief arbitrator.

(10) The chief arbitrator shall preside over the oral hearings. He/she may assign this task to one of the elected associates with the consent of the elected associates.

(11) The oral hearings shall commence when the case is called and the essential content of the case record is stated. After this, the parties to the arbitration shall be given the floor to present and substantiate their claims.

(12) After the case has been discussed and all the evidence has been heard, if applicable, the oral hearings shall be declared to be closed. The parties to the arbitration cannot bring forward

any new facts or any new evidence to be taken into consideration after this point. However, the arbitration court may decide to re-open the hearings.

Minutes shall be taken of the course of the oral hearings which reflect their essential content. The chief arbitrator shall decide which associate is tasked with taking the minutes. Any motion brought forward by any party to the arbitration shall be documented verbatim. The minutes shall be signed by the chief arbitrator and the keeper of the minutes. They shall be provided to each party to the arbitration without delay.

§10 Decision

(1) The decision shall be reached through non-public deliberation of the arbitration court. The case shall be decided by simple majority.

(2) The ruling shall include a description of the facts and a statement of grounds with reference to the factual and legal situation. The decision shall be signed by the members of the arbitration court and served to each party to the arbitration no later than eight weeks after the conclusion of the oral hearings.

(3) The voting behaviour of the arbitrators shall not be documented.

(4) If the ruling can be appealed, information on legal remedies shall be provided along with it.

§11 Authority to make decisions

The court of arbitration shall determine the facts of the case ex officio. Its decisions shall be reached on the basis of its own convictions. It is not bound to the motions of the involved parties in disciplinary proceedings. In such a case, the arbitration court may impose a sanction that is more lenient than requested. However, it cannot impose a sanction that is tougher than requested.

§12 Provisional injunction

(1) The arbitration court may issue a provisional injunction concerning the matter of the arbitration proceedings upon request. Party expulsion procedures shall be exempt from this.

(2) The injunction may be issued by the chief arbitrator on his/her own without any oral hearing in urgent cases.

(3) The party concerned by the injunction may appeal to it within a period of two weeks after it has been served. They must be notified of this possibility as part of the injunction served to them. The arbitration court shall keep a written copy of the ruling signed by all the involved arbitrators.

§13 Appeal

(1) Any party to the proceedings shall be entitled to appeal a ruling made by any arbitration court of the lowest level. However, a ruling of the federal arbitration court cannot be appealed. The appeal must be filed with the next higher arbitration court within a period of 14 days and has to include a statement of grounds. The challenged decision, including the file number from the lower court, has to be enclosed to the notice of appeal. The serving of the court decision, featuring information on legal remedies, shall be the crucial factor with respect to the appeal period.

§14 Costs

(1) The arbitration court proceedings shall be free of charge. Each party to the arbitration shall bear its own expenses incurred by participating in the proceedings.

(2) Arbitrators will not receive any compensation for their work. The necessary expenses, in particular travel expenses, shall be borne by the respective territorial association.

§15 Service of notifications

(1) Notifications shall be served under these arbitration rules in the form of registered letters with an advice of receipt or by a court bailiff. If any party to the arbitration is represented by counsel, the notifications can be served in accordance with §198 of the German Code of Civil Procedure.

(2) Notifications shall also be deemed to have been served if they are not accepted by the addressee or if they have been handed over to a member of the household.

If any relevant party to the arbitration cannot be reached at the last address indicated to the party administration, any notification shall be deemed to have been served once it has been deposited at the corresponding post office for the duration of one week.

§16 Concluding provisions

(1) This set of arbitration rules shall be a constituent part of the Statute of Demokratie in Europa. This set of arbitration rules shall take effect upon its adoption by the federal party convention.