

Statutes of the Association LIFESPARK

Article 1 – Name, Seat and Purpose

- 1.1 LIFESPARK is a non-profit association with no religious or political affiliation which is governed by articles 60 sqq of the Swiss Civil Code.
- 1.2 Its seat is in Basel.
- 1.3 The purpose of LIFESPARK (hereinafter: the Association) is:
 - a) in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, to provide support to prisoners sentenced to death;
 - b) to support communication and information exchange between Death Row prisoners, members of the Association, members of other organizations fighting against the death penalty and any other persons interested. The main focus is on prisoners in the USA;
 - c) to actively support efforts to abolish the death penalty whenever possible and in any form possible.

Article 2 – Organs

The Association's organs are the following:

- a) General Assembly
- b) Board
- c) Auditors

Article 3 – General Assembly

- 3.1 The General Assembly (hereinafter: GA) is the supreme decision-making body of the Association.
- 3.2 The General Assembly has the competence to elect the members of the Board and the auditors, to approve the budget and the annual accounts, to fix or confirm the

membership fee and to amend the Statutes. Members have the right to hand in agenda items by a defined deadline which are to be included in the GA's agenda.

- 3.3 An ordinary GA takes place at least once a year.
- 3.4 The notice convening such an ordinary GA must be sent by email to the members of the Association at least three weeks before the GA takes place, except for members without email, who will receive the invitation by post. Such notice shall include the agenda of the meeting. Convening the GA is in the responsibility of the Board. Only subjects that have been announced on the agenda can be voted on.
- 3.5 An extraordinary GA must be convened if it is requested by at least 1/5 of the members or by the Board.
- 3.6 The GA takes decisions by a majority of the members present. Every member has one vote provided that they have paid the membership fee for the current year. In case of a tie, the President of the Board makes the final decision.
- 3.7 Elections and votes are by a show of hands. If requested by at least five members, they take place by secret ballot.

Article 4 – Board

- 4.1 The Board of Association is composed of at least 3 and a maximum of 5 members. It shall comprise at least a President and two members. The Board shall constitute itself for a period of two years. Any Board resignation should be announced 3 months prior to the GA and in writing.
- 4.2 The Board shall manage and represent the Association.
- 4.3 The Board shall namely manage the Association's assets and allocate them in accordance with the Association's purpose. In particular, depending upon the financial means of the Association, the Board may decide to make donations to anti-death penalty organizations or to individuals or groups organizing events or carrying out campaigns relating to the fight against the death penalty.
- 4.4 The Board shall meet as often as it deems it necessary.
- 4.5 All decisions which are not covered by the GA are in the competency of the Board. Each Board member has one vote. The decisions are taken by a majority of the members present; in order to take decisions at least 2/3 of the BM have to be present. The President of the Board has the deciding vote in the case of a tie.

- 4.6 The Board may also take its decisions by way of circulation (letter or e-mail) and thereafter this decision has to be in the minutes of the next official meeting. Such decisions are taken by a majority of all Board members. The President of the Board has the deciding vote in the case of a tie.
- 4.7 Minutes are produced after each Board meeting.
- 4.8 The Board members act voluntarily and can only be compensated for their travel costs to Board meetings as well as expenses for material.

Article 5 – Auditors

- 5.1 The GA appoints at least one auditor who shall audit the Association's accounts.

Article 6 – Financial Means

- 6.1 To achieve its objectives, the Association raises a membership fee. It can also accept donations.
- 6.2 The amount of the membership fee is decided by the GA.

Article 7 – Budget

- 7.1 During the year following the GA, the expenses may exceed the approved budget up to a maximum of 20%, provided that the Board agrees.

Article 8 – Membership

- 8.1 Any individual adhering to the Association's purpose can become a member. One becomes a member by paying the membership fee. Reductions may be given for people on low income (i.e. students, pensioners, unemployed) upon request. The GA decides on the specific criteria and the respective amounts.
- 8.2 Members may leave the Association at any time. The notice of resignation shall be sent to the Board per letter, fax or e-mail.
- 8.3 Members may be excluded by the Board for good cause, namely if they appear not to be in line with the Association's purpose or if the membership fee has not been paid after two reminders.

Article 9 – Data protection

- 9.1 All personal data collected from members are subject to compliance with Switzerland's "Federal Act on Data Protection" and the regulation annexed to these statutes.

Article 10 – Responsibility

- 10.1 The Association's liability is limited to its assets.
- 10.2 The members of the Association bear no personal liability with regard to the Association's debts.

Article 11 – Representation

- 11.1 The Association is committed by the signatures of the President and another member of the Board.

Article 12 – Change of Statutes

- 12.1 Alterations to any of these statutes are permitted only if 2/3 of the members present at the GA approve their modification.

Article 13 – Dissolution

- 13.1 The GA may decide the dissolution of the Association. Such decision must be taken by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members present.
- 13.2 In case of dissolution, the assets of the Association are to be donated to another humanitarian organization fighting against the death penalty.

Article 14 – Entry into force

- 14.1 These Statutes were accepted during the founding assembly on the 10th of January 1993, modified the 21st of January 1995, the 4th of April 2009, the 9th of April 2011, the 20th of April 2013, the 28th of March 2015, the 6th of April 2019, the 29th of May 2021 and the 26th of March 2022