



International Federation of Language Teacher Associations  
Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes

## **Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes**

### **THE STATUTES**

#### **Article 1. The Federation**

1.1 The Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes (FIPLV) is a world Federation of associations of teachers of living languages. It is a non-profit-making, autonomous, independent, non-governmental organisation with consultative status in UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

1.2 The head office is located in a place approved by the World Assembly. FIPLV Offices are subject to the law of the country in which they are located.

#### **Article 2. Aims**

The aims of the Federation are:

- 2.1 to promote the teaching and learning of languages in order to facilitate and improve communication, understanding, cooperation, mobility and friendly relations among all peoples of the world;
- 2.2 to develop, support and promote policies designed to improve the quality of language learning and make language learning available to all;
- 2.3 to work towards greater opportunities for and the continuity and coherence of multilingual education in primary, secondary, further, higher and adult education;
- 2.4 to help improve the professional training and development of language teachers in all sectors of education;
- 2.5 to help and advise on the founding of professional associations of teachers of living languages;
- 2.6 to support the work of its member associations strategically and in response to requests from the associations;
- 2.7 to provide networking opportunities for member associations and their representatives and individual members from different countries;
- 2.8 to encourage members of different language associations in the same country to cooperate with each other and promote their common concerns on matters relating to the teaching and learning of living languages;
- 2.9 to support nationally and represent internationally the views of member associations;
- 2.10 to support policies and strategies that aim to protect endangered languages.

#### **Article 3. Functions**

In order to achieve its aims the Federation shall:

- 3.1 act in a consultative role by making its professional advice and expertise available to UNESCO, the Council of Europe and other international organisations which promote the teaching of living languages;
- 3.2 convey to member associations information on languages and language education emanating from the work of international organisations;
- 3.3 promote research into the teaching and learning of languages and related disciplines;
- 3.4 hold world congresses and regional conferences;
- 3.5 organise international meetings to examine specific issues;
- 3.6 disseminate research and information on the teaching and learning of living languages;
- 3.7 keep member associations informed about the work of other member associations.

#### **Article 4. Membership**

There are four categories of membership.

- 4.1 national multilingual associations of teachers of living languages;
- 4.2 international unilingual associations of teachers of languages;
- 4.3 national unilingual associations where there is no existing national multilingual association, which is a member of FIPLV and where the language is not represented by an international unilingual federation which is a member of FIPLV;
- 4.4 associate members, including institutes, language centres and other organisations with a similar philosophy.

The conditions of membership are as follows:

- 4.5 member associations are legally and financially autonomous.
- 4.6 member associations promote the teaching and learning of living languages and encourage positive attitudes towards different languages, cultures and nations, and do not discriminate against any person on the grounds of colour, race, sex, language, political opinion, creed or religious conviction;
- 4.7 member associations have a democratic constitution;
- 4.8 applications for membership are approved by the World Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive Committee;
- 4.9 membership fees are paid annually;
- 4.10 when an association is unable to pay the membership fees, a request for exemption for the year must be sent to the Treasurer-General of the FIPLV;
- 4.11 members are expected to send the association's annual report to the Secretary-General to be placed on the website.

**Termination of membership:**

- 4.12 Membership shall end upon written notice of resignation from the member association, upon exclusion due to non-payment of the membership fees for more than three years, or upon exclusion due to violation of these Statutes. Before exclusion, the member association has the right to a hearing in the World Assembly.
- 4.13 Recommendations for exclusion of a member association should be submitted by the Executive Committee to the World Assembly for a decision.

## **Article 5. Structure**

The FIPLV governance consists of two organs: The World Assembly and the Executive Committee.

## **Article 6. The World Assembly**

The highest authority of the Federation is the World Assembly. It decides on all matters concerning the Federation.

- 6.1 The World Assembly consists of the Executive Officers and 1 representative of each member association, appointed in advance by the Executive Committee of that association.
- 6.2 The World Assembly meets every year (live or online), but for more urgent matters (on request of the Executive Committee or of at least one third of the representatives) it can be convened as needed.
- 6.3 Each paid-up member association, excluding associate members, and each Region has one vote. Executive Officers may vote only if delegated by their respective member associations.
- 6.4 The World Assembly's specific responsibilities are to:
  - 6.4.1 approve the Statutes and Regulations;
  - 6.4.2 elect the members of the Executive Committee every 3 years;
  - 6.4.3 decide on membership of the Federation;
  - 6.4.4 decide date and place of the World Congress, which is normally held every three years. The organisation of the Congress is the responsibility of the Executive Committee and the organizing association;
  - 6.4.5 approve the budget and all financial summary reports every year;
  - 6.4.6 receive every three years a summary of activities and finances (including audited accounts) from the Executive Committee, prior to elections;
  - 6.4.7 approve the formation, title, membership and any subsequent modifications of the Regions;

- 6.4.8 approve the conferment of the title Honorary FIPLV Counsellor on any individual who has served the Federation or the study and teaching of languages with distinction;
- 6.4.9 approve the election procedure;
- 6.4.10 approve the membership fees.

## **Article 7. The Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is responsible for the continuous pursuit of the aims of the Federation and answerable to the World Assembly. It is empowered to act on any matter not covered by the Statutes and to report such action to the next meeting of the World Assembly for ratification.

- 7.1 The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-president, Secretary-General, Treasurer-General and a Publications Officer, all elected by the World Assembly.
- 7.2 Any individual member of a member association except associate members, as defined under Article 4, may be nominated for election.
- 7.3 Officers may be re-elected but may not serve for more than three consecutive periods in the same office.
- 7.4 These officers are elected through online voting or on-site voting or by a combination of both.
- 7.5 The Executive Committee meets regularly online and once a year in person if financially viable, and makes decisions by majority vote.
- 7.6 The Executive Committee reports to the World Assembly.
- 7.7 The Executive Committee's specific responsibilities are to:
  - 7.7.1 implement policy,
  - 7.7.2 take initiatives to further the aims of the Federation,
  - 7.7.3 maintain regular communications with member associations and the Regions,
  - 7.7.4 coordinate and publicise the activities of the Federation and its members,
  - 7.7.5 manage the nominations for and approvals of the FIPLV International Award,
  - 7.7.6 recruit new members,
  - 7.7.7 act in a consultative role nationally and internationally,
  - 7.7.8 initiate and develop relations with other international organisations,
  - 7.7.9 ensure proper financial control and management.

7.8 The Executive Committee may appoint ad hoc committees for specific purposes.

7.9 The **President** chairs the World Assembly and Executive Committee. The President represents the Federation or arranges for the Federation to be represented by other Officers.

7.10 The **Vice-President** deputises for the President. The Vice-President has the special tasks of promoting the founding and development of new associations, finding associate members and publicising the work of the Federation.

7.11 The **Secretary-General** is responsible for the overall administration of the Federation and liaison with member associations and the Regions. An assistant secretary (volunteer or young academic) may be appointed.

7.12 The **Treasurer-General** accounts for the income and expenditure of the Federation and reports to the Executive and to the World Assembly. The Treasurer notifies member associations at least one month beforehand that membership fees are due each year on 28 February.

7.13 The **Publications Officer** is responsible for the development of publications in the broadest sense.

## **Article 8. The Advisory board**

The Advisory Board consists of the Honorary FIPLV Counsellors and former FIPLV officers. It gives the Executive Committee and the World Assembly any advice it is requested to provide. It has no decisional role.

## **Article 9. The Regions**

A Region is a group of member associations who voluntarily agree to coordinate their activities in a defined geographical area and formalise this relationship in accordance with these Statutes.

9.1 The formation, title, membership and formal recognition of a Region, and any subsequent modification, is agreed by the member associations concerned and approved by the World Assembly.

9.2 Each Region organises regular meetings and a Regional Assembly at least every third year.

9.3 The Regional Assembly elects at least three officers to its Regional Executive Committee, one of them to act as chair.

9.4 The chair or a representative appointed by him/her will represent the region at the World Assembly.

9.5 The Regional Assembly adopts regulations for the conduct of its affairs.

9.6 The Regions have their own accounts.

## **Article 10. Finances**

10.1 The Federation has a central account into which all membership fees are paid in their entirety.

10.2 The Treasurer-General is in charge of the finances of the Federation within the limits of the budget, which is agreed upon by the Executive Committee annually.

10.3 In unexpected circumstances of expenses of more than 1500 Euros, the Treasurer-General consults automatically with the President and one other Executive Officer.

10.4 The Treasurer-General submits the proposed budget and all financial summary reports every year.

10.5 The Treasurer-General submits every three years to the Executive Committee and to the World Assembly a summary of activities and finances (including audited accounts).

## **Article 11. Statutes and Election Procedure**

11.1 Any changes to these Statutes or to the Election Procedure must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the World Assembly.

11.2 The Executive Committee must notify the World Assembly of any amendments at least three months beforehand.

## **Article 12. Regulations**

All Regulations and any subsequent changes must be approved by the World Assembly.

## **Article 14. Dissolution**

Any proposal to dissolve the Federation must be notified to members at least six months before a meeting of the World Assembly. It must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the World Assembly, which would also decide on the disposal of all remaining assets.

Approved by the FIPLV General Assembly, Prague, 22 March 1992

Additional sentence to Article 8 approved by the FIPLV General Assembly, Hamburg, 14 November 1992

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Paris, 21 July 2000

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Auckland Park, 1 July 2003

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Göteborg, 13 June 2006

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Graz, 1 September 2009

Approved by the FIPLV World Assembly, online, 26 May 2023

Approved by the FIPLV World Assembly, online, 27 June 2025

## **Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes**

### **ELECTION PROCEDURE**

1. Elections are held every three years.
2. The World Assembly elects the Executive Officers.
- 3.1 The Secretary-General informs member associations at least six months in advance of the election which of the members of the Executive Committee and representatives on the World Assembly do not wish to be renominated.
- 3.2 At the same time, the Secretary-General calls for nominations to be returned by a fixed date which is no later than three months before the elections.
- 3.3 The list of candidates is sent to member associations 2 months before the elections.
4. Any individual member of a member association may be nominated for election provided the nomination is:
  - 4.1 formally proposed by that member association or by another;
  - 4.2 supported by the candidate's own association in the latter instance;
  - 4.3 accompanied by a signed declaration of readiness to assume the duties of office if elected and a summary of the candidate's professional activities.
5. Officers may be re-elected but may not serve for more than three consecutive periods in the same office.
6. Nominations must state the office for which the candidate is standing. Candidates are also advised to indicate other offices for which they would be prepared to stand.
7. The respective Executive Committees may nominate candidates for those offices for which no nominations have been received by the time of the elections.
8. The World Assembly proposes an Election Committee of three persons to conduct the election. These persons do not forfeit their right to vote. The Election Committee chooses a chairperson from its own membership.
9. The chairperson of the World Assembly hands over the entire conduct of the elections to the chairperson of the Election Committee.
10. Elections are by secret ballot. Officers are elected by a majority vote. Where there are three or more candidates for one post, a majority vote in favour of one of these candidates must be clearly established. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, further ballots are conducted until a decision is reached by eliminating the candidate with the least number of votes in each round. The results of the ballot for each office are declared before proceeding to the next round.
11. Each member association, excluding associate members, and each region has one vote. Voting will take place online.
12. Any wish to contest the election must be declared before the chairperson closes the World Assembly. The Assembly will decide if the election should be repeated and, if so, in whole or in part.

Approved by the FIPLV General Assembly, Prague, 22 March 1992  
 Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Paris, 21 July 2000  
 Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Auckland Park, 1 July 2003  
 Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Göteborg, 13 June 2006  
 Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Graz, 1 September 2009

Approved by the FIPLV World Assembly, online, 26 May 2023

## Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes

### REGULATIONS

#### Regulation 1. Official Meetings of the Federation

1.1 Meetings of the World Assembly, Executive Committee, Regional Assemblies and Regional Executive Committee

The Secretary-General or the Regional Executive Officers ensure that suitable arrangements are made for these meetings, that formal invitations and agenda are received by all committee members in advance of the meeting, and minutes not more than two months after the meeting. Executive Committees may co-opt persons for special tasks and set up working parties.

1.2 Minutes

Minutes should be kept to a minimum and, wherever practicable, record only the decisions taken, a brief explanation, the action required and the persons responsible. The minutes record the languages used.

1.3 The FIPLV World Congress

The World Congress is normally held every three years **in a range of languages**. The organisation of the Congress is the responsibility of the Executive Committee and the member association which issues the invitation.

1.4 FIPLV Regional **Events and** Conferences

**Regional Events are held in order to stimulate and coordinate work in a Region and are wide in scope, e.g., day-long workshops, symposia, online training activities. Regional Conferences should be held in a range of languages. Invitations should be sent to associations beyond the Region and should normally last for two days to facilitate attendance. The organisation of Regional Events and Conferences is the responsibility of the Regional Executive Committee and the member association which issues the invitation.**

#### Regulation 2. Communications

2.1 Regular and reliable communications are vital for the welfare of the Federation. Member associations should keep the FIPLV President and the Secretary-General informed of any change to their official and email address, telephone numbers and of the identity, address, telephone numbers and email addresses of their official FIPLV Representative.

2.2 The Secretary-General will request these details annually from member associations and upload the amended list onto the website.

2.3 Member associations are entitled to place the FIPLV logo, acronym, full title and/or statement of membership of the Federation on their official stationery and other official documents, journals and publications. The FIPLV logo and a link to the FIPLV website should be placed on each association's website.

#### Regulation 3. Honorary FIPLV Counsellors

3.1 The World Assembly may confer the title of *Honorary FIPLV Counsellor* on any person who has served the Federation with distinction.

3.2 A nomination must be supported by a total of three representatives of the FIPLV Executive Committee and/or FIPLV member associations. A statement justifying the nomination must be included. The title can be conferred only by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at the World Assembly. The nomination is passed to the World Assembly through the Secretary-General.

3.3 Persons on whom this title has been conferred may be asked to perform special tasks on behalf of the Federation. They are kept informed about the Federation's activities.

#### Regulation 4. Finance

4.1 Expenses incurred by FIPLV Officers shall be reimbursed by the Treasurer-General or Regional Treasurers. The annual expenses for each Officer must not exceed the budget allowance unless special approval is given by the Treasurer-General and the President or, in the case of the Regional Officers, by the Regional Treasurer and a second Regional Officer. Expenses normally include the cost of travel and maintenance while away from home on FIPLV business.

4.2 A proportionate percentage of profits arising directly from any meetings, projects, congresses and conferences organised in the name of the Federation must be negotiated and paid to the Federation.

### **Regulation 5. Membership Fees**

- 5.1 Membership fees are paid annually into the Federation's private account.
- 5.2 They are set by the World Assembly and will be due on 28 February each year.
- 5.3 National associations will pay a membership fee based on 0.35 euros per paying member of the association, up to a maximum of 600 euros. Examples of membership fees are: 35 euros (100 members); 175 euros (500 members); 350 euros (1000 members); and 600 euros (1714+ members).
- 5.4 The membership fee for international unilingual associations is 230.00 euros (fixed rate).
- 5.5 The membership fee for associate members is 250.00 euros (fixed rate).
- 5.6 The annual rate for sponsorship of the FIPLV Website is 130.00 euros (fixed rate).
- 5.7 Member associations which cannot afford to pay their membership fee in a particular year must submit a copy of their accounts or an official statement to the Treasurer-General before 28 February. The Treasurer-General may as a result recommend to the Executive Committee that payment be reduced or waived for the year or postponed.
- 5.8 Member associations faced with prolonged hardship may, with the Treasurer-General's approval, pay a reduced fee over a fixed period or have their fee paid by another member or other source.

Approved by the FIPLV General Assembly, Prague, 22 March 1992

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Paris, 21 July 2000

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Auckland Park, 1 July 2003

Amended by the FIPLV World Council, Brussels, 1 October 2004 (i.e. Regulations only)

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Göteborg, 13 June 2006

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, Graz, 1 September 2009

Amended by the FIPLV World Council, Helsinki, 7 June 2012 (i.e. Regulations only)

Amended by the FIPLV World Assembly, New Orleans, 14 November 2018

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