



INTERNATIONAL
FELDENKRAIS
FEDERATION

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STATUTES

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CHAPTER I Aims and Composition of the Association

Article 1 Name

An association, which complies with the law of 1901, has been set up between those who adhere to these statutes.

The association is called the "International Feldenkrais Federation", the IFF for short.

It brings together recognised bodies (professional groups, associations and guilds) which have as their aim the development and promotion of the Feldenkrais Method.

Article 2 Aims

The IFF aims

- to promote and develop relations between the different groups which belong to the Feldenkrais Community, (that is to say those who are working in the spirit of the Method developed by Moshe Feldenkrais).
- to draw up common programmes of research, co-operation, promotion, conciliation and education, through supporting the initiatives of those recognised bodies which adhere to it and through developing its own initiatives.

It offers its co-operation but does not impose it.

It does not interfere in the internal administration of those recognised bodies. They retain their existing functions, unless they agree otherwise.

Article 3 Statement of Means

The IFF will use the following Means to achieve its Purposes:

- develop and support programs of co-operation, co-ordination, research information, communication and education
- publish, translate and distribute materials
- document the Feldenkrais Method and its practice
- collect and archive materials
- organise and support forums for discussion and education
- use the IFF Annual General Assembly as a forum for discussion and preparation of decision making among members, in addition to the Assembly's decision making role
- undertake common projects and programs with and through members
- support the development of mutually compatible policies and international agreements amongst members
- liaise with national and international bodies
- raise funds
- employ staff or obtain services under contract to carry out programs and services for the IFF
- other means compatible with the IFF's civil capacity.

Article 4 Duration

The IFF is of unlimited duration

Article 5 Address

The IFF's head office is in Paris – Maison des Associations du 11^{ème} arrondissement, Boîte 100, 8 rue Général Renault, 75011 Paris.

It may be transferred to any other place by a decision of the Board of Directors (see Article 12) and ratified by the Annual General Assembly (See Article 8).

Chapter II Membership

Article 6 Membership Categories

The IFF is composed of recognised bodies (professional groups, associations and guilds of French and other nationalities). Recognised bodies may be eligible for either of the two categories of membership, Full Members or Associate Members.

6.1 Full Members enjoy the services and facilities of the IFF and may participate in its meetings. They may vote and stand for election to official positions.

Those eligible to apply as Full Members include:

6.1.1. Guilds or Associations, of professional teachers/practitioners of the Feldenkrais Method, the majority of whose full members graduated from a Feldenkrais accredited training by any Training Accreditation Board recognized by the existing TABS, or have been trained only by either Mia Segal or Yochanan Rywerant or Eli Wadler.

6.1.2 Family of Moshe Feldenkrais

6.2 Associate Members may enjoy the services and facilities of the IFF and may participate in its meetings, but may not vote or stand for election to official positions, with the exception that one of the IFF Board members may be from an Associate Member group. Those eligible to apply as Associate Members of the IFF include:

6.2.1 Other recognised bodies in the Feldenkrais community

6.3 Further criteria for Full and Associate Members are defined in the Internal Regulations (See Article 12).

Article 7 Cessation of membership

Membership may be lost:

- through resignation,
- through dissolution of the Full Member or Associate Member group, in accordance with their statutes,
- through non payment of fees,
- through infringement of these statutes,
- for a serious reason, after the Members concerned have previously been called upon to provide an explanation before the Annual General Assembly (see Article 8)

CHAPTER III Structures and Procedures

Article 8 Annual General Assembly

The Annual General Assembly includes all the Full Members and Associate Members of the IFF.

Members are represented by delegates in proportion to their respective membership numbers. This proportion is determined at the Annual General Assembly and appears in the Internal Regulations.

The Annual General Assembly meets at least once a year, convened by the Board of Directors, which determines the place, date and agenda.

Its office has the same address as the IFF.

It can be held in person, remotely or hybrid (both at the same time). In the case of a remote or hybrid Assembly, the members who are not physically present can connect by video or audio conference.

In case of a remote or hybrid Assembly, the convocations must include a connection link to join the Assembly.

The Annual General Assembly

- hears the reports of the Board of Directors on the association's ethical and financial position,
- receives reports from its committees,
- determines fees,
- approves the accounts for the current financial period,
- votes on resolutions and on the budget,
- deals with admissions and dismissals of members,
- determines Internal Regulations, as proposed by the Board of Directors,
- considers matters placed on the agenda,
- elects, by secret ballot or acclamation, the Board of Directors and substitutes to that Board and candidates to Standing Committees.

Article 9 Voting

Voting by proxy is authorised.

The Annual General Assembly may decide to authorise voting by correspondence.

Votes are calculated on a simple majority of votes expressed by those who have the right to vote and are present or represented. Internal Regulations specify voting procedures.

Only discussions with a bearing on items appearing on the agenda are valid.

Article 10 Extraordinary General Assembly

An Extraordinary General Assembly of the IFF may be convened by the Board of Directors observing the formalities for calling an Annual General Assembly. It may also be convened at the request of at least half of its Full members.

It can be held in person, remotely or hybrid (both at the same time). In the case of a remote or hybrid Assembly, the members who are not physically present can connect by video or audio conference.

In case of a remote or hybrid Assembly, the convocations must include a connection link to join the Assembly.

Alteration of a statute or, the dissolution of the association requires an Extraordinary General Assembly to be held.

A quorum for the alteration of Statutes, or dissolution of the IFF, requires two-thirds of the Full Members at the time of the initial Extraordinary General Assembly to be present or represented. If this quorum is not achieved, a majority is required of the Full Members present or represented at a second Extraordinary General Assembly, convened a minimum of fifteen days after the initial one. A majority vote of two thirds of Full Members entitled to do so is required to confirm an alteration of a statute or dissolution of the IFF.

Article 11 Dissolution

Dissolution of the IFF occurs through an Extraordinary General Assembly and one or more liquidators are named by that Assembly. The assets are transferred by the same Assembly to the recognised bodies or associations with similar aims and, if these are lacking, to associations which help the disabled.

Article 12 Internal Regulations

Internal Regulations shall be established by the Board of Directors. They will be submitted for approval at the Annual General Assembly

They are intended to determine various points not determined by the statutes, notably those concerned with internal administration, conditions of membership, fees and objectives. This list is not restrictive.

Article 13 Board of Directors

The IFF is administered by a Board of Directors.

The Directors of the Board are individuals elected at the Annual General Assembly from the Full Members of the IFF, with the exception that one of the directors may be from an Associate Member group and the exception that the Treasurer may be any person, whether a member of a member organisation or not, with appropriate financial management skills and ethical probity suitable to carry out the responsibilities of the office of Treasurer..

The number of Directors of the Board is between five and seven and this is fixed by decision at the Annual General Assembly.

The term of office of the Directors of the Board is 3 years and one third of the Board of Directors is renewed annually. The mandate of the Director standing down is renewable.

The Annual General Assembly elects a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Directors, as well as substitutes.

Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, the Vice President fills the post until the following Annual General Assembly.

Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary, the Board elects a replacement from the current Director or elected substitutes, to serve until the following Annual General Assembly. Where there is a vacancy in the position of Treasurer, the Board of Directors may also appoint a person to the position of Treasurer for a period of up to 3 years. The Board of Directors must present such an appointment to the position of Treasurer to the next Annual General Assembly for ratification.

Should a vacancy occur in a Director position, the first substitute fills, by right, the post of the departing Director until the following Annual General Assembly.

The appointed officer or substitute will proceed to a re-election in order to fill the vacant administrative post and this will hold good until the expiry of the mandate of the outgoing Director.

Voting by proxy and voting by correspondence are admissible.

The Board of Directors may delegate in accordance with its needs, powers and duties.

Voting for candidates for Director, Committee and Substitute positions is determined in the Internal Regulations.

Article 14 Definitions of the Role of the Officers

Where these roles are defined by use of a masculine pronoun it is assumed and implied that they would apply also to a female officer.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The officers of the Board of Directors are the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

Without prejudice to their respective and hereafter defined obligations, the officers assume collective responsibility for preparation and implementation of the decisions of the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT

The President is at once the President of the Officers, Chairman of the Board of Directors and President of the IFF.

His duties consist of general supervision and management of the IFF, acting on behalf of the Officers, the Board of Directors and the IFF.

As such, he is its legal representative and fully empowered:

- to represent the IFF before all jurisdictions,
- to cause court judgments to be executed,
- to appear in court for the defence of the IFF's moral and economic interests,
- to agree to all compromises,
- to introduce all litigations and legal recourses with or without preliminary agreement of the other officers,
- to enforce drawn up decisions of the Board of Directors and the Annual General Assembly,
- to contract and enter into necessary agreements for this purpose,
- to convene the Annual General Assembly and the Board of Directors and to set corresponding agendas,
- to order payments, to set out yearly budgets and to supervise their appropriate execution,
- to present to the Annual General Assembly the annual progress report of the Board of Directors,
- to open and close bank and postal checking accounts and to act individually with respect to any amount as stipulated in the Internal Regulations,
- to sign any correspondence, to withdraw from the post office and customs authorities and to accept delivery of all mail, package, parcels, whether registered or not, taxed or not, including those containing declared valuables, to cash postal money orders, to give receipts and releases,
- to represent the IFF in all its dealings with the tax and customs authorities and all state, regional, departmental and municipal administrations,
- to comply generally, with the necessary formalities, act within the limits of the IFF aims and purposes, and with respect for the French laws and regulations,
- to delegate any of foregoing powers to another officer of the IFF or to any persons whom he may designate, subject to prior information to the Board of Directors.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President assists the President in the exercise of his duties. The Vice President substitutes for the President if the President becomes incapacitated and this has been noticed by the Board of Directors for a time exceeding one month. He then has the same powers and duties of the President. These powers and duties cease at the end of the incapacity, or at the latest, at the next Annual General Assembly.

SECRETARY

The Secretary assumes the administrative and legal running of the IFF. He ensures compliance with any required formalities. He ensures that the minutes of meetings and resolutions of, the Board of Directors, the Annual General Assembly, and an Extraordinary General Assembly are drawn up. He ensures that the specific register, described under Provision 5 of 1st July 1901 law and Provisions 6 and 31 of 16th August 1901 edict, has been kept.

TREASURER

The Treasurer ensures that the IFF's annual accounts have been drawn up. He ensures incomings are received and ensures payments are made. Under delegation of the President, he administers available funds of the IFF and is allowed to act individually with respect to any amount not exceeding the amount stipulated in the Internal Regulations.

Article 15 Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors meets when convened by the President or by at least three of its Directors.

A third of the Directors of the Board must be present for resolutions to be valid.

Votes are carried by majority decision, the President or his Deputy having the casting vote, when there is an equal division of opinion.

Meetings by telephone or other media without physical presence are deemed valid.

Internal Regulations determine the methods for voting.

Minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors must be kept and archived. A statement verifying they are a true and correct record will be signed by the President and Secretary each year.

Paid employees of the IFF may be called upon by the President to attend, in a consultative capacity, the meetings of the Annual General Assembly and the Board of Directors.

Article 16 Re-imbusement and Remuneration for Board of Directors

Directors are not to receive remuneration in connection with the duties entrusted to them

Reimbursement of expenses is possible, on presentation of proof and with the agreement of the Board of Directors.

Payment of officers and directors, where approved by the Financial Committee (as defined in the Internal Regulations), is permissible for contributions to special projects of the IFF that are outside their duties specific to the individual organisational roles described in the Statutes (see Article 14).

Payment of officers for duties within their organisational roles, as allowed under French law, may also be authorised by the Finance Committee, and will be approved at the following General Assembly.

Chapter IV Finances

Article 17 Annual Fees

Annual fees for Full members and Associate members are fixed at the Annual General Assembly as proposed by the Board of Directors. Internal Regulations define the periods and methods of collection.

Article 18 Financial Resources of the IFF

The resources of the IFF include:

- fees and subscriptions from its members,
- state grants from departments (counties or states), communes (boroughs or parishes), public and semi-public establishments, and international bodies,
- resources created in special ways (promotional activities, income from publications, etc.),
- proceeds from remuneration received for services rendered,
- and more generally, all income compatible with its civil capacity.

Article 19 Insurance

Insurance for limitation of legal liability will be provided for the Board of Directors.

These Statutes were approved by the Extraordinary General Assembly in 2022 and replace those approved in 1993 and revised in 1997, 1998, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2013.

