

CHARTER OF THE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION „LUNEST“

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. The official name of the NPO in Estonian is „Eesti psühhootroopsete ainete tarvitajate ühing „Lunest““ (henceforth referred to as „the Association“).

1.2. The name of the NPO in English is „Estonian Association of People who Use psychotropic substances „Lunest““

1.3. The name of the NPO in Russian is „Сообщество людей живущих в Эстонии, которые используют психотропных веществ „Лунест““.

1.4. The Association is a pro-bono, voluntary, private-law, non-profit organization of natural persons and legal entities acting in common good. Profiting through business activity is not the main objective of the Association.

1.5. The Association is located in Kohtla-Järve, Estonia.

1.5. The Association is an independent organization, not a branch of any other organizations.

1.7. The Association has the right to establish representative agencies, offices and branches in accordance with predetermined procedures.

1.8. The Association is an Estonia-wide, voluntary union of past and present psychotropic substance users, people close to them, and their supporters.

1.9. The main objective of the Association is to protect the rights and raise the quality of life of the users of psychotropic substances and the people close to them.

1.10. The main tasks of the Association are:

1.10.1. to raise awareness of, make public and find solutions to the problems of the users of psychotropic substances and the people close to them on local, state and international levels;

1.10.2. to protect the rights and interests of users of psychotropic substances and the people close to them, represent them on all levels, and fight against their discrimination and stigmatization in the society at large;

1.10.3. to provide drug harm reduction oriented education to its members, while raising their sense of responsibility towards the society at large;

1.10.4. to actively disseminate educational information about drug harms as well as harms deriving from prohibition- and punishment-based drug policy among the general populace via public media and by other methods;

1.10.5. to provide moral, psychosocial, legal and — to the extent of the resources available to the Association — material help to users of psychotropic substances and their loved ones;

1.10.6. to arrange opportunities of social interactions for drug users and their loved ones;

- 1.10.7. to provide drug users and their loved ones with necessary health care, legal and other information;
- 1.10.8. to facilitate sharing of information regarding situations in different regions;
- 1.10.9. to provide training to activists and volunteers;
- 1.10.10. to support establishing of new support groups;
- 1.10.11. to organize regular nationwide educational seminars and conferences for the users of psychotropic drugs and the people interested in health-care- and community-based solutions to problems associated with the use of psychotropic drugs;
- 1.10.12. to organize both local as well as nationwide events with the aim of changing towards greater tolerance the attitudes currently prevalent in the society that tend to discriminate and stigmatize both users of psychotropic drugs as well as people addicted to drugs;
- 1.10.13. to develop contacts with similar organizations abroad;
- 1.10.14. to represent the Association's interests internationally by participating in the work of various international organizations;
- 1.10.15. to organize fundraising initiatives and support socially oriented entrepreneurship for the purposes of obtaining fiscal means for developing and promoting the Association's activities.

2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS, RESIGNING, AND DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS FROM THE ASSOCIATION

- 2.1. Any natural person or legal entity can become a member of the Association, provided that they fulfill the membership requirements set by the Association, and are willing to accept the Charter of the Association as well as the decisions of the General Meeting and the Board.
- 2.2. A prospective member must present a written application to the Board of the Association; the Board will make a decision to either accept or decline the application, and inform the applicant of their decision within one month of receiving the application.
- 2.3. A membership fee for the current economic year must be paid by the prospective member to the bank account of the Association.
- 2.4. Paying of the membership fee is mandatory to all members of the Association. The issue of determining the amount of the membership fee will be included in the agendas of every ordinary General Meeting.
- 2.5. All members of the Association are free to resign from membership by presenting a written application stating their decision.
- 2.6. The Board of the Association can rescind the membership of any member whose activities they deem either counterproductive to the goals of the Association, or disregarding to the contents of its Charter.

2.7. The Association's Board will terminate the membership of any member:

2.7.1. whose actions blemish the name or damage the reputation of the Association;

2.7.2. who has failed to pay the membership fee for 12 months.

2.8. The Board of the Association will inform the dismissed member of the decision to dismiss them, as well as of the reasons for the dismissal. The member being dismissed has the right to apply the issue to the General Meeting for re-examination.

3. MEMBERS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1. Members of the Association have the right:

3.1.1. to participate in all events organized by the Association;

3.1.2. to participate in, speak at and vote at the General Meeting;

3.1.3. to receive information about the Association's activities;

3.1.4. to apply for resignation of membership; the application must be approved by the Board within one month of receiving it;

3.1.5. to be elected to the governing bodies of the Association.

3.2. All members have the responsibility:

3.2.1. to respect the goals, and follow the Charter, as well as the decisions of the General Meeting and the Board of the Association, as well as good practice guidelines, when participating in the activities of the Association;

3.2.2. to pay membership fees set by the General Meeting by the date designated;

3.2.3. to provide accurate contact data to the Board of the Association for the purposes of proper accounting of members.

3.3. The Association will not share its property, nor provide material aid or fiscal benefits to its founders, regular members, members of its managing or overseeing bodies, persons or entities who have donated to the Association, or members of managing or overseeing bodies of such entities, or any persons or entities connected to them.

4. THE GENERAL MEETING

4.1. The highest body of the Association is its General Meeting, wherein each registered member has one vote.

4.2. The following tasks fall within the jurisdiction of the General Meeting:

4.2.1. amending the Charter of the Association;

4.2.2. amending the stated goal of the Association;

4.2.3. setting the amount of the membership fee;

4.2.4. appointing and recalling members of the Board;

4.2.5. deciding over of the making of deals with members of the Board or other Charter-decreed bodies of the Association, dictating the conditions of such deals, deciding of taking up legal actions, and appointing representatives of the Association within the context of such deals or legal actions;

4.2.6. approving the annual report;

4.2.7. deciding over the termination, amalgamation or fractionalization of the Association;

4.2.8. deciding over other issues not explicitly attributed to other bodies by the Charter or the law.

4.3. The General Meeting is convened by the Board in accordance with the law and the Charter, or at any time the interests of the Association call for it.

4.4. The decisions of the General Meeting are deemed valid when the Meeting is attended by at least 50 per cent of the members of the Association. Should the General Meeting be attended by fewer than 50 per cent of the members of the Association, the Board will set a date for another General Meeting with the same agenda no earlier than three weeks and no later than three months from the date of the non-representative Meeting. Decisions of this succeeding General Meeting will be deemed valid regardless of the number of members of the Association present at the Meeting.

4.5. Issues not initially included in the agenda of the General Meeting can be included in the agenda during the General Meeting. Such issues will be included in the agenda only if all members of the Association are present at the General Meeting, or if at least 90 per cent of the attendees of the General Meeting (attended by more than half of the members of the Association) allow for it.

4.6. A General Meeting is convened at least once in a calendar year. General Meetings can be convened any time the Board of the Association finds it necessary, or when at least 1/10 of the members of the Association make a substantiated plea to the Board of the Association to convene a General Meeting.

4.7. The Board will inform the members of the time, the place and the agenda of the General Meeting at least two weeks before the date set for the Meeting.

4.8. If a member of the Association wishes to take up an issue at an upcoming General Meeting, they must notify the Board of that in writing before the Board sends out the invitations to that Meeting.

4.9. All members of the Association can attend and vote at the General Meeting. Each voting member has one vote. A member of the Association can assign another member to vote on their behalf; a simple written letter of mandate will suffice as grounds for such vote assignment.

4.10. Unless the Charter of the Association or the law decree otherwise, a decision made by the General Meeting will be deemed valid when more than half of the attending or represented members of the Association vote for it.

4.11. Should at least a third of the attending voting members demand it, votes at the General Meeting will be cast by secret ballot.

4.12. The minutes of the General Meeting will be recorded. The minutes must include the place and time of the General Meeting, its agenda, ballot results, decisions made, and other issues of relevance. Should a member or members of the Association decide to disagree with the General Meeting's decisions, the nature of their disagreement will also be recorded in the minutes at their request. The minutes will be signed by the Chairperson and the minute taker of the General Meeting. Any disagreements with the Meeting's decisions will be signed by the protesting member(s). A list of the attendees of the General Meeting, accompanied by their respective signatures, as well as all written proposals and applications, are considered inseparable parts of the minutes of the General Meeting of the Association.

5. THE BOARD OF THE ASSOCIATION

5.1. The Association is represented and its day-to-day activities conducted by the Board consisting of at least two, but not more than five members.

5.2. The following tasks fall within the jurisdiction of the Board:

5.2.1. conducting the day-to-day activities of the Association;

5.2.2. keeping score of the members of the Association and collecting membership fees;

5.2.3. drawing up the plan of action and the budget of the Association;

5.2.4. organizing the compilation of the annual report and bookkeeping of the Association;

5.2.5. making use of and managing the Association's properties in accordance with the demands arising from the law, the present Charter and the decisions of the General Meeting.

5.3. The General Meeting will pick the members of the Board from among the members of the Association. A board member is voted in when more than half of the members attending or represented at the General Meeting vote for them.

5.4. The Board is elected for the period of three years.

5.5. The Board represents the Association in all legal matters.

5.6. Any member of the Board can personally represent the Association in all legal matters.

5.7. When making deals on behalf of the Association, members of the Board must follow all limits set by the Charter or the decisions of the General Meeting.

5.8. Unless the Charter forbids it, the Association's realties and movables included in the registry can be dispossessed or burdened with property acts by the Board at the authorization of the General Meeting, and in accordance with the stipulations of such an authorization. The aforementioned stipulations regarding third parties will be included in the registry.

5.9. A member of the Board can be stripped of their Board membership at any time by the decision of the General Meeting, regardless of the reasons for the dismissal.

5.10. A Board meeting is convened by the chairperson of the Board, their substitute, or at least one third of the members of the Board.

5.11. Decisions made at a Board meeting are deemed valid when more than half of the Board is present at the meeting.

5.12. The Board can make decisions without convening a Board meeting when all members of the Board authorize such decision-making in a manner reproducible in writing.

5.13. The person(s) who convene the Board meeting can ask relevant specialist to attend the meeting as consultants or experts with license to speak out at the meeting.

5.14. The Board has the capacity to hire paid employees on behalf of the Association.

6. ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

6.1. According to the law, the Association can engage in economic activities only for charitable purposes and the common good.

6.2. Business operations are not the main field of activity of the Association.

6.3. The Association is not involved in facilitating psychotropic substances, nor does it promote the use of such substances.

6.4. The Association's economic year lasts from January 1st to December 31st. An annual report of the previous year's activities must be made available to members at least two weeks before the Association's next scheduled General Meeting.

6.5. The Board of the Association will keep the Association's books in accordance with the law of bookkeeping of the Estonian Republic.

6.6. The Association's property is made up of membership fees, use of the Association's properties, economic aid received from the state and the local municipalities, monetary appropriations, and other accruals.

6.7. The Association does not carry a fiscal responsibility for the fiscal commitments of its members; the members do not carry fiscal responsibilities for the fiscal commitments of the Association.

7. AMALGAMATION, FRACTIONALIZATION AND TERMINATION

7.1. Amalgamation, fractionalization and termination of the Association will be carried out in accordance with the law.

7.2. Members of the Board, or persons appointed by the General Meeting, will serve as the liquidators of the Association.

7.3. In case of termination of the Association, all property left over after the demands of creditors are met will be given over to non-profit organizations and foundations listed as receivers of tax allowances, legal entities in the private law, including the state, or to local municipalities.

The Charter was adopted on September 23, 2106, revised and amended on December 15, 2016.

Signed by founding members

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