**CHARTER**

**Art 1. Constitution- Statutory Seat**

A Society is hereby created named “Hellenic Sociological Society” (HSS). The statutory seat of the Society is in Athens.

**Art 2. Purposes**

The HSS’s purposes are: firstly, to advance scientific research in the field of Sociology, secondly to study social phenomena and problems in the Greek and global society; thirdly to advance sociological studies in the national educational system; fourthly, to support, at the collective and individual level, all practitioners of the science of Sociology. Lastly, to provide support in the form of scientific knowledge to Greek society, the State, organizations, and institutions.

**Art 3. Means**

 The above purposes are to be realized by the following means:

1. publishing of a scientific journal and other publications.
2. Organizing conferences, lectures, seminars, international scientific meetings, and public debates.
3. Developing information and collaboration networks with national and foreign academic institutions, research centers, organisms, and associations whose scientific activity coincides with, or by any way relates to the GSA’s purposes.
4. Organizing communication networks for the information of the Association’s members.
5. Creating sub-groups to support its members’ specialized scientific interests.
6. Establishing special awards for scientific excellency.
7. Establishing a library of social and humanities’ studies.
8. Monitoring or carrying out research programs by assignment to the Association’s members, following their financial support by private, public, and international entities.
9. Intervening in the public sphere on matters related to its area of knowledge.
10. Organizing social events to support its purposes.

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**Art 4. Seal.**

The Society’s seal is round shaped, and bears the title “Hellenic Sociological Society”, its address, symbol and year of establishment.

**Art 5. Assets**

1. Enrolment fees and members’ subscriptions.
2. Monies collected from the HSS’s publications, events, and research activities, donations, bequests, funding and other forms of financial support from public and private entities.
3. Financial support of the HSS by groups of highly renowned members.

**Art 6. Membership**

The HSS members are distinguished between regular, corresponding and assistant.

1. The HSS accepts as regular members: firstly, individuals with doctoral degrees in Sociology from national of foreign Universities. Secondly, individuals with graduate or post-graduate degrees in Sociology and doctoral degrees in similar sectors of social sciences or the humanities. Thirdly, individuals with doctoral degrees in similar fields of social sciences or the humanities, providing their intense and continuous and interest in sociology can be established on the basis of studies, publications in scientific journals, university employment, teaching experience, and papers at conferences. Individuals belonging to the first and second category become regular members ipso facto, whilst those in the third one submits a request for membership, which is assessed by the HSS Board of Administration on the basis of the aforementioned criteria. The number of members of the third category cannot be greater that the fourth of that of regular members of the first category.
2. Individuals residing abroad are accepted as corresponding members providing, they have the same qualifications and will to actively contribute to the HSS’s purposes. They become regular members ipso facto upon taking up residence in Greece.
3. Individuals exhibiting constant interest in supporting the HSS become assistant members following the decision by the Board of Administrators.

**Art 7. Members’ rights and obligations**.

Members’ registration and departure are free and follow the conditions laid out in the present charter. Regular members participate in General Assemblies, elect and are elected to the HSS’s administrative bodies. Corresponding members may assist at General Assemblies without the right to vote. Supporting members cannot assist at the General Assemblies.

**Art. 8. Suspension of members’ status**

Members lose their status:

1. By a Administrative Board’s reasoned decision to expel a membe.r
2. Because of an unjustified delay in meeting members’ financial obligations to HSS. The concerned member has the right to appeal to the General Assembly, which definitively rules.
3. Following a member’s resignation request addressed to the Administrative Board.

**Art. 9. Convening of the Ordinary General Assembly**

Every two years in September, following its Panhellenic Conference, the HSS Administrative Board convenes a General Assembly. The announcement specifies the time, location, and agenda, and members are notified in writing a month before the General Assembly.

**Art 10. Agenda of the Ordinary General Assembly**

The Ordinary General Assembly

1. Approves the Administrative Board’s account and the and the Audit Committee’s report.
2. Elects the coming two years’ President, the Administrative Board and the Audit Committee.
3. Draws up the general program and the budget.
4. Decides on subjects and any other matter raised by a fifth of members present.

**Art 11. Extraordinary General Assembly**

An extraordinary General Assembly is convened by the Administrative Board:

a. when called for serious reasons

b. When requested by two thirds of the regular members. The request must specify the topics that call for convening the General Assembly.

**Art 12. Decisions reached by the General Assembly**

1. The General Assembly’s quorum necessitates the presence of half the number of regular members plus one. If the quorum is not reached, the Assembly reconvenes within the following 15 days, when the presence of one third of the members suffices.
2. The General Assembly’s decisions are reached by simple majority. As concerns topics contained in Art. 22, an increased attendance quorum and majority are required as specified in same article.

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**Art 13. Procedures of the General Assembly**

1. Upon assembling, a three-member Chairing Committee is elected, with a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary from the regular members not participating in the Administrative Board.
2. The Assembly’s President conducts the meeting, gives the floor to speakers as well as cutting them off, puts subjects to the vote and signs the proceedings, along with the other members of the Committee.
3. The Committee monitors voting and vote counting.
4. Any objections concerning voting validity must be submitted during the General Assembly that immediately rules upon them**.**

**Art 14. The Administrative Board**

1. The Administrative Board consists of nine (9) members elected by the General Assembly by secret ballot, with an absolute majority of members present and according to the quorum specified by Art 12, par a’. The election of the GSA’s President every two years is conducted independently from that of the other member of the Board. Only during the first General assembly shall the president be elected directly and simultaneously to the Vice President who will undertake duties of the President in the coming two years. From then on, each elected President shall serve initially as Vice President, carry out her/his duties for two years andbecome President after this period. In case of a President’s resignation or definitive impossibility of exercising her/his duties for whatever reason, her/his position is delegated to the Secretary until the end of the two-year periods
2. The Administrative Board is elected for two years and is constituted a s a body within 10 days of its election. Except for the President and Vice President, the Board allocates elected members by secret ballot to the positions of General Secretary, Treasurer, Publication Officer, Research Officer, Event Officer, Library Officer and Scientific Groups Officer**.**

**Art 15. The Administrative Board’s Functioning**

1. The Board convenes regularly once a month and whenever considered necessary by the President and three more members**.**
2. The Administrative Board’s quorum is reached when six (6) of its members are present and decides by a majority of five (5). In cases of a member’s suspension, a quorum of seven (7) and a majority of six (6) are requested.

**Art 16** **The Administrative Boards responsibilities**

1. The Administrative Board takes the necessary measures for the fulfilment of the HSS’s purposes.
2. The Administrative Board can increase or decrease the rights of enrolment and the annual membership fees. Such decisions are ratified by the next General Assembly.
3. The Administrative Board draws up rules of procedure for the HSS’s special Sectors of activities, stipulates their competences and their Coordinators’ and members’ duties.

**Art 17. President’s duties**

The Administrative Board’s President sees to the implementation of the HSS Program, represents the Association legally and otherwise to any public or private authority, chairs the Administrative Board’s workings, signs its proceedings and payment orders, and decides on the location and topic of every biannual national Conference. In case of the President being temporarily absent or hindered from attending, the Vice-President, General Secretary of a Counsellor chosen by the Administrative Board replaces her/him

 **Art 18. The general Secretary and Deputy General Secretary’s duties.**

1. The General Secretary is responsible for the HSS’s administrative organization, assists the president in implementing the Association’s program according to the Administrative Board’s decisions, attends to the correspondence, cosigns related documents and payment orders, keeps records, the HSS’s seal and members’ register, the correspondence protocol and the The Administrative Board’s meetings’ minutes.
2. In cases of her/his absence or hindrance, the General Secretary is replaced by the deputy General Secretary

**Art 19. Treasurer’s duties**

a. The treasurer manages the HSS’s assets in compliance with the Administrative Board’s decisions, collects and pays with double invoices, keeps accounts registers, deposits the HSS’s monies in bank accounts. The treasurer can withdraw amounts for these accounts only with the Presidents’, Vice-President’s’ or their deputy’s instructions. The Treasurer annually submits an account of the situation of the Association’s finances to the Administrative Board.

b. In the event of the Treasurer’s absence the Administrative Board delegates a deputy from its members.

**Art 20. Means of carrying out scientific work**

The means to carry out the HSS’s scientific work are the following: firstly, scientific groups with specific subject matters constituted by members with relative academic specializations, secondly, an Institute of Social research that promotes the work of its members, thirdly a Library of Social Sciences and Humanities.

The coordinators are funding members who follow the Rules of Procedure.

**Art 21. Audit Committee**

1. The Association’s three-member audit committee is elected by the regular general Assembly with the quorum and majority laid out in Art 14, par a’.

b. The Audit Committee reviews the financial management of the Association and submits its report to the General Assembly

**Art 22 Final Provisions**

**a** The HSS’s dissolution or changes to its charter are decided by an extraordinary General Assembly that convenes for this purpose. This Assembly has a quorum provided half plus one member who have fulfilled their financial obligations are present. Decisions are taken with a majority of three quarters of present members.

b. the decision for the dissolution also provides for the disposal of the Association’s assets

The Charter consists of 22 articles and is unanimously approved of today by the founding members in Athens and signed as follows:

Athens, September 1st 2006.