

## **Articles of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GENERALIZED FUNCTIONS (IAGF)**

A not-for-profit organization

### **Article I - Name and Place**

1. The association is named International Association for Generalized Functions (abbreviated to IAGF, and in this document also called the Association) and is established according to Austrian Civil Law (Vereinsgesetz 2002 – VerG), which governs all legal matters and possible controversies.
2. The Association is headquartered in Vienna.

### **Article II - Purpose and Activities**

1. The Association is a not-for-profit organization of private persons dealing with theories and applications of generalized functions and related topics.
2. The field of generalized functions comprises, among others, distributions, ultradistributions, hyperfunctions and algebras of generalized functions. It has a longstanding tradition starting in the mid twentieth century and is actively pursued by many research groups all over the world. Applications include, but are not restricted to, linear and nonlinear partial differential equations (generalized solutions and regularity), geometry (linear/nonlinear distributional geometry), mathematical physics (general relativity, mathematical geophysics, fluid dynamics, quantum field theory), stochastics (generalized stochastic processes and stochastic partial differential equations) as well as harmonic analysis (pseudodifferential and Fourier integral operators, propagation of singularities), both in theoretical and numerical aspects.
3. The aims of the Association are to:
  - advance and promote the theories and applications of generalized functions;
  - disseminate the usefulness of the theories of generalized functions in a wide range of applied fields;
  - promote contacts and exchange information among scientists and practitioners in different fields and from different countries interested in the theories and applications of generalized functions, and coordinate their activities.
4. In order to achieve these aims, the Association:
  - coordinates a series of international conferences, called International Conference on Generalized Functions (abbreviated to ICGF), normally taking place biennially every even year, but at least every four years;
  - coordinates special sections on generalized functions in conferences of mathematical analysis, as for example the biannual ISAAC congress;
  - organizes meetings and courses on topics related to generalized functions;
  - arranges the editing and publication of the ICGF proceedings, as well as scientific books in the field of generalized functions;

- hosts and maintains a website that allows people interested in generalized functions to communicate research and other information relevant to the Association's aims with one another and the broader community;
  - encourages its Members to act as (Associate) Editors for scientific journals that are interested in publishing papers on generalized functions.
5. Funding:
- The goals of the Association will be achieved through non-material contributions of its members by engaging in the activities listed in II.4.
  - Material financial resources of the Association are obtained through payment surpluses generated at the ICGF conferences, other meetings and courses as well as donations. There is no membership fee.

### **Article III - Membership in the IAGF**

1. Any natural person is eligible to become a regular member of the International Association of Generalized Functions (abbreviated to IAGF Member, and in this document also referred to as Member) after registering for an ICGF conference or IAGF event.
2. Willingness to become Member will have to be confirmed in written, and possibly electronic, form. This will make Membership effective from the starting day of the ICGF conference, or IAGF event, for which the new member has registered.
3. The IAGF Executive Committee may also decide to grant membership to persons who have not registered for an ICGF conference or IAGF event.
4. Also in this case, willingness to become Member will have to be confirmed in written, and possibly electronic, form. This will make Membership effective from the day in which the Executive Committee has notified the new Member of the decision to grant membership.
5. Membership can be terminated if the Member sends a letter of resignation to the IAGF President. It also ends in case of decease of the Member.

### **Article IV – Rights and duties of the members**

1. All Members have active and passive voting rights in the IAGF General Meeting.
2. All members have the right to participate in the public events organized by the Association.
3. It is the duty of the members to support the aims of the Association.

### **Article V - Bodies of the IAGF**

The bodies of the Association are

- the General Meeting of all Members of the International Association of Generalized Functions, also called the General Meeting of the IAGF, in this document abbreviated to General Meeting;
- the IAGF Executive Committee;
- the Controllers.

#### **Article VI - General Meeting of the IAGF**

1. General Meetings are held during each ICGF conference, and at a location near to where the conference is being held. They are chaired by the IAGF President or – in case of being prevented – by the IAGF Vice-President.
2. The IAGF Executive Committee organizes the General Meeting and distributes its agenda through the means of an electronic discussion forum accessible to all the Members.
3. All Members are entitled and encouraged to participate in the General Meetings. Members who cannot attend the General Meeting, can designate a proxy in writing to the IAGF Executive Committee.
4. The General Meeting:
  - considers and votes for approval of motions suggested by the Members, according to a simple 1/2 majority among all Members participating.
  - considers and votes for approval changes and additions to the Articles suggested by the Members, according to a 2/3 majority among all Members participating.
  - Any proposal that requires 2/3 majority among all Members to be approved, should be notified to the IAGF Secretary, who will inform all Members about them. This should be done at least one month prior to the General Meeting, so that all Members have time to consider the proposed changes carefully. Members that cannot be physically present at the General Meeting, can also be allowed to cast votes in writing, or electronically, before the start of the General Meeting.

#### **Article VII - The IAGF Executive Committee**

1. The IAGF Executive Committee consists of the following members elected by the IAGF Members from among their ranks, up to a maximum of 9 people:
  - the IAGF President;
  - the IAGF Vice-President;
  - the IAGF Treasurer;
  - the IAGF Executive Editor, responsible for the contents of the web site;
  - and up to 4 other IAGF at-large Members.

In addition, the former President is automatically nominated IAGF Advisory Member. This office is not created in case the former President is re-elected and hence takes up one of the previous offices. The Advisory Member's role is merely advisory: the purpose of this office is to favor continuity in the action of the Executive Committee,

and to support it through past experience. Accordingly, the Advisory Member has no right to vote whenever the Executive Committee has to take a decision.

2. Terms of members of the IAGF Executive Committee will be approximately four years, beginning on the first day of the IAGF conference that follows the elections and ending with the start of the IAGF conference that follows after four years. The election of the IAGF Executive Committee is regulated by the Bylaws of the IAGF.
3. The IAGF Executive Committee runs the daily affairs of the Association. It is responsible for the website. The President, the Vice-President or the Treasurer represents the Association in public on all matters.
4. The IAGF President, together with the Secretary and the Treasurer, handle the daily financial affairs of the Association. The Treasurer is accountable to the General Meeting, and prepares an annual financial report of the Association. This report is sent to all Members, preferably by e-mail, by the end of the March following the effective year.
5. The IAGF Executive Committee decides where the next IAGF conference will take place. It appoints the members of the next IAGF's Steering Committee and Program Committee.
6. The IAGF Executive Committee decides about organization of special sections in other conferences on mathematical analysis.
7. The IAGF Executive Committee may decide to appoint new IAGF members according to a 2/3 majority of the members of the Executive Committee itself.
8. The IAGF Executive Committee, as well as other Members, may suggest bylaws in order to regulate:
  - governing of the Association;
  - organizing the IAGF conferences;
  - organizing and running meetings and special sections;
  - elections.
9. All decisions of the IAGF Executive Committee require a simple majority of its participating members to become effective.

#### **Article VIII - The Controllers**

- There are two Controllers. They audit the financial affairs of the Association and approve the annual report of the Treasurer. They report to the General Meeting.
- Terms of the Controllers will be approximately four years, beginning on the first day of the IAGF conference that follows the elections and ending with the start of the IAGF conference that follows after four years.
- The Controllers are elected simultaneously with the Executive Committee according to the Bylaws of the IAGF.

## **Article IX - The ICGF Conferences**

1. The ICGF conferences normally take place biennially every even year, but at least every four years.
2. Shortly after the latest ICGF conference, the Steering Committee for the next ICGF conference is appointed by the newly elected IAGF Executive Committee.
3. The ICGF Steering Committee consists of
  - the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, who is responsible for the local organization, the daily affairs and finances of the IAGF conference;
  - one of the former IAGF Presidents;
  - the Program Committee, whose members are to review the papers submitted to the conference, supervise the paper review procedure, decide on which papers will be accepted, and work out the scientific program of the conference.
4. Any profits derived from the organization of the IAGF conferences shall go to the Association, and are to be used for covering the working costs of the Association.
5. Shortly after the IAGF conference, the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee will present a report about its finances to the IAGF Treasurer.

## **Article X – Arbitration Court**

1. Arbitration of disputes arising among Members of the Association is assigned to an internal Arbitration Court.
2. The Arbitration Court consists of three regular Members of the Association. Each of the parties involved nominates one of the Members. These two nominated Members elect a third Member, who chairs the Arbitration Court. In case the two nominated Members find no agreement on the election of the third Member, the decision between the candidates suggested by each party is done by lot.
3. The decision of the Arbitration Court follows by simple majority and is final.

## **Article IX – Liquidation**

1. If liquidation of the assets of the Association is necessary, the IAGF Executive Committee is the liquidator.
2. Liquidation requires approval by a 2/3 majority of the IAGF General Meeting.
3. After liquidation the remaining assets of the Association are to be devolved upon a similar not-for-profit organization.
4. The Members are neither responsible nor accountable for possible debts of the Association.

**Bylaws of the  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GENERALIZED FUNCTIONS (IAGF)**

Process for Conducting an Election of the IAGF Executive Committee and the Controllers.

1. Candidacies from all Members are requested by the Executive Committee, along with a brief biographical and vision statement. The Executive Committee tries their best to get at least seven candidacies for at-large, and at least two candidacies for all other offices. Multiple nominations from an individual are acceptable.
2. An Electoral Commission consisting of three Members who are not standing for office will be chosen by the Executive Committee through a discussion and vote (by simple majority) as arranged by the President (possibly done by electronic means such as email). The Executive Committee provides the Electoral Commission with a list of Members and a list of candidacies along with their statements.
3. The Electoral Commission makes the list of candidates and their statements available online. After two weeks (to allow the Electoral Commission to correct errors) the list is declared final and the Electoral Commission asks all Members to cast their vote by email directed to an address provided by the Electoral Commission. The Electoral Commission is responsible for sending people a confirmation email that their vote is received.
4. If an individual has been nominated for, and chooses to stand for, more than one office, then that individual can only be elected to one office. The top-down ranking of officers is President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Executive Editor, Members-at-large, and Controllers. Election to a higher office precludes eligibility to a lower office.
5. The election process for all offices is by ranking according to the number of votes cast electronically for each nominated person. In case of the election of a person nominated for several offices, the rank order of point 4 is to be applied. In case of ties, the Electoral Commission contacts the tied candidates and asks them whether they can come to an agreement as to who of them should take up the office. If no agreement can be established, it is up to the discretion of the Electoral Commission to find a fair way to break the tie, possibly after consultation with the Executive Committee and the tied candidates.
6. The Electoral Commission announces the results of the election by email to all Members.