

Statutes in English - The Swedish Federation of LGBTQIA+ Student Organizations - SFQ

The legally binding version of the Statutes is the one in Swedish, decided upon by the annual congress on November 22, 2015. In case of any disputes or issues in interpretation, the Swedish version of the statutes shall be used.

Form of association

§ 1 The federation is a non-profit association and, as such, has legal capacity.

Organisation of the federation

§ 2 The name of the association in English is the "Swedish Federation of LGBTQIA+ Students". The official abbreviation is SFQ. For the purpose of this text, hereon called the federation or SFQ - when referring to the association as a whole. SFQ consists of members organised in local branches at Swedish universities and colleges, hereon called local branches when referring to them as separate entities. The federation provides support for activities at a local level and is responsible for the federal membership register. The federation is a non-partisan association, however SFQ can cooperate with political or religious organizations.

§ 3 A local branch shall consist of at least five paying members. All members have equal rights and obligations. A local branch must be registered with the federation and shall report its adopted statutes to the federation. The members of a local branch shall decide on the local branches activities and finances at an Annual General Meeting (AGM). Local branches decide on their form of association. Each local branch must have a authorized signatory who is responsible for the membership registers and for the contact with the federal board. Local activities shall be reported to the federation in an annual activity report.

Purpose of SFQ

§ 4 The purpose of SFQ is to improve the situation of people marginalized by hetero- and cis-norms, such as gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, intersex- and asexual students in higher education in Sweden. By using an intersectional and norm critical approach, SFQ is active in local and national advocacy and policy efforts, focusing on cis and heteronormativity in higher education, as well as educating and fostering debate on its consequences for students, studies and study environments.

Membership

§ 5 Any person who agrees with the purpose of the federation and who accepts the present statutes can become a member of a local branch. The person who wishes to become a member of SFQ shall actively apply for membership in writing and pay a membership fee of SEK 50 per year. The membership is valid for one calendar year at a time. Membership in SFQ provides statutory

opportunities for individual members to influence decisions about the federation's activities and priorities through membership in local branches.

Exclusion of members or local branches

§ 6 A member may be excluded if they fail to comply with the statutes of the federation and / or local branches statutes or opposes the purpose of the federation and / or local branch or otherwise through their actions cause injuries - reputational, economical or otherwise, to the federation or local branch. The federal board may, after the member concerned has been given an opportunity to comment on the grounds for exclusion, decide on the issue of exclusion. Such a decision requires at least two thirds (2/3) majority.

§ 7 A local branch may be excluded from the federation if it does not comply with or counteracts the purposes and/or values of the federation, or if it otherwise through its actions causes injuries - reputational, economical or otherwise to the federation. The federal board may, after the relevant local branch has been given an opportunity to comment on the grounds for exclusion, decide on the matter of exclusion. Exclusion requires at least two thirds (2/3) majority and the decision is valid until the next annual congress of the federation. A federal congress can confirm or reject the decision of the federal board to exclude a local branch. Such a decision requires at least two thirds (2/3) majority of the delegates at the annual congress. In case of rejection, the decision of exclusion is void and the local branch remains. A local department whose exclusion has been confirmed by the federations annual congress can not claim any of the federations assets.

Withdrawal of members or local branches

§ 8 A member who wishes to withdraw from the federation before their membership has expired shall notify the local branche's manager of the registry in writing.

§ 9 A local branch wishing to withdraw from the federation shall decide on withdrawal and report this to the federal board. The withdrawal shall be noted at the next annual congress of the federation. Local branches that have decided to withdraw from the federation can not claim any of the federations assets.

Cessation of local branch membership in the federation

§ 10 A local branch that has not had any activities for a period of two years or more may be considered by the federal board to have ceased its operations. The federal board can decide to dissolve a local branch. In case of discontinued activities, the local branch can not claim any of the federation's assets.

Annual Federal Congress

§ 11 The annual federal congress is the federations highest decision-making body. The federal congress consists of the members of the federal board and the elected representatives of the local branches. The federal congress is open to all members of the federation, however only elected representatives have the right to vote. The federal congress establishes the forthcoming annual activity plan and reviews the work of the federal board.

§ 12 A federal congress shall be held annually before the end of November. An extraordinary congress shall be held at the request of the chair of the federation's board or by request of the auditor. An extraordinary congress shall

also be held if more than one third (1/3) of the local branches/ networks or one third (1/3) of the federations members request it.

§ 13 At the ordinary federal congress, the following matters shall be included in the meeting agenda:

- 1 Opening of the meeting
- 2 Election of chair of the meeting
- 3 Election of meeting secretary
- 4 Election of two persons who, together with the chair of the meeting and minute-taker, adjusts the minutes and acts as tellers and ballot committee
- 5 Confirmation of timely call to the congress
- 6 Approval of meeting agenda
- 7 Confirmation of voting tally
- 8 Confirmation of local branches
- 9 Presentation of annual activity report
- 10 Confirmation of income statement and balance sheet
- 11 Audit report
- 12 Discharge of the federal board
- 13 Board motions/proposals
- 14 Motions/proposals
- 15 Confirmation of proposed annual activity plan
- 16 Confirmation of proposed annual budget
- 17 Confirmation of number of board members
- 18 Election of chair of the federal board
- 19 Election of vice chair of the federal board
- 20 Election of the of federal treasurer
- 21 Election of federal secretary
- 22 Election of federal board
- 23 Confirmation of number of auditors and deputy auditors for future mandate period
- 24 Election of accredited auditors
- 25 Election of trusted auditor
- 26 Election of election committee
- 27 Any other business
- 28 Closing of the meeting

§ 14 At the federal congress, each local branch has the right to vote. The number of votes per local branch depends on the total number of registered members of each local branch per the 1st of October concurrent to the congress. The least amount of votes per local branch is 1, and the maximum amount of votes are 3.

5-50 members = 1 vote

51-100 members = 2 votes

101 or more members = 3 votes

The right to vote is carried by the local branch designated representative. Proxy voting is allowed, however, each representative should not have more than one vote at the same time.

§ 15 The call to the federation congress, it's agenda and propositions shall be sent to all members at the latest six weeks before the federal congress.

§ 16 All local branches and networks as well as all persons elected to a position of confidence in the federation and all individual members of the federation have the right to propose motions to the congress. Motions shall be available to the federal board no later than four weeks before the federal congress. The election committee's proposal shall be available to the members no later than three weeks prior to the congress and the federal board's reply to the motions no later than two weeks before the congress.

§ 17 Decisions at the congress are taken by simple majority. Closed voting shall be held if requested. Elections are held by closed voting if the number of candidates exceeds the number of posts, or if anyone request closed voting. In the case of equal voting numbers, a system of lottery shall be applied to decide the outcome. At least half of the federation's local branches, and at least half of the number of representatives reported by local branches should be represented for the congress to reach quorum.

Election committee

§ 18 The congress shall appoint an election committee consisting of at least three but not more than five members. The congress shall appoint one of the members of the election committee to be the chair.

§ 19 The election committee nominates candidates for the federal board and the annual federation congress presidium and auditors. The election committee shall actively promote diversity. The election committee's proposal shall be presented no later than three weeks before the congress

The federal board

§ 20 The candidates to the federal board can be nominated by the election committee, the local branches or any member who wish to present themselves as candidates to the congress.

§ 21 The federal board shall consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of eight members, excluding the presidium.

§ 22 The term of office of the federal board extends from 1st of January the year after the election to 31st of December the same year.

§ 23 The federal board shall act by simple majority. Closed voting shall be held by requests. At least half of the members of the federal board and at least two members presidium shall be present for the meeting to be decisive.

§ 24 Minutes shall be taken during the meetings of the federal board. The minutes shall contain proposed and not withdrawn proposals for decisions and decisions. The minutes shall be adjusted by the chair of the meeting and by a board member elected to adjust the minutes for that meeting. The minutes shall be adjusted and presented no later than two weeks after the meeting.

§ 25 Members are entitled to attend the meetings of the federal board. However, only federal board members have voting rights.

§ 26 If a board member resigns, and the number of members of the federal board is still constant with the statute, the federal board shall decide whether or not to give notice of an extra election to fill that position. If the number of board members are less than stipulated in the statute, an election shall be held in

consultation with the election committee. The notice to elect a new board member should be announced to all members. It is the federal board in consultation with the election committee that decides on the election of new members to the federal board.

Presidium

§ 27 The presidium consists of the federal chair, vice chair, federal treasurer and federal secretary. In the presidium, more than one gender ought to be represented.

§ 28 The duties of the bureau are to lead the federation strategically and financially in between meetings of the federal board.

§ 29 Decisions by the bureau must be confirmed by the federal board at the following federal meeting.

§ 30 If a bureau member resigns, a board member may, based on a proposal from the federal board, replace that bureau member in the bureau. This does not require an additional extraordinary election. If the federal board has no proposal for a new bureau member out of the elected board members, the election committee shall be called and extraordinary congress held for election of new federation bureau. An extraordinary congress can be held physically or remotely.

§ 31 The limitations in power of the bureau is governed by the federations statutes, policy documents and proxy of the Board.

Auditors

§ 32 At least one and at most two auditors shall be appointed at the annual congress to review the operations, activities and economy of the federation. The auditor is always entitled to attend meetings of the federal board. The auditor shall review the administration of the board and the organisations economic activities. The auditor shall submit a proposal to the congress on the issue of the board's discharge of responsibilities for the audited year.

§ 33 In addition to the auditors, a financial auditor shall also be appointed to review the accounts and financial administration of the federation and submit proposals to the congress on the issue of the discharge of federal board's economic responsibilities for the audited year. The federal board has the mandate to change the financial auditor during the fiscal year if deemed necessary. In accordance with current legislation in force, the financial auditor shall have the appropriate competence and be accredited.

Legal signatory

§ 34 The legal signatory of the federation is the federal chair and the federal treasurer, separately.

Registered office

§ 35 The registered office of the federation is Stockholm

Statutes

§ 36 Only the congress is authorised to make decisions on the amendment of the statutes. Such decisions are taken by two thirds (2/3) majority. Decisions on

amendments to sections 2, 4, 6, 7, 34 and 37 are taken by four fifths (4/5) majority.

§ 37 In the event of a dispute, the statute shall be interpreted by the chairperson of the association in consultation with the auditor.

§ 38 The financial year and fiscal year shall run from 1 January until 31 December.

§ 39 Dissolvent of the federation is decided by the annual or extraordinary congress and requires at least four fifths (4/5) majority of the reported number of represented votes. If at least half (1/2) of the federation members would like to continue the operations of the federation for the same purpose as established in this statute, the federation's assets will accrue to this new organization. Otherwise, the federation's assets will be shared between the local branches.