

DGS' articles of association

Last revised at DGS' National Assembly on the 21-23 of April 2023.

Chapter 1: Name, purpose, and membership

§1. The name of the organization is Danske Gymnasieelevers Sammenslutning – abbreviated 'DGS'.

Section 2. The English name of the organization is: *The Union of Danish Upper Secondary School Students.*

Section 3. The German name of the organization is: *Zusammenschluss dänischer Gymnasiasten.*

Section 4. The definition of a high school student is a person who's enrolled in an education; STX, HF or IB. An institution who offers such courses is referred to as high school.

Section 5. DGS is a youth organization, as the majority of our members are under 30 years old.

§2. DGS covers Danish and Danish minority schools, and is domiciled in Copenhagen Municipality.

§3: DGS' purpose is to work for and spread knowledge of high school students' interests as well as to politicize and activate high school students.

Section 2. DGS' opinions, work tasks and working methods are generally determined by the National Assembly in e.g., program of principles and the work plan.

Section 3: DGS works independently of party political and economic interests.

§ 4. The student council at any high school that has a trusted student or has one in education is admitted as a member.

Section 2: Membership is signed by payment of the high school dependent student contingent determined by the national meeting. However, the board may adopt a lower contingent rate for individual schools if this is deemed necessary. Requests for this are submitted to DGS's secretariat.

Section 3: No later than one week after the National Assembly the withdrawal of the membership fee begins.

Section 4: If a member actively opposes the purpose of DGS or DGS, The Executive Committee may terminate their membership. The student council has the right to be heard when their case is considered.

Section 5: The membership year runs from the 1st of January to the 31st of December.

Section 6: Membership runs until resignation to the Head Quarter of DGS.

Section 7: The Executive Committee may, by a two-third majority, sanction a high school student from DGS so that the students participation in the organization and its activities is limited. This

can only happen if the student opposes the togetherness policy or interest of the organization. This power can only be exercised if one or more of following criteria are met:

- o The student is engaging in damaging business for DGS
- o The student is causing significant physical or mental harm to another active student member of the organization, and/or
- o The student is causing a significant financial damage to the organization's property
- o or is grossly negligently imposed on the organization a significant liability on material as well as persons.

The student and attendant have the right to attend and speak at the processing of the case. If The Executive Committee has decided to sanction a student, the student has the possibility to appeal the decision at the next board meeting, whereas the board needs to consider the sanction. The sanction can be maintained by a simple majority on the board.

Chapter 2: Authorities and body

§ 5. The organization's authorities are in order of priority:

The National Assembly, The Political Conference, The General Board, The Executive Committee, the Daily Management.

Section 2: The organization's politically adopted papers have status in following order:

1. Articles of association
2. Principle program
3. Work plan
4. Political papers
5. Statements
6. The General Boards' political decisions

Bullet 1. Opinions follow the provision on opinions, cf. 6.1

§ 6. When a statement becomes five general meetings old, it becomes obsolete at the closing of the sixth general meeting.

Section 2: Students and student councils may at the sixth general meeting request to maintain one or more of the expiring statements. There will subsequently be a vote to see if the general meeting wants the statement upheld.

Section 3. If an expired statement is chosen not to be upheld at the sixth general meeting, it will be deleted.

Chapter 3: General decisions about election and voting

§ 7. In all votes, where no further details are given, decisions are made by a simple majority.

Section 2. By simple majority means more votes for than against. By 2/3 majority means twice as many votes for as against.

Section 3. All personal election and trust polls in DGS are anonymous and in writing.

Section 4. When choosing a person in DGS, all high school students are eligible, unless otherwise stated. Candidates may be allowed to see their own number of votes by contacting the voting and mandate committee for up to one hour after the election is announced. The result must not be passed on.

Section 5. In the case of personal elections and other written votes, the voter is awarded a number of ballot papers corresponding to the number of votes cast.

Section 6. At elections in one of DGS' bodies where more than one position is filled, each ballot paper must state the same number of candidates as positions to be filled or a maximum of all candidates if there are fewer candidates than there are positions.

Section 7. When voting in one of DGS's bodies where only one position is to be filled, a maximum of one candidate may be supported on each ballot paper. If there are more than two candidates and none of them receive support from more than half of the ballot papers that are submitted, the candidates with the most votes advance to the next round. A candidate is elected if the person has received support from more than half of the ballot papers submitted. If no one achieves support from more than half of the votes submitted, none of the candidates will be elected. If only one candidate is nominated, the candidate is elected by trust election by the electing assembly. In that case, the candidate is elected if more than 50% of the submitted paper ballots show confidence.

Section 8. In the event of a tie, a new ballot shall be held between the candidates who have a tie. If there is still a tie after voting, lots are drawn. This will take place in public.

Section 9. When electing a President, Organizational Vice President, Political Vice President, written motivation for candidacy must be sent to all secondary school students and councils two weeks before the election. The motivation must be received by DGS' Head Quarter no later than three weeks before the election.

Section 10. When electing a President, Organizational Vice President, Political Vice President, and other board members takes place by four separate votes in the order mentioned.

Section 11. If the position as President is vacant, the Organizational Vice President joins as President. If the position as Organizational Vice President or Political Vice President is vacant, the Board of Directors constitutes a new Organizational Vice President or Political Vice President. The Board can not constitute a Organizational Vice President or Political Vice President, who are previously declared distrusted by trust election of a higher authority. The constitution of the Organizational Vice President or Political Vice President applies to the next national assembly or political conference where new elections are held. If a constitutional Organizational Vice President joins as President, new elections for the position as President are also to be held.

Section 12. In the case of new elections due to constitutions (cf. 7.11) the policy conference may allow the constituent to run for the position in question, even if this is contrary to 7.4.

Section 13. A body with the right to fill a position may at any given time remove the person holding the position and then re-elect. Positions that are filled together can only be removed together.

Section 14. No body in DGS can vote per power of attorney.

Section 15. In the case of HF election, only students enrolled in a HF education course are eligible. This applies to single subjects, two, three- and four-years HF courses.

Chapter 4: The national meeting

§ 8. The national meeting is DGS' highest authority.

Section 2. The National Meeting consists of participants in the form of:

- o Representatives of the high schools' student councils
- o Members of The Board of Directors
- o The secretariat
- o Individual high school students

Section 3. The student council at any high school has one vote. Members of DGS are furthermore granted two votes. The student council allocates these votes among its representatives.

Section 4. The student council may, from among the high school students at its schools, elect an unlimited number of representatives.

Section 5. In addition to the votes specified in 8.3, member student council is allocated one additional vote per. Member commenced 300th year as a student. The student council allocates itself the additional votes between its representatives. However, a representative who carries an additional vote may not carry other votes.

Section 6. By year student means number of high school students that the school has recently informed the Ministry of Education.

Section 7. All the participants mentioned in 8.2. have the right to speak at the national meeting.

Section 8. The board may decide to invite guests to the national meeting.

§ 9 The ordinary national meeting meets once every year in February, March or April.

Section 2. No later than six weeks before the ordinary national meeting is sent electronically to all high schools' student councils:

- Convening of DGS' national meeting with briefings.

Section 3. No later than four weeks before the ordinary nation meeting is sent electronically to all high schools' student councils:

- The board's political and organizational report in writing.
- The board's proposed work plan
- Other proposals that the board wishes to make for consideration

- Final draft audited accounts for the most recently completed financial year.
- The board's financial report
- The comments of the critical auditors.
- The Board of Directors' proposals for the agenda and the rules of procedure and
- List of expiring statements cf. 6.1.

Section 4. Student councils have the right to have (amendment) proposals sent out with the papers mentioned in 9.2 and 9.3. This presupposes that they are in the hands of the national office no later than six and four weeks before the ordinary national meeting.

§ 10. The agenda for the ordinary national meeting must at least include:

- Consideration of the board's report
- Processing of the audited accounts
- Adoption of work plan and determination of quotas
- Processing of received proposals and
- Election of President, organizational Vice President, political Vice President, five other board members as well as three substitutes and two critical auditors.

Section 2 The national assembly may during formalities require The Board of Directors' operating budget to be considered.

Section 3. At the start of the national meeting, up to four conductors lead the meeting. The national meeting votes on a recommendation from The Board of Directors for a joint Presidentship. If the admission fails, election will be held cf. chapter 2.

Section 4 When electing conductors and critical auditors all persons are eligible.

Section 5. The National assembly may, in the work plan, decide to establish committees with a number of members elected by the National Assembly. Election of these must be made after the election of The Board of Directors (cf. 7. 10).

§ 11 An extraordinary national meeting is convened if at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of the members or $\frac{1}{3}$ of The Board of Directors so require a written indication of the proposed agenda.

Section 2. The extraordinary national meeting is convened by The Board of Directors no later than six weeks after the request has been made in accordance with 11.1. and with at least two weeks' notice when sending proposals for the agenda from those who have requested the extraordinary national meeting.

Chapter 5: The Policy Conference

§ 12 The Policy Conference is DGS' second highest authority and meets once a year in October, November, or December.

Section 2 The Policy Conference is composed as the national meeting cf. 8.2-8.8.

Section 3 Policy of conference's purpose is to be a forum for discussion between DGS' central management, the regions, the student councils, and the students. Furthermore, it evaluates The

Board of Director's work and makes necessary supplementary choices. In addition, the Policy Conference sets out the organization's focus ahead of the next national meeting.

Section 4. No later than six weeks before The Policy Conference following is sent out electronically to the high schools' student councils:

- Convening of DGS' policy conference with briefings

Section 5. No later than four weeks before The Policy Conference is sent to all high schools' student councils electronically:

- The Board of Directors' written political and organizational half-yearly report
- Proposals that The Board of Directors wishes to submit for consideration
- Accounts up to a maximum of two months before The Policy Conference.
- Comments on the half-yearly financial statements from the Political Vice President and the critical auditors.
- The Board of Directors' proposals for the agenda and rules of procedure and
- List of expiring opinions, cf. 6.1.

§ 13. The Policy Conference's agenda must contain at least following:

- Reworking of work plan
- Consideration of the Board of Directors' half-yearly report
- Processing of half-yearly financial statements and the remarks of the Political Vice President.
- Consideration of the Board of Directors' budget proposal for the next financial year
- Processing of received proposals and
- Supplementary elections to vacant positions on the board and committees, which are normally filled by the national assembly.

Section 2. Policy conference is chaired by a board of directors as at the national meeting (Cf. 10.3 and 10.4).

Chapter 6: Authorities

§ 14. DGS' highest authority between the national assembly and The Policy Conference – and vice versa - is The Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Board of Directors consists of the President and Vice Presidents elected by the National Assembly, Organizational Vice President , Political Vice President , HF committee representatives, five other board members and IB representative. These mandates run from July 1 to June 30. Furthermore, The Board of Directors consists of 12 regional secretaries, cf. 21.5.

Section 3. The Board of Directors must hold at least seven ordinary meetings in the period from 1 July to 30 June.

Section 4. To supplement the ordinary board members, the national assembly elects and prioritizes three deputies who join the board with full voting rights, in case the ordinary board members are prevented or constituted. The deputies have a duty to attend.

Section 5. The Board of Directors holds its first constituent meeting in July or August.

Section 6. High school students may participate with the right to speak at board meetings. However, this doesn't apply to personal matters where the meeting is only open to members of The Board of Directors.

Section 7. The Board of Directors may, by a simple majority, appoint persons whom it wishes to follow its work. Deputies have the right to speak.

Section 8. Board meetings are convened by the Executive Committee with at least two weeks' notice.

Section 9. The Executive Committee or 1/3 of the members of The Board of Directors may demand that an extraordinary Board meeting be convened. The Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring that this is done within 14 days.

Section 10. A board member elected by the general meeting who is absent from two ordinary meetings without acceptable cancellation are constituted. The constituent can be re-elected.

§ 15. DGS' highest authority between the board meetings is the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The executive committee is appointed by The Board of Directors at the constituent meeting and consists of the President, the Organizational Vice President, and the Political Vice President as well as six members elected by and from among the board member's other members.

Section 3 The Executive Committee functions from the time it's been elected until 30th of June.

Section 4. The Executive Committee must hold at least eight ordinary meetings in the period from 1st of July to the 30th of June.

Section 5. People entitled to attend the board meetings of The Board Directors may attend the meetings of the Executive Committee without automatically having the right to speak. In the case of personal matters, the meeting is only open to members of the Executive Committee

Section 6. A member of the Executive Committee who is absent from two ordinary Executive Committee meetings without acceptable cancellation shall be constituted at the next Board meeting. The constituent may re-elect.

§ 16. The HF committee consists of one HF representative from each region, as well as four members of the Executive Committee.

Section 1. The HF committee has the task of getting HF on the agenda in the education debate.

Section 2. The HF Committee holds at least four ordinary meetings in the period from 1st of July to the 30th of June.

Section 3. Every DGS region is encouraged to elect one HF representative and one substitute, to be a part of the HF committee.

Section 4. The HF network elects two HF representatives and one HF substitute, to sit on the DGS Board. If no election is held at the network meeting, elections will be held at the next national meeting.

Section 5. If one HF representative or more is unable to attend a board meeting, then the HF Committee is self-supplementing.

Section 6. Other high school students have the right to attend and speak at the HF committee's meetings.

Section 7. The Board can overrule the HF Committee's decisions, with exception of personal elections.

§17. The HF-network is a network consisting of all DGS-member schools that are HF.

Section 1. The HF-network holds a minimum of two network meetings annually, which is arranged by the HF committee. The first network meeting must be held in either October, November or December.

Section 2. HF network meetings are convened by the HF-network with at least four weeks' notice.

§18. The IB network consists of an unlimited number of IB students. All IB students have the right to attend, speak and vote at IB network meetings. Other high school students have the right to attend and speak.

Section 2. Between IB network meetings, decisions on the work of the network are made by an executive committee, which may consist of a maximum of two IB students from each IB school. These can be elected at any IB network meeting. In addition, the IB network will appoint a representative and an alternate to sit in the General Board.

Section 3. Each year, there will be a minimum of four meetings in the IB network, which the Executive Committee is responsible for convening. If this is not possible, the responsibility lies with The Board of Directors.

Section 4. The regions are encouraged to select an IB-representative.

§ 19. The daily administration of DGS is carried out by the secretariat within the setting which is set by The Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The daily political and organizational management is handled by the President, the Organizational Vice President and the Political Vice President jointly

Section 3. The secretariat consists of volunteers and employees who are approved and employed by The Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The central administration takes place from the DGS' national office located in DGS' home municipality. Parts of the secretariat can function from regional offices or equivalent.

§ 20. DGS' financial year runs from 1st of January to the 31st of December.

Section 2. A 3/4 majority of the members of The Board of Directors' members may at board meetings dismiss the Political Vice President .

Section 3. The Board of Directors may notify one or several persons of a power of attorney. This basically applies to two members of the daily management of all DGS' accounts as well as the elected regional cashiers to their respective regional accounts. The Board of Directors may at any time revoke the power of attorney.

Section 4. DGS' accounts are audited by one of the board's employed state-authorized public accountants.

Section 5. The critical audit continuously monitors the finances of DGS, including the cash balance and submits comments to relevant authorities. It is the task of the critical audit to ensure compliance with the decisions of relevant authorities and the financial interest of the organization. The critical audit works independently from previous or current interests in DGS and relates critically in relation to these.

Section 6. DGS can raise loans through a decision of the board with a minimum 2/3 majority.

§ 21. DGS has a fund: The Activity Fund.

Section 2. The purpose of the Activity Fund is to support activities and educational policy initiatives carried out by student councils, regions or individuals which fall under DGS' paragraph of purpose.

Section 3. The Board of Directors disposes the fund's funds and may withdraw the money from these.

Chapter 7: Regions

§ 22 Denmark is divided into 10 geographically and coherent regions, which have their geographical starting point in one or two cities (cf. 21.3).

Section 2. The regions' purpose is to ensure ongoing exchange of experience between the student councils, to coordinate the implementation of DGS' activities in the area and through regionally elected board members (regional secretaries) to represent the area's students on DGS' board.

Section 3. The geographical starting points for the regions are the following cities: Aalborg, Skive, Aarhus, Kolding, Aabenraa, Odense, Roskilde, Hillerød, Vordingborg and Copenhagen. The starting points should be seen as guidelines, thus do not exclude meetings or other activities in other cities in the region.

Section 4. All high schools are associated with one region based on transport time, historical affiliation, and own wishes. The aim must be for a region to have five or twenty schools affiliated (the regions that belong to the starting points Aarhus and Copenhagen excepted). The distribution can be revised by the Board on an ongoing basis.

Section 5. The 12 regional secretaries are assigned to the regions that have achieved the largest quotients by dividing the region's most recently available student numbers by divisors one, three, five and seven.

§ 23. The region adopts its own articles of association according to the guidelines in 22.2-22.7.

Section 2. A region is named DGS-X, whereas X refers to the geographical area covered by the region.

Section 3. The region's highest authority is the annual meeting which is held ordinarily once every school year. The annual meeting is convened by the regional management in accordance with the region's articles of association. If this doesn't happen the annual meeting is convened by DGS' Executive Committee.

Section 4. The annual meeting decides on the region's articles of associations and any possible work plan and elects the region's management which consists of at least one regional treasurer and a number of regional secretaries (cf. 21.5).

Section 5. When choosing management, only high school students from the regions' high schools are eligible.

Section 6. Regions that damage DGS may be deprived of the right to use the name DGS by The Board of Directors.

Section 7. If a region is closed, its funds accrue to DGS.

Chapter 8: Various

§ 24 Articles of associations may be amended by the National assembly.

Chapter 1 may only be amended if it's adopted by a majority of 2/3, and chapter 7 and 8 may only be amended by a majority of 2/3 at two national meetings at intervals of at least 9 and at most 15 months.

Section 2. Amendments to the articles of associations become law at the end of the finally adopted national meeting.

Section 3. The national assembly may, by 2/3 majority dispense from these articles of association, chapter 7 and 8 are exceptions. Dispensation applies until the national meeting is dissolved.

§25 DGS can only be dissolved if it's adopted by a 2/3 majority at two national meetings at a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 15 months apart. At the dissolution of DGS, the organization's assets must be spent according to the DGS' purpose.

§26 All amendments must be accompanied by a written motivation.