

Articles of Association of the Private University in the Principality of Liechtenstein (UFL)

I. Principles

§ 1 Name, legal form, domicile

Under the name of “Private University in the Principality of Liechtenstein” there exists a charitable foundation (hereinafter “University”) within the meaning of Art. 552 et seq. of the Liechtenstein Persons and Companies Act (Personen- und Gesellschaftsrecht) with its domicile in Triesen.

§ 2 Purpose and mission

Para. 1 The University carries out scientific work in teaching and research in the interest of the general public. In this connection it also provides services and facilitates the transfer of knowledge and technology for commercial enterprises and public administration.

Para. 2 The University delivers scientific education, thereby creating the prerequisites for the practice of academic activities and professions. To achieve this purpose it offers study programmes and courses in the field of education and further education and strives to enable barrier-free learning. The education and further education provided is more specifically defined in the provisions applicable to University studies and the relevant study regulations.

Para. 3 The University awards doctorates and other academic degrees within the framework of the statutory provisions and provisions applicable to university studies, and in accordance with the relevant study regulations.

Para. 4 The activity of the University is governed by the provisions of the Higher Education Act (Hochschulgesetz) and is additionally oriented towards the University Development Plan to be issued by the foundation council.

§ 3 Designations

Unless otherwise provided, the person-related designations used in these Articles shall be deemed to refer to persons of the female and male genders.

§ 4 Foundation assets

Para. 1 The foundation assets amount to CHF 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand Swiss francs).

Para. 2 The foundation assets may at any time be further increased through donations or contributions of the founders or third parties, as well as through undistributed earnings. Donations or contributions must be added to the foundation capital or to the reserves.

§ 5 Funding of the University

The University is financed through public and private monies, matriculation, tuition, examination and user fees, revenue from further education events, remuneration for the provision of services or through other revenue, e.g. research and development funding, third-party funding, etc.

In this connection the foundation council issues more specific provisions in Finance Regulations.

§ 6 Freedom and responsibility of science

An emphasis is placed upon freedom of teaching, learning and research within the disciplines studied at the University.

The ethical assessment of the funds and procedures employed in teaching and research forms an element of the scientific work.

The financial support of the University by third parties and the provision of services for the benefit of third parties shall not be allowed to compromise the freedom of research and teaching.

§ 7 Quality assurance

The University shall safeguard the quality of the research and teaching it carries out and shall constantly seek to improve it.

The quality of the University shall be reviewed at regular intervals by a government-approved accreditation body.

§ 8 Cooperation and coordination

The University and its members shall promote and foster cooperation and coordination within the University as well as with other universities, colleges, industry, governmental and commercial organisations, and additional educational and research institutions in Liechtenstein and abroad.

The University shall promote the exchange of scholars and students.

§ 9 Relationship with the general public

The University shall foster communication with the general public and provide information about its activity, as well as its objectives and requirements.

The University may provide special scientific and cultural services for the benefit of the general public.

II. Tasks

A. Teaching

§ 10 Education

Following appropriate approval by the Government, the University may conduct consecutive courses of study at the following educational levels :

- a) Bachelor level
- b) Master level
- c) Doctorate level

§ 11 Further education

Para. 1 The University shall promote lifelong learning with its further education offering.

Para. 2 The further education level covers all further education offerings provided by the University, comprising in particular:

- a) Master's courses
- b) Diploma courses (DAS)
- c) Certificate courses (CAS)
- d) Seminars and courses
- e) Meetings and conferences
- f) Additional offerings which are expedient for achieving the purpose of the University

Para. 3 Further education offerings shall in principle be conducted self-supportingly.

§ 12 Qualification framework

Details of the individual study programmes and higher education qualifications (titles) are contained in the provisions applicable to university studies and the relevant study regulations of the University and are based upon the National Qualification Framework for Higher Education in the Principality of Liechtenstein (NQ.FL-HS) as amended from time to time.

§ 13 Honorary designations

The University may award honorary doctoral degrees (Dr. h.c.) to distinguished personalities in Liechtenstein and abroad, or for exceptional services in science and practice.

§ 14 Language of instruction

The languages of instruction for all courses of study offered are German or English. Other languages may be used in justified cases.

B. Research

§ 15 Scope and strategy

Para. 1 In the disciplines taught, the University conducts research which satisfies and stimulates demand and is in conformity with international standards.

Para. 2 The research strategy is laid down by the foundation council in the University Development Plan.

C. Services

§ 16 Scope, form and remuneration

Para. 1 In the disciplines taught, the University provides services in demand satisfying research and in the transfer of knowledge and technology.

Para. 2 Services are in principle offered for valuable consideration.

Para. 3 The forms of service and the remuneration for such service are stipulated by the foundation council in the Finance Regulations.

III. Governing bodies, organisational units and members

§ 17 General

Para. 1 The governing bodies of the University are :

- a) Foundation council
- b) University council
- c) Senate
- d) University management (rectorate)
- e) Auditors

Para. 2 Organisational units of the University are:

- a) Faculties
- b) Standing committees
- c) Administrative units

Para. 3 Members of the University are:

- a) Scientific staff
- b) Non-scientific staff
- c) Students

A. Governing bodies of the University

§ 18 Foundation Council

Para. 1 The foundation council is the supreme governing body of the University and is composed of three to five members. The foundation council constitutes and augments itself and elects a chairman from amongst its members. The term of office is four years plus the time remaining until the next rotational meeting of the foundation council. Re-election is possible. After the entry into force of these Articles, the foundation council is obligated to ensure by way of a resolution that, in conformity with a rotating term of office system, the term of office of no more than one foundation council member expires per calendar year.

Para. 2 If a member of the foundation council dies or resigns, or retires for any reason whatsoever, the remaining members of the foundation council shall elect a replacement for the missing member. In this case the new elected member of the foundation council shall automatically enter into the remaining term of office of the prematurely retired member of the foundation council. Election shall be on a simple majority of votes.

Para. 3 The meetings of the foundation council are convened in writing, and stating the items on the agenda, by the chairman or on the application of three members. The invitation and the agenda items must reach the members of the foundation council at least 14 days before the time of the meeting. If all members of the foundation council are present, the duly effected invitation and placing of items on the agenda may be waived if all members are in agreement.

Para. 4 The rector attends the meetings with an advisory vote. If required, a representative of the Office of Education or other persons may also be brought in for the proceedings.

Para. 5 The foundation council forms a quorum if the invitation and placing of items on the agenda have been duly effected. The foundation council adopts its resolutions with a simple majority, whereby

each member of the foundation council has one vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have the casting vote. Representation of a foundation council member is excluded. Resolutions may be adopted with the consent of all foundation council members in writing (circular resolutions).

Para. 6 The foundation council adopts resolutions on University matters of fundamental importance and monitors the activities of the University council and the University management.

In particular, the foundation council has the following tasks:

- a) Overall management and supervision of the University
- b) Issue and amendment of the Articles
- c) Adoption of the University Development Plan
- d) Authorisation of the provisions applicable to university studies and the study regulations
- e) Stipulation of admission restrictions
- f) Issue and amendment of the financial regulations, the personnel regulations and other regulations
- g) Financial planning and financial control
- h) Decisions concerning changes to and encumbrances on the foundation assets as well as the taking out of loans
- i) Approval of the formation of enterprises or of the participation in enterprises by the University
- j) Authorisation of agreements with other universities and research institutions
- k) Adoption of resolutions on the statement of estimates, the annual financial statement, the financial report and the discharge of the University management
- l) Resolution on the appropriation of the net profit
- m) Nomination of the rector and the prorector
- n) Election and dismissal of the members of the University council
- o) Nomination of the deans
- p) Appointment of (honorary) professors, private lecturers and visiting lecturers
- q) Election and dismissal of the members of committees and advisory bodies
- r) Appointment of auditors
- s) Awarding of honorary titles (Dr. h.c., Senator h.c.)

Para. 7 The foundation council may delegate certain tasks to committees or persons, or additional advisory bodies.

Para. 8 The foundation council shall be periodically informed by the rector in writing about the current business trend of the University. The rector shall report extraordinary incidents to the foundation council without delay.

Para. 9 The foundation council may at any time request the governing bodies, the organisational units and the members of the University to hand over to it certain documents and information. The parties concerned are obligated to comply with the request of the foundation council without delay.

§ 19 University Development Plan

Para. 1 The University Development Plan is the University's supreme strategy paper. It is drawn up by the University council together with the University management and adopted for the attention of the foundation council.

Para. 2 In particular, it covers the following subjects:

- a) Mission statement of the University
- b) Education and further education strategy
- c) Research strategy

- d) Personnel development plan
- e) Additional subject areas concerning the long-term development of the University

§ 20 University council

Para. 1 The University council is elected by the foundation council and is composed of five to seven members. The members of the university council are in each case elected for a term of office of four years. Re-election is possible. The University council constitutes itself and elects a chairman from amongst its members with a simple majority of votes.

Para. 2 The University council creates its own rules of procedure, which shall be brought to the attention of the foundation council and the University management.

Para. 3 The University council is a purely advisory body. It advises the foundation council on all matters concerning the strategic orientation of the University. In particular, it has the following tasks:

- a) Formulation and periodic review of the University Development Plan
- b) Reporting and recommendations to the foundation council for ensuring and further developing quality in research and teaching
- c) Reviewing amendments to the Articles of Association
- d) Recommendations concerning the organisation of the University
- e) Recommendations concerning cooperation with other universities and research institutions
- f) Recommendations concerning the nomination of the University management
- g) Recommendations concerning the appointment of professors
- h) Recommendations concerning the supplementation of the teaching staff and the range of courses
- i) Proposals for the awarding of honorary titles (Dr. h.c., Senator h.c.)
- j) Additional matters of importance affecting the University as a whole

§ 21 Senate

Para. 1 The senate is an independent body and has no decision-making power. It is the direct advisory body of the University management concerning internal University and organisational matters. It also deals with matters concerning the academic development of the University and may submit to the foundation council its opinions on matters of importance affecting the University as a whole. Opinions submitted to the foundation council shall be brought to the attention of the University management.

Para. 2 The senate is composed of all professors, a maximum of three representatives of mid-level faculty members, one student from each of the existing faculties and one representative of the non-scientific staff. The senate constitutes itself and elects a professor as its chairman every two years. Re-election is possible.

Para. 3 The senate creates its own rules of procedure, which governs the election of the senate, its convening, adoption of resolutions and suchlike. The rules of procedure shall be brought to the attention of the foundation council and the University management.

Para. 4 The rector attends the meetings of the senate with an advisory vote.

Para. 5 In particular, the senate deals with the following matters:

- a) Continuous review of provisions applicable to university studies
- b) Drafting of new study regulations for the attention of the University management
- c) Recommendation concerning the stipulation of admission restrictions

- d) Reporting to the University council regarding the review of existing measures to ensure quality in research and teaching
- e) Drafting of habilitation regulations

§ 22 University management (rectorate)

Para.1 The University management is the operational management body for the University as a whole. It is composed of the rector and the prorector. The rector is responsible for the management of the University and represents the University externally. The prorector supports the rector in the fulfilment of his tasks and represents him in the event of his indisposition and in the event of an emergency.

Abs. 2 The University management is appointed by the foundation council for a term of office of five years. Re-election is possible. The University council shall be consulted prior to the (re-)election of the University management. The position of the rector is put out to public tender. In the event of a re-election, a public tender may be waived.

Para. 3 In particular, the University management has the following tasks:

- a) Management of ongoing business
- b) Implementation of the decisions taken by the foundation council
- c) Personnel administration
- d) Setting up and supervision of the administrative units
- e) Formulation and implementation of the University Development Plan for the attention of the foundation council
- f) Formulation of the provisions applicable to university studies for the attention of the foundation council
- g) Review of new study regulations and adoption for the attention of the foundation council
- h) Management of budgetary planning
- i) Preparation of the annual budget
- j) Coordination of research, teaching and services
- k) Approval of the faculty regulations
- l) Recommendation for the nomination of the deacons
- m) Conduct of the appointment negotiations and submission of application for the nomination and promotion of professors for the attention of the foundation council
- n) Granting of the *venia legendi* and the awarding of academic titles
- o) Reporting in accordance with the statutory provisions

Para. 4 The University management is responsible for all University matters which are not assigned to another governing body.

§ 23 Auditors

The auditors are appointed by the foundation council. They perform their tasks in accordance with the legal basis.

B. Organisational units of the University

§ 24 Faculties

Para. 1 Faculties are organisational units of the University with research and teaching tasks, which may be subdivided into departments. The University has a medical science and a law faculty, and is free to set up additional faculties.

Para. 2 The management of a faculty is undertaken by the deacon, who is appointed by the foundation council on the proposal of the University management.

Para. 3 In particular, the deacon has the following tasks:

- a) Election of the scientific advisory bodies
- b) Representation of the faculty externally
- c) Coordination of the specialist departments and safeguarding the running of study courses and examinations
- d) Safeguarding the freedom of teaching and research in the faculty
- e) Strategy planning in coordination with the University management
- f) Conclusion of the agreement on objectives with the University management
- g) Exercise of the function of the direct supervisor for the University personnel assigned for this faculty
- h) Cooperation in quality assurance measures
- i) Preparation of the annual report of the faculty
- j) Setting up of a faculty conference
- k) Informing the members of the faculty about material decisions of management bodies affecting the faculty
- l) Stipulation of faculty regulations and internal faculty rules and regulations

§ 25 Standing committees

The disciplinary and appeals committees are standing committees of the University.

§ 26 Administrative units

The administrative units are the offices and administration units set up by the University management to safeguard the running of the University.

C. Members of the University

a. General

§ 27 Right of participation and right to information

University members have no governing body status. Within the scope of their function they have a right to appropriate information and a right to comment. In particular, they shall cooperate in quality management measures.

b. Scientific staff

§ 28 Composition

The scientific staff of the University are composed of the teaching staff and the mid-level faculty members.

§ 29 Teaching staff

Para. 1 The teaching staff are composed of the professors, private lecturers and visiting lecturers.

Para. 2 The foundation council may form additional categories of teaching staff and revoke existing categories. In particular, the foundation council may on the proposal of the University council nominate honorary professors to supplement the teaching staff and the range of courses.

Abs. 3 The teaching staff undertake teaching, research and services and cooperate with administrative tasks.

§ 30 Mid-level faculty members

Para. 1 The mid-level faculty members are composed of assistants and scientific staff.

Para. 2 The foundation council may form additional categories of mid-level faculty members and revoke existing categories.

Para. 3 The mid-level faculty members shall cooperate in accordance with the instructions of the teaching staff in research, teaching and services, as well as in administrative tasks.

Para. 4 The mid-level faculty members shall, within the scope of their appointment, be given appropriate opportunity to become qualified through their own scientific activity and to undergo further professional development.

c. Non-scientific staff

§ 31 Composition

The non-scientific staff of the University are composed of the staff of the administrative units and the administrative staff of the faculties.

d. Students

§ 32 Registration and admission as guest students

Para. 1 Students are admitted for study on registration. The prerequisites and the procedure for registration are governed by the provisions applicable to university studies.

Para. 2 Additional persons may attend individual teaching events as guest students during a semester or several semesters.

IV. Legal protection, disciplinary law and title protection

§ 33 Legal protection

Para. 1 Decisions of the foundation council or other governing bodies of the University are not contestable and are final.

Para. 2 Decisions of the appeals committees concerning the result of examinations and awards of doctorates are subject to appeal to a three-member appeals committee selected by the foundation council.

Para. 3 The appeals committee is restricted to the consideration of infringements of rights and infringements of procedural rules. The plea of unreasonableness is excluded. Decisions of the appeals committee are final.

Para. 4 The foundation council stipulates in rules of procedure the further particulars concerning the composition of the appeals committee and its procedure.

§ 34 Disciplinary law

Para. 1 The foundation council shall issue a disciplinary code to guarantee the orderly running of the University.

Para. 2 Any person who seriously or repeatedly contravenes the disciplinary code may be excluded from the University.

Para.3 Matters concerning breaches of discipline shall be adjudicated by the three-member appeals committee selected by the foundation council. Decisions of the disciplinary committee are final.

Para. 4 The foundation council stipulates in rules of procedure the further particulars concerning the composition of the disciplinary committee and its procedure.

§ 35 Title protection

Para. 1 An unlawfully acquired title shall be revoked by the University management, based upon the provisions applicable to University studies

Para. 2 The right is reserved to apply provisions of criminal law concerning the unauthorised use of academic titles.

V. Transitional provisions and entry into force

§ 36 Transitional provisions

Until the issue of new implementing provisions, the previous ordinances and regulations shall continue to apply, unless they are in conflict with the present Articles.

§ 37 Entry into force

These Articles were adopted by the foundation council at its meeting of 11 June 2018 and replace the previous Articles in the version of 22 December 2009. They enter into force as at 1 July 2018.