

**Constitution**  
**Of Nigerian Students**  
**Association,**  
**Ivano-Frankivsk**  
**(N.S.A.I.F)**

# Arrangement of Articles

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**PREAMBLE**

We, the legally abiding and committed members of the Nigerian Students Community from all Universities in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, having seen the need for unity, corporation and interaction among us, the need for a formal development of our Unity, the need for corporation and co-existence with sister associations, formed the Nigerian Students Association, Ivano-Frankivsk (N.S.A.I.F).

It shall not be a political, tribal, religious or violent organisation. We do hereby give ourselves this constitution and do accept that it will be a binding instrument in the day to day running of the administration of this association.

## **ARTICLE 1**

1. **NAME**

This association shall be known as and called Nigerian Students Association Ivano-Frankivsk.

2. **MOTTO**

The motto of this Association shall be:

**"Unity and Success Through Hard work"**

## **2.1 Supremacy of the Constitution**

- 1) This constitution shall be supreme and its content shall have binding force on all members of the association.
- 2) Any act or action by a member of the association which is inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution, shall to the extent of the inconsistency be void.

# **ARTICLE 3**

## **Aims and Objectives**

- 3.1.) To foster the spirit of oneness among all students
- 3.2.) To participate in healthy, social, academic and cultural development in the interest of Nigerians in Ivano-Frankivsk.
- 3.3.) To aid members in any way possible within the limits of the abiding laws of our host country, home country and constitution, as and when necessary.
- 3.4.) To render moral support to members when the need arises
- 3.5.) To encourage and help the less fortunate ones in the society.
- 3.6.) To foster the spirit of self-help and corporation among its members.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **Membership**

1. Membership of the association shall be open to all legal students of any of the Universities in Ivano-Frankivsk of Nigerian Origin with or without the ownership of a Nigerian passport.
2. A prospective member shall register with the sum of 400grv.

# **ARTICLE 5**

## **Funding and Disbursement of Funds**

- 5.1.) Every member shall pay 300grv as dues every year, 150grv PER SEMESTER.
- 5.2.) Fees paid as penalties for actions not in accordance with this constitution.
- 5.3.) Members of the association shall when necessary be called upon to make FREEWILL contributions, donations or pay levies towards a particular project of the association.
- 5.4.) When any member or officer of the association is given any sum of money for any project or duty, he shall on completion of the assignment present a statement of account to the house
- 5.5.) Funds will be disbursed for projects that are suggested to the association, considered by the Executive council and approved by the Senate, or Vetoed by the president with support from other members of the Executives, Senate and 4 relevant external advisors as in line with the constitution and abiding laws of host and home country.
- 5.6.) The association shall give funds to help any and all Nigerians in Ivano-Frankivsk, within the limits of our purse and also by donations from well-meaning members via the following means:
  - 5.6.1 - By non-refundable donations, in health threatening cases and other emergencies, that cannot be blamed on the carelessness, negligence or irresponsibility of the victims.
  - 5.6.2 - By loans, with 5% interest every month for Nigerians, and with an interest of 10% for non-Nigerians who would repay within a period of 6 months with a penalty of 5% interest added every month after the 6 months' time frame, after collecting relevant collateral, in the presence of 3 approachable and assessable witnesses and signatories, supporting both the lender and the association and 2 referees for the lender after stating their use for the funds and approval by the senate.
- 5.7.) Funds will not be released for any use that will promote violence, racism, social, tribal political or religious discrimination, oppression, pacification, bribery, corruption, malpractices of any kind against Nigerians or people of other nationalities, or for any use that is against the constitution of the association, host or home country.
- 5.8.) There will be a scale of preference in the disbursement of funds with first considerations to Nigerians in Ivano-Frankivsk who;
  - 5.8.1 - Are in a life or Academic threatening situation.
  - 5.8.2 - Are on the right side of the laws and constitutions of the Association, host and

home country.

5.8.3 - Have served or are currently serving in the Association.

5.8.4 - Are actively committed and devoted legal members of the Association.

5.8.5 - Have paid all dues and relevant fees and penalties.

5.8.6 - Are Nigerian.

5.9.) There shall be not less than 2000 grv left in the Associations purse at any point in time.

# **ARTICLE 6**

## **Senate**

- 6.1.) The association shall have a senate made of the following offices
- 6.1.1.) President of the Senate, also known as Senate President.
  - 6.1.2.) Deputy Senate President, not from same University as Senate President
  - 6.1.3.) Senate Leader, representing a course (class or year) from both universities.
  - 6.1.4.) Heads of Academics, Sports, Health, Finance, Publicity and Publications, Welfare, Security, Judicial and Special Duties committees WHEN THE OCCASION CALLS FOR IT.
  - 6.1.5.) The P.R.Os from each of the Universities in Ivano-Frankivsk BY OBLIGATION.
  - 6.1.6.) A CLERK OF THE SENATE
  - 6.1.7.) Honourable Members of the Senate.
- 6.2.) First Appointment FOR THE YEAR 2016, shall be By Popular demand from as many opinionated members of the constituency as possible, subsequent appointments shall be by the following means;
- 6.2.1 - Interest from a newly promoted constituency member, (one who has graduated into a new class or course) if there is no credible opposition. If there are more than one interested persons, the popular choice, from among these interested persons by the constituency members will be appointed.
  - 6.2.2 - As recommended by the Outgoing Senator if there is no difference of opinion from a majority of the constituency members or if there are no other interested members.
  - 6.2.3 - A Senator who has graduated into a new class or course and wants to continue in the position of Senator except he/she has been previously disqualified or if there is a difference of opinion from majority of the constituency members, or if there are other interested constituency members.
  - 6.2.4 - By the first method as stated in 6.2 of this constitution above.
- 6.3.) A Senate Constituency is a Class or Course (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, course, etc...) from a faculty or department, 1 FROM MEDICINE FACULTY OF MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, 1 FROM OTHER FACULTIES OF MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, 1 FROM OIL AND GAS UNIVERSITY.

# **ARTICLE 7**

## **Functions of the Senate**

- 7.1.) To lay down policy guideline for the association
- 7.2.) To act as a bridge in the event of any crisis within the association and arbitrate on disputes involving the association and a member, or involving various members.
- 7.3.) The Principal offices of the Senate from 6.1, excluding 6.1.7 of this constitution above, will be filled by via elections, conducted by Senate Members, observed by any interested member of the Executive Council, with all appointed Senators as the electorates.
- 7.4.) The Senate is responsible for deliberating, and deciding on issues, either presented to the Senate, or Conceived by the Senate, that are relevant to Nigerian students in Ivano-Frankivsk.
- 7.5.) The Senate is also responsible for opposing any decisions or considerations, made by the Executive Council, which the Senate deems not in the best interest of any Nigerian or Nigerians in Ivano-Frankivsk.
- 7.6.) The Senators are responsible for bringing before the Senate, issues or complaints by members of their constituencies, for deliberations, and, taking back to the members of their constituencies results of deliberations and any information, as deliberated or decided by the Senate, or, as decided by the Executive Council.
- 7.7.) The Senate, will bring to the attention of the Executive Council and its members, their duties as coined out from Senate Sessions, concerning issues, relevant to the Nigerian Community.
- 7.8.) The Senate, shall call to order, issue suspensions, IMPEACHMENTS and disqualifications, grant pardons and disbursement of funds, through its relevant vehicles as stated in 6.1.4 of this constitution, in respective cases to members of the Executive Council, Senate and Association at large.
- 7.9.) The Senate and its members will conduct themselves according to the Rules and Regulations of the Senate, which is prepared and subject to review by seating members of the Executive Council.
- 7.10.) Members of the Senate shall address themselves in a respectable manner. Any member who insults or disrespects a fellow Senators shall be penalized according to the consideration in the Rules and Regulation of the Senate from 7.9 of this constitution.

7.11.) Senate Proceedings shall be held on a closed DOOR MEETING, CALLED BY THE SENATE PRESIDENT

7.12.) Senate members shall serve as interpreters of the law in the interest of the members of their constituency, or any other Nigerian - as long as there is no conflict of interest with a member of the Senator's Constituency – in the event of Judicial Hearings or Tribunals. The Deciding Factor of a hearing will be by a Jury made up of external advisors from Article 14, Senate Judicial Committee from 6.1.4, Members of the Senate 6.1.7 and Members of the Executive Council from Article 8 of this constitution, and chosen floor Members of the Association with not less than 6 persons that are uncompromised and neutral in the case, with or without the presence of the Subject. All Judgements made must be adhered to before further interference or involvement of the Association as the case may be.

# **ARTICLE 8**

## **Executive Council**

- 8.1.) The affairs of this association shall be run by an Executive Council elected by the house at a general meeting except those under the conditions of 7.3 of this constitution.
- 8.2.) The executive council shall be made up of the following officers:
- 8.2.1.) President
  - 8.2.2.) Vice President – Must not be from the same University as the President
  - 8.2.3.) General Secretary
  - 8.2.4.) Financial Secretary
  - 8.2.5.) Treasurer
  - 8.2.6.) 2 Public Relations Officers – One from each university
  - 8.2.7.) 2 Provosts – One from each university
  - 8.2.8.) 2 Sports Directors– One from each university
  - 8.2.9.) 2 Directors of Socials – One from each university
  - 8.2.10.) 2 Welfare Directors – One from each university
  - 8.2.11.) 2 ACADEMIC DIRECTORS – ONE FROM EACH UNIVERSITY
  - 8.2.12.) 2 Health Directors – One from each university

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **Duties and Functions of Members of the Executive Council**

#### **9.1.) President**

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the association charged with the following responsibilities:

- 9.1.1.) Presiding over all the meetings of the association.
- 9.1.2.) Conducting the affairs of the association.
- 9.1.3.) Be the spokesmen of the association.
- 9.1.4.) Shall be one of the signatories on all documents and correspondence of the association.
- 9.1.5.) Shall have 2 casting vote where there is a tie.

#### **9.2.) Vice President**

- 9.2.1.) Shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties
- 9.2.2.) Shall in the absence of the President, perform his functions with regards to the universities they represent.

#### **9.3.) General Secretary**

- 9.3.1.) Shall record minutes of all meetings of the association.
- 9.3.2.) Shall keep the records and documents of the association.
- 9.3.3.) Shall be signatory to all documents and correspondence of the association.

#### **9.4.) Financial Secretary**

- 9.4.1.) Shall collect all dues and monies payable to the association and hand over same to the treasurer after proper documentations.
- 9.4.2.) Shall keep financial records of the association.
- 9.4.3.) Shall prepare financial statement of the association at the end of every year and present same at ALL the association's GENERAL MEETINGS

#### **9.5.) Treasurer**

- 9.5.1.) Shall be at the keeper of the association's documented monies and assets.
- 9.5.2.) Shall disburse monies with the approval of the President or Acting President.

#### **9.6.) Public Relations Officer**

- 9.6.1.) Shall summon meeting of the association in consultation with the president.
- 9.6.2.) Shall publicise the activities of the association in the mass media and other means necessary.
- 9.6.3.) ARE OBLIGATED TO serve as an Observing member of the Senate from the Executive Council in line with 9.3.4 of this constitution.
- 9.6.4.) Shall keep a register of attendance of members and make them available on demand by any Executive Council member.
- 9.6.5.) Shall make all relevant announcements outside of meetings.

#### **9.7.) Provost**

- 9.7.1.) Shall be responsible for the general good conduct of members at the associations' meetings and social gatherings.
- 9.7.2.) Shall collect fines from offenders and hand over same immediately to the financial secretary.
- 9.7.3.) Shall make all relevant announcements after the close of meetings.

#### **9.8.) Sports Director**

- 9.8.1.) Shall take care of all Sporting activities and information concerning sporting activities (tournaments, competitions, etc.) in the best interest of members.
- 9.8.2.) Shall take part in all decision making of the Executive Council.

#### **9.9.) Director of Socials**

- 9.9.1.) Shall take care of all Social activities and information concerning social activities (events, concerts, etc.) in the best interest of members.
- 9.9.2.) Shall take part in all decision making of the Executive Council.

#### **9.10.) Welfare Director**

- 9.10.1.) Shall take care of all Welfare activities.
- 9.10.2.) Shall take care of academic events and information concerning academic activities. (research, conferences, etc.) in the best interest of members.
- 9.10.3.) Shall be part of the said delegation in 9.11.2 of this constitution.
- 9.10.4.) Shall take part in all decision making of the Executive Council.

### **9.11.) Academic Director**

- 9.11.1.) Shall take care of academic events and information concerning academic activities. (research, conferences, etc.) in the best interest of members.
- 9.11.2.) Shall take part in all decision making of the Executive Council.

### **9.12.) Health Director**

- 9.12.1.) Shall bring every reported health issue reported to him before the Executive Council for necessary deliberations first.
- 9.12.2.) Shall lead a delegation to pay a visit to sick members at home or in the hospital.
- 9.12.3.) Shall work with the Academic Director in bringing information concerning academic and health related activities (research, conferences, etc.) in the best interest of members.
- 9.12.4.) Shall take part in all decision making of the Executive Council.
- 9.12.5.) Will take care of any health emergencies of any member or Nigerian.

**9.13.) All Elected Principal Officers of the Senate occupying the offices stated in and by the considerations of 7.3 will perform all functions according to Article 7 of this constitution.**

# **ARTICLE 10**

## **Tenure/Election of Officers**

- 10.1.) All members of the executive council shall be elected on a one year tenure. However, a member may run for a second term in office after which he/she ceases to be eligible to contest for that office for which he/she served, except Senators, based on the considerations of 6.2.3 of this constitution.
- 10.2.) To be eligible to contest for any position, a person must HAVE PAID ALL OUTSTANDING DUES and must have cleared all their debts a month prior to the date of the election.
- 10.3.) A 5-man electoral committee shall be appointed by the Executive Council and charged with the responsibility of conducting the election within two or three months from the date of appointment.
- 10.4.) A winner for any particular office shall emerge by a simple majority of members present and voting at the election meeting.
- 10.5.) Final year, Preparatory course and 1<sup>st</sup> Year Students are not allowed to hold offices stated in 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.4, 6.1.5, 6.1.6, 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.2.4, 8.2.5, 8.2.6, 8.2.7, 8.2.8, 8.2.9, 8.2.10 of this constitution. In addition, 1<sup>st</sup> course and preparatory course students are not allowed to hold offices stated in 8.2.11 of this constitution. STUDENTS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY DUE FOR KROK 1, ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CONTEST IN OFFICES STATED IN 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.4, 6.1.5, 6.1.6, 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.2.4, 8.2.5 OF THIS CONSTITUTION
- 10.6.) Forms will be sold to eligible members for vacant offices during the elections period. COST OF FORMS WILL BE \$50 EACH FOR THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, \$20 FOR OTHER OFFICES
- 10.7.) Offices not vied for after the elections, shall be occupied through appointments, made by the Executive Council, of persons who have fulfilled all obligations and duties as stated in 10.2 of this constitution.
- 10.8.) Any Individual running for the post of President or Vice president must have spent a minimum of 4 semesters in any of the Universities in Ivano-Frankivsk AND MUST BE AN AVERAGE STUDENT.
- 10.9.) All other modalities of the election proceedings shall be carried out by the electoral committee in consultation with the Executive Council USING THIS CONSTITUTION AS A GUIDE.

# **ARTICLE 11**

## **Welfare**

Every financial and active member is entitled to the following benefits.

### **11.1.) Death of a Member:**

The association shall keep an tribute night for the fallen member, at the place of worship of the deceased except otherwise stated by the family of the deceased.

**11.2.)** The association shall be active partakers in the funeral ceremony of a member.

**11.3.)** The association shall carry out an obituary announcement except otherwise stated by the family of the deceased.

**11.4.)** It is the duty of the association to visit the family of a dead member either as a full house or on representation.

### **11.5.) Death of a member's family:**

The association shall present to console the bereaved member, a minimum of once every week, within the month, either as a full house or by representation. The association shall assist in any way deemed possible.

**11.6.)** Financial assistance in the case of emergencies or for projects according to the considerations stated in 3.3, 3.5, 5.8, 5.9 of this constitution.

**11.7.)** In the case of a serious accident involving a member, the association shall visit the member and thereafter give any assistance necessary from time to time.

# **ARTICLE 12**

## **Meetings**

- 12.1.) The association shall meet EVERY 2 MONTHS, OTHER MEETINGS CAN BE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT AS THE NEED ARISES.
- 12.2.) Quorum for the meeting shall be any number as long as all universities are represented.
- 12.3.) The secretary shall at the beginning of each year prepare the meeting roaster, which shall be distributed to members.
- 12.4.) The venue of meetings will be decided by the executive council.
- 12.5.) The business of the day in any meeting of the association shall be conducted in English language.
- 12.6.) The executive council shall meet if and when the need arises as may be deemed necessary by the president.
- 12.7.) At the beginning of each meeting, the anthem of our country will be joyously sung by all members.
- 12.8.) The Senate shall meet if and when the need arises as may be deemed necessary by the Senate president. All proceedings shall be according to the Senate rules and regulations.
- 12.9.) Unruly behaviours of Late coming, Absence, Violence, Foul and Insulting words, Disrespect to fellow members or Executives, and Constituting any form of nuisance shall not be tolerated and shall attract penalties as decided by the Executive Council depending on the weight of action.

## **ARTICLE 13**

## **Removal from office/disqualification of membership**

An officer of the association shall be removed from office on the following grounds:

- 13.1.) Inability to discharge his/ her official functions on the grounds of TERMINALLY ill-health, physical incapacitations or sheer negligence or incompetence.
- 13.2.) Non-attendance BY AN EXECUTIVE at 2 consecutive meetings of the association without acceptable apology.
- 13.3.) Proven embezzlement of the association's fund. The association shall retrieve such monies by any means that may be deemed fit, necessary and reasonable at the time of question and such person investigated, removed and punished where necessary.
- 13.4.) Proven acts of Insubordination, Verbal or Physical Assault, Fighting, Stealing, Armed robbery, Use or Abuse of Controlled or Intoxicating Substances respectively, without a doctor's prescription or any act which the association considers an act of gross misconduct.
- 13.5.) In the case of the suspension of an executive, one association member in the Senate, appointed by the Executive Council, will temporarily hold the post and its responsibilities and transfer back to the official on his readmission.
- 13.6.) After every suspension, a rehabilitation and restoration committee would be set up to counsel and qualify the suspended member for re-admission.

## **ARTICLE 14**

## **External Advisers**

The association shall have external advisers from:

- 14.1.) Past office holders of the association
- 14.2.) Graduated members of the association still residing in the city
- 14.3.) Professionals in any field as the need may arise
- 14.4.) School Authorities
- 14.5.) Nigerian Embassy Officials

These must be people who shall be seen to be of proven integrity and shall readily play advisory roles when the need arises.

## **Amendment**

- 15.1.) Any proposal for amendment shall be subject to approval by a majority of those present in the meeting.
- 15.2.) The constitution shall stand operative for a period of four years, then reviewed if need be.
- 15.3.) All Universities in Ivano-Frankivsk must be represented.

# **ARTICLE 16**

## **Citation and Commencement**

This constitution shall be cited as the constitution of "Nigerian Students Association" and shall come into effect on this day, the (DATE TO BE ADDED)

### **NOTE:**

#### **Exemption Clause**

It is pertinent to note at this point that following the tender/early nature of this association, not all the benefits inscribed to a member in the foregoing constitution will be adhered to especially those benefits that have financial responsibilities attached to them. Once the association has developed deep root, various accessible benefits and shall fully be adhered to.

# APPENDIX

## OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I..... Solemnly swear that i will uphold the provision of the constitution of this association and that as the ....., i will carry out my duties and functions faithfully in accordance with the constitution of this association subject to the provision of the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria.

So help me God.

.....

**Signature**

.....

**Date**