



**INTERNATIONAL  
POLICE ASSOCIATION**  
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

# INTERNATIONAL STATUTES

## A Fundamental Principles

### Art. 1 Definition

The International Police Association (IPA) is a non-profit organisation ruled by its current International Statutes (IS) and additionally by article 60 onwards of the Swiss Civil Code (CCS). It is politically neutral and independent.

The IPA is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) in Consultative (Special) Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations; in Consultative Status with the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and UNESCO.

### Art. 2 Principles

The IPA is committed to the principles as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as adopted by the United Nations in 1948 and recognises that any form of torture is absolutely inconsistent with these principles.

### Art. 3 Motto

The IPA motto, in Esperanto, shall be "SERVO PER AMIKECO" (service through friendship).

### Art. 4 Emblems of the IPA

The emblems of the IPA are protected by trademark and may only be used within the framework of the Association.

### Art. 5 Seat

The seat of the Association shall be in Geneva, Switzerland, at the following address:  
p.a. Mo Costabella Pirkl Lawyers, Rue de Rive 6, CH-1204 Geneva.

### Art. 6 Official Languages

The official working languages of the Association shall be English, French, German and Spanish. However, the reference language is English.

## B Aims

### Art. 7 Aims of the IPA

The aims of the IPA are to:

- create and strengthen bonds of friendship between members of the police service,
- promote international cooperation in social, cultural and professional fields,

- encourage peaceful co-existence between peoples and preservation of world peace,
- improve the public image of the police service,
- enhance recognition of the IPA by international bodies.

To this end the IPA, with a view to promoting greater tolerance, peace, respect for law and order, understanding between people and for the work of the police, shall develop and undertake nationally and internationally:

- exchange programmes, visits and trips for IPA members,
- scholarships for young members,
- professional seminars,
- emergency aid,
- social gatherings and events,
- social funds for its members,
- sport events,
- cultural exhibitions and competitions,
- youth exchanges and meetings with a view to promoting the work of the police,
- contacts with the authorities,
- publications, statements and campaigns,
- participation in events set up by other organisations,
- *any other activity following the goals described above, within the IPA or in cooperation with other organisations.*

## **C Resources**

### **Art. 8 Resources**

The resources of the IPA are made up of:

- the international levy paid by the members and fixed by the International Executive Council (IEC),
- donations and legacies,
- private and public subsidies,
- any other resources authorised by law.

All financial resources shall be used in conformity with the aims of the Association.

### **Art. 9 Financial Obligations**

The liabilities of the Association shall be limited to the assets of the Association (article 75a - CCS). The liabilities of any member section are limited to the payment of the international levy and any outgoing or expelled member section shall have no claim on the fortune of the Association.

### **Art. 10 Administrative and Financial Year**

The administrative and financial year shall be the same as the calendar year starting 1 January and ending 31 December.

## **D Membership**

### **Art. 11 Membership**

The IPA shall consist only of National Sections from states which are sovereign according to existing international law, members of the United Nations or recognised by the UN, and where it is possible to execute unrestricted realisation of the principles as set out in the current International Statutes.

## **Art. 12 Procedure**

To be recognised as a National Section of the IPA, it shall follow the Procedure for the Foundation and Affiliation of National Sections and adopt national statutes in accordance with the International Statutes, especially with regards to article 2 of the International Statutes that shall be included in the national statutes.

## **Art. 13 Conditions**

The National Sections, affiliated or in the process of affiliation, gather members of the police service, whether in employment or retired, and without distinction as to rank/position, gender, race, language or religion.

There shall be the following categories and conditions of membership:

- **Ordinary Membership:** each Section shall determine for itself who is to be considered as belonging to the police service and who can be accepted as a member. Each Section may also restrict membership to police officers only.
- **Foreign Associate Membership:** members of the police service of a country where there is no IPA section, may be admitted to the membership of existing Sections as Foreign Association Members (FAM).
- **Extraordinary Membership:** Sections are permitted to admit widows and widowers of members as Extraordinary Members. However, such membership shall not entitle them to hold any governing office.

## **Art. 14 Proof of Membership**

An international annual membership card acts as proof of membership in the Association.

## **Art. 15 National Executive Board**

National Sections shall elect a National Executive Board whose term of office shall be limited in time by the national statutes and which shall consist of at least a:

- President,
- Secretary General,
- Treasurer.

National Sections are independent with regards to their administration.

## **Art. 16 Affiliation**

A National Section shall be affiliated at the annual IPA World Congress, proposed by the International Executive Board (IEB).

## **Art. 17 Recognition**

Only one IPA Section is permitted in a single state.

## **Art. 18 Suspension - Expulsion**

A section may be suspended or expelled from the IPA. The decision is to be taken by the IEC, or in exceptional cases, by the IEB. The reasons and the procedure shall be as defined in the International Rules.

# **E Bodies**

## **Art. 19 International Bodies**

The official bodies of the IPA are the:

- International Executive Council,
- International Executive Board,
- International Commissions,
- Internal Auditors,
- Crisis Committee.

## **International Executive Council (IEC)**

### **Art. 20 Composition and Tasks**

The IEC is composed of one delegate from each Section and of the IEB. It shall meet every year for an ordinary session at an IPA World Congress. The International Executive Board shall convene the IPA World Congress at a time and place approved by the IEC.

The IEC is the supreme body of the Association and shall have overall responsibility for it.

At an IPA World Congress, the International Executive Council shall:

- affiliate, suspend or expel National Sections,
- elect the members of the IEB and the internal auditors every four years,
- vote on the annual reports and the accounts,
- vote on the annual budget,
- decide upon the international levy,
- decide upon any modification of the IPA documents: International Statutes, International Rules or Procedures,
- decide upon the dissolution of the Association.

### **Art. 21 Quorum, Chair and Voting**

For the purpose of the IPA World Congress, a minimum of 3/4 of all Sections must be present or represented, plus a minimum of 5 IEB members.

The President, or if absent, the President's representative, shall chair the IPA World Congress.

The decisions of the IPA World Congress shall be taken by a simple majority of the votes cast for and against. Each delegate has one vote and the IEB has a collective vote. In case of equality, the vote of the IEB counts double.

Decisions regarding the modification of the International Statutes, the International Rules, the Procedures, the affiliation, suspension, or expulsion of a Section, as well as the dissolution of the Association can only be taken by a 2/3 majority of the votes.

### **Art. 22 Extraordinary World Congress**

An IPA Extraordinary World Congress shall be convened if a proposal signed by at least half of all Sections is submitted to the IEB.

## **International Executive Board (IEB)**

### **Art. 23 Composition and Tasks**

The IEB is authorised to render all acts that are in accordance with the aims of the Association and is responsible for its day-to-day management.

The procedure for elections shall be as defined in the International Rules.

The IEB shall be elected for a period of four years. A candidate can only run for one position on the IEB at any one time.

It shall be composed of the:

- President,
- Secretary General,
- Chairperson of the External Relations Commission,
- Chairperson of the Professional Commission,
- Chairperson of the Socio-Cultural Commission,
- Head of Administration,
- Treasurer Finances,
- Treasurer Social Affairs.

On completion of the elections to the IEB, delegates will then be asked to elect one Vice President from among the three commission chairpersons.

The IEB is responsible for the regular management of the Association and for the implementation of decisions taken by the IEC. It shall have the power to act on behalf of the IEC in any matter requiring immediate action and is especially in charge of:

- taking appropriate measures in order to fulfil the aims of the Association,
- calling for ordinary and extraordinary IPA World Congresses,
- taking care of the IPA documents (International Statutes, International Rules and Procedures) and administering the assets of the Association.

#### **Art. 24 Representation and Signatory Authority**

The President and an additional member of the IEB shall represent the Association in and out of court.

The association is validly certified by the signatures of the President and an additional member of the IEB.

For financial transactions, the individual signature of one of the Treasurers is required, unless the amount exceeds the limits as specified in article 23 of the International Rules, in which case the additional signature of another IEB member is required.

### **International Commissions**

#### **Art. 25 International Commissions**

In furtherance of the aims of the Association there shall be three standing commissions which shall support the work of the IEB regarding external, professional and socio-cultural matters:

- External Relations Commission (ERC),
- Professional Commission (PC),
- Socio-Cultural Commission (SCC).

The chairpersons of the commissions will select commission members according to the Procedure for International Commissions.

### **Internal Auditors**

#### **Art. 26 Auditing**

Two internal auditors shall be elected for a period of 4 years. Their term of office shall be renewable once only.

They shall be responsible for examining the accuracy of the income and expenditure of the International Treasury annually and for submitting a report to the IEC.

In addition, an external accountant shall examine the accounts annually.

## **Crisis Committee**

### **Art. 27 Crisis Committee**

In the event that the IEB is unable to continue its work, a Crisis Committee shall be formed consisting of the Presidents of the five oldest Sections (United Kingdom - Netherlands - Belgium - France - Norway). Should one of these Sections be eliminated by dissolution or expulsion, its place shall be taken by the next most senior Section.

The Crisis Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of business until new elections can be held.

## **F Miscellaneous Provisions**

### **Art. 28 Impartiality**

IEB members, International Commission members, Internal Auditors and members of the Crisis Committee, shall carry out their duties independently of the interests of their Sections and for the exclusive good of the Association.

### **Art. 29 International Rules and Procedures**

International Rules and Procedures shall be established in support of the International Statutes. They are an integral part of the IPA documents.

### **Art. 30 Dissolution of the IPA**

The dissolution of the IPA may only occur at an IPA World Congress and in this event, the assets of the Association shall be donated to one or several international relief organisations chosen at the IPA World Congress.

### **Art. 31 Matters of Interpretation**

All matters of interpretation arising in conjunction with the International Statutes shall be settled provisionally by the IEB pending a decision by the IEC.

### **Art. 32 Entry into Force**

Any amendments to IPA documents shall enter into force at the end of an IPA World Congress or at a later date as specified in the motion.

**These International Statutes were adopted by the IEC during the IPA World Congress in Cyprus 2015 and entered into force on 16 October 2015. They replace any previous International Statutes.**

**President** : Pierre-Martin Moulin

**Secretary General** : Georgios Katsaropoulos