

**CONSOLIDATED COPY OF
THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM**

(as adopted on 16 March 2008 at the Meeting of the European Assembly in Vienna, Austria; and with name amended on 7 March 2010 at the Meeting of the European Assembly in Paris, France; and amended and replaced by a New Deed on 3 May 2013 at the Meeting of the European Assembly in Jerusalem, Israel; and further amended on 27 April 2014 at the Meeting of the European Assembly in Dresden, Germany; and incorporating amendments to be proposed at the Meeting of the European Assembly on 27 May 2017 in Jerusalem, Israel).

1. DEFINITIONS

- Constituent Member** - An organisation situated within Europe (all of whose members are Jewish) which has been admitted by the European Assembly to full membership of the EUPJ in accordance with Clause 4.1.1. *[Amended 27 April 2014]*
- Associate Member** - An organisation situated within Europe which has been admitted by the European Assembly to limited membership of the EUPJ in accordance with Clause 4.4.
- EUPJ** - The body (composed of all the Constituent Members and Associate Members, as set out in Clause 4.1) called the European Union for Progressive Judaism and which constitutes a Regional Organisation in Europe of the WUPJ, in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the WUPJ Constitution.
- European Assembly** - The body responsible for governing the EUPJ, composed as set out in Clause 5.2.
- Executive Board** - The body responsible for carrying out the policy and activities of the EUPJ and for making executive decisions, composed as set out in Clause 6.1.
- Jewish** - For the purposes of this Constitution, shall mean a person with at least one Jewish parent or who has been converted to Judaism by a recognised Beit Din. *[Inserted 27 April 2014]*

Management Committee		The body responsible for managing and conducting the operations of the EUPJ on a day to day basis, composed as set out in Clause 7.2.
Officers	-	The Chairman, not less than one and not more than three Vice-Chairmen, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the EUPJ.
WUPJ	-	World Union for Progressive Judaism.
WUPJ Constitution	-	The constitution of the WUPJ.

2. THE EUPJ

The Constituent Members shall constitute a regional organisation to be known as the European Union for Progressive Judaism in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the WUPJ Constitution. The term "Progressive" shall include all forms of Judaism which are in harmony with the principles of the Preamble and Mission Statement of the WUPJ Constitution, whether designated as "Liberal," "Reform," "Progressive," or by any other name.

3. MISSION AND OBJECTS

The mission and objects of the EUPJ shall be to further the mission of the WUPJ within Europe and in pursuance thereof to do all such things as may seem desirable for the attainment of that mission and in particular all such things as are required to be done by a Regional Organisation constituted pursuant to the WUPJ Constitution.

In summary, the mission of the WUPJ is to strengthen Jewish life and values in Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world by supporting and advancing a Progressive approach to Jewish tradition and this includes –

- Building and connecting Progressive Jewish communities worldwide;
- Partnering in the development of Israel as a democratic and pluralistic Jewish state;
- Securing the Jewish future by investing in youth and young adults;
- Developing lay, rabbinic and other Jewish professional leadership;
- Advocating social justice and fostering interfaith understanding; and
- Supporting the foundation of Judaism: *Torah* (study), *Avodah* (worship) and *G'millut Chasadim* (acts of loving kindness).

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUPJ

- 4.1. The members of the EUPJ shall consist of (a) all organisations which are presently members of the EUPJ and (b) organisations elected to one of the following classes of membership by an affirmative vote of the European Assembly –
 - 4.1.1. As “Constituent Members” (a) unions of congregations in a country, (b) individual congregations where no union of congregations exists in that individual congregation’s country, (c) associations of rabbis, and (d) such other Jewish organizations established to maintain and advance the practice and principles of Progressive Judaism and having objectives and purposes similar to those of the WUPJ such as rabbinical seminaries in Europe, the Rabbinic Court for the Jewish Communities of Europe (known as the European Beit Din), the Friends of Progressive Judaism in Israel and Europe and relevant youth organisations ;
 - 4.1.2. As Associate Members, those persons admitted as provided for in Clause 4.4.
- 4.2. By its membership of the EUPJ a Constituent Member and an Associate Member shall be deemed to have –
 - 4.2.1. Undertaken to further the mission and objects of the EUPJ;
 - 4.2.2. Agreed to contribute funds in such amounts as may be determined by the Executive Board, in which determination the Executive Board shall be required to take account of the membership and resources of the Constituent Member or Associate Member and of any other circumstances of the Constituent Member or Associate Member which shall appear to the Executive Board to be relevant.
- 4.3. Where it appears to the European Assembly (upon the recommendation of the Executive Board) that a Constituent Member or Associate Member ceases to be qualified to be a Constituent Member or Associate Member the European Assembly may terminate its membership of the EUPJ by resolution of the European Assembly passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members of the European Assembly voting either in person or in writing.
- 4.4. Congregations and organisations in Europe which do not appear to the Executive Board to justify current acceptance as Constituent Members may be accepted as Associate Members on such terms as to representation and other matters as the European Assembly may from time to time decide and any such Associate Member may be accepted as a Constituent Member when the European Assembly (upon the recommendation of the Executive Board) shall determine that it is duly qualified.

- 4.5. Where in any country in Europe there is one or more national federation or union or group of congregations which has been recognised by the European Assembly and which has itself become a Constituent Member, an individual congregation in that country will be expected to participate in the EUPJ as a member or an affiliate of one of those national bodies and will not be accepted or retained as a Constituent Member in its own name, save that in particular circumstances the Executive Board may recommend to the European Assembly that such a congregation may be admitted or retained as a Constituent Member or an Associate Member if the relevant national body gives its approval.

5. THE EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY

- 5.1. The EUPJ shall be governed by the European Assembly, which shall normally meet at least once in each calendar year for the following purposes: (a) to consider the work of the EUPJ and its members since the previous meeting of the European Assembly, (b) to elect officers to fill any vacancies, (c) to discuss and promote the development of Progressive Jewish communities in Europe and in support of Israel and the WUPJ, (d) to consider and, where appropriate, adopt resolutions setting forth the position of the EUPJ and (e) to better enable the members to carry out the mission of the EUPJ.
- 5.2. The European Assembly shall consist of the following persons (all of whom shall be Jewish) *[Amended 27 April 2014]* –
 - 5.2.1. The President, all Honorary Life Presidents and all Vice-Presidents;
 - 5.2.2. The Officers;
 - 5.2.3. The members of the Executive Board who are entitled to vote on that Board;
 - 5.2.4. Representatives nominated by Constituent Members in such numbers as determined under Clause 5.3 below (“Constituent Delegates”);
 - 5.2.5. Any person whom the European Assembly may, by simple majority vote, co-opt.
- 5.3. The total number of Constituent Delegates and the number of Constituent Delegates to be nominated by each Constituent Member from time to time shall be as follows –

- 5.3.1. The number of Constituent Delegates shall be not less than 30 and not more than 100, as decided by the European Assembly based upon the recommendation of the Executive Board.
- 5.3.2. Each Constituent Member shall be entitled to nominate that number of Constituent Delegates which is determined by the Executive Board from time to time. The Executive Board shall make its decision based on its understanding of the number of individuals in membership of each Constituent Member and what that number is as a proportion of the total number of individuals in membership of all Constituent Members, but subject to the following –
 - 5.3.2.1. Each Constituent Member shall be entitled to nominate at least one (1) Constituent Delegate;
 - 5.3.2.2. Of the total number of Constituent Delegates, no more than one third shall be residents or citizens of the same country, provided that if any Constituent Delegate is also one of the persons holding the positions referred to in Clauses 5.2.1, 5.2.2 and 5.2.3 above, then that Constituent Delegate shall not be counted in the total number of Constituent Delegates for the purposes of determining whether the above percentage limit has been reached.
- 5.4. As at the date of adoption of this Constitution, the number of Constituent Delegates which each Constituent Member is entitled to nominate has been determined by the Executive Board to be as set out in **Appendix 1** to this Constitution. The Executive Board shall keep under review the number of delegates to whom each Constituent Member is entitled and shall make a report to the European Assembly at intervals of no more than three years about any changes to be made by the Executive Board to the delegate entitlements set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.5. At any meeting of the European Assembly only Constituent Delegates shall be entitled to vote and each Constituent Delegate shall have one vote.

6. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 6.1. The Executive Board shall consist of the following persons (all of whom shall be Jewish, according to European Beit Din criteria) –
 - 6.1.1. The President and the Vice-Presidents;
 - 6.1.2. The Officers and the other members of the Management Committee;

- 6.1.3. The Honorary Life President(s) and the Honorary Life Members, provided however that no such person shall have a vote by virtue of that status alone;
 - 6.1.4. In respect of each country in Europe with one or more Constituent Members, the number of representatives set out in **Part 1 of Appendix 2** to this Constitution, provided that the Executive Board shall, with the approval of the European Assembly, be entitled to amend that number of representatives from time to time;
 - 6.1.5. In respect of the Constituent Members listed in **Part 2 of Appendix 2** to this Constitution, the number of representatives set out in that Appendix;
 - 6.1.6. Such persons as the Executive Board may co-opt from time to time, not exceeding eight in number, and whose names shall be approved by the next meeting of the European Assembly. Such persons shall be appointed to permit the overall membership of the Executive Board to fairly reflect the scope and diversity of the EUPJ's membership and activities and also to reflect the disproportionate membership of and contribution to the EUPJ by Constituent Members in certain countries.
- 6.2. The following shall apply in relation to any vacancy arising in respect of a representative of a union of congregations or of one or more Constituent Members –
- 6.2.1. if any representative of a union of congregations or of one or more Constituent Members ceases to serve on the Executive Board between scheduled meetings of the European Assembly, then that union of congregations or those Constituent Members shall appoint a replacement representative to serve for the balance of the term of the person in question;
 - 6.2.2. if the union of congregations or one or more Constituent Members cannot agree on who the replacement representative should be, then the Executive Board shall be entitled (but not obliged) in its discretion and after consultation with the relevant union of congregations or Constituent Members in question, to appoint that replacement representative.
- 6.3. The Executive Board shall be responsible for supervising the activities of the Management Committee and for ensuring that the Management Committee conducts the business of the EUPJ in accordance with the principles, policies and procedures approved by the European Assembly from time to time. The Executive Board shall be entitled to form such sub-committees as it sees fit to

deal with specific interests or matters from time to time, and to make presentations to the Management Committee.

- 6.4. Individual members of the Executive Board (apart from the Officers) shall have no executive authority except where specifically requested by the Officers to carry out particular tasks.
- 6.5. All representatives duly nominated and appointed to the Executive Board in terms of Clause 6.1 shall be entitled to attend and vote at meetings of the Executive Board. A member of the Executive Board who is unable to attend a meeting of the Executive Board either in person or via conference call or similar electronic methods, may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his place, provided that notice of appointment of such a proxy has been received by the Chairman or Secretary not less than 48 hours prior to the start time of the meeting.

7. THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 7.1. The following shall apply in respect of the Management Committee ("ManCom") –
 - 7.1.1. ManCom shall be responsible for the conduct and management of the day to day work of the EUPJ and for the implementation of EUPJ policies and strategies under the supervision of the Executive Board and shall have the power to deal with all matters which arise between meetings of the Executive Board and which may need immediate attention;
 - 7.1.2. The Chairman shall, at each meeting of the Executive Board, present to the Executive Board a report of the actions taken by ManCom since the last board meeting and which may be required to be taken before the following board meeting. The Executive Board shall review this report and, if considered appropriate, shall ratify and/or approve (as the case may be) any actions taken or required to be taken by ManCom;
 - 7.1.3. In addition, the Executive Board may from time to time delegate to ManCom such duties, responsibilities and authority as it deems fit and in accordance with this Constitution, and may determine ManCom's mode of operation.
- 7.2. ManCom shall consist of –
 - 7.2.1. the Chairman;
 - 7.2.2. not less than one and not more than three Vice-Chairmen;

- 7.2.3. the Treasurer;
 - 7.2.4. the Secretary;
 - 7.2.5. any person co-opted in terms of the procedure set out in Clause 7.3 below;
 - 7.2.6. the President; *[Inserted 19 May 2017]*
 - 7.2.7. the Convenor of the European Beit Din; *[Inserted 19 May 2017]*
 - 7.2.8. the Chairman of the EUPJ Rabbinic Assembly. *[Inserted 19 May 2017]*
- 7.3. ManCom may from time to time, by a majority resolution of the ManCom Members, co-opt people with relevant experience to be members of ManCom on the following basis -
- 7.3.1. such co-opted members shall not exceed five in number, and shall be approved at the next meeting of the Executive Board;
 - 7.3.2. such co-opted members may include, without limitation, the following persons – a past President, a past Chairman, a Rabbinic adviser, a WUPJ representative, a person appointed to carry out a specific project or projects and a representative of Youth organisations;
[Amended 19 May 2017]
 - 7.3.3. the period of office of a co-opted ManCom member shall be as set out in Clause 11.5, provided that ManCom shall be entitled at the time of such co-option, to limit that period of office to an initial term of one year, after which that person may once again be co-opted to serve on ManCom.

8. FUNDS

Funds for the conduct of the business and activities of the EUPJ (including the business and activities of the European Assembly, the Executive Board and the Management Committee) shall be raised from the Constituent and Associate Members by such annual subscriptions as the European Assembly (upon the recommendation of the Executive Board) shall determine and by such other means and in such other manner as the Executive Board may determine.

9. PRESIDENT AND HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENTS

- 9.1. When there is a vacancy for the office of President it shall be the duty of the Executive Board to submit to the European Assembly a nomination or

nominations for the Presidency for election at the next election meeting of the European Assembly. Notice of such nominations shall be sent out two months before the meeting and the European Assembly shall have the right to make and vote upon nominations other than those made by the Executive Board, provided that the names of such alternative nominations have been submitted to the European Assembly not less than one month prior to the European Assembly election meeting. The President shall be elected for a term of three years and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

- 9.2. From time to time the European Assembly may elect one or more persons as Honorary Life President as a token of particular esteem and appreciation.

10. **VICE-PRESIDENTS**

- 10.1. There shall be not more than eight Vice-Presidents, who shall be persons with acknowledged experience of participation in the conduct of the affairs and management of the business of the EUPJ and who remain willing to assist the EUPJ to pursue its mission and objectives.
- 10.2. A Vice-President shall be nominated and elected by the same procedure as the President under the provisions of Clause 9.1.
- 10.3. A Vice-President shall be appointed for a term of three years and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

11. **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF THE OFFICERS, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- 11.1. Elections of Officers shall take place during the first meeting in the year of the European Assembly.
- 11.2. All Officers shall be elected for a term of three years and shall not serve more than two terms in any one office.
- 11.3. The elections of Treasurer and Secretary shall not (unless it be unavoidable) take place in the same year as the election of any other Officers.
- 11.4. Members of the Executive Board appointed under Clause 6.1.4, 6.1.5 and 6.1.6 shall be appointed for a term of three years and shall serve no more than two successive terms in that capacity.
- 11.5. Members of the ManCom appointed under Clause 7.3 shall be appointed for a term of three years and shall serve no more than two successive terms in that capacity.

- 11.6. The Officers shall be deemed to be the Trustees of the EUPJ for the purposes of the English law regulating charities.

12. MEETINGS

12.1. Frequency

- 12.1.1. The European Assembly shall meet at least once in each year.
- 12.1.2. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice in each year.
- 12.1.3. The Management Committee shall meet regularly and also when requested by the Executive Board.

12.2. Quorums

- 12.2.1. The quorum of the European Assembly shall be twelve representing no fewer than five Constituent Members.
- 12.2.2. The quorum of the Executive Board shall be four and its meetings may be conducted by electronic communication.
- 12.2.3. The quorum of the Management Committee shall be three and its meetings may be conducted by electronic communication.

12.3. Chair

At all meetings the chair will be taken by the Chairman, provided that in the absence of the Chairman, the Chair shall be taken by the President or one of the Officers.

12.4. Notices

Notices of meetings of the European Assembly shall be in writing and shall be given to members of the European Assembly not less than 28 days before meetings of the European Assembly. Notices of meetings of the Executive Board shall be given to members of the Executive Board not less than 14 days before meetings of the Executive Board. The notices shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the business to be transacted, provided that business of which due notice has not been given may be transacted if the Chairman thinks fit, save that the meeting may overrule the Chairman if it passes a Resolution to that effect by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and eligible to vote.

Notices for meetings of the ManCom shall be given in such reasonable time and with such content as the ManCom may determine or approve from time to time.

12.5. **EUPJ Financial Year**

The EUPJ year shall, for subscription, accounting and membership purposes, be from the 1st January to the 31st December.

13. **MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY**

At its meetings the European Assembly, shall, in addition to any other business which it considers appropriate -

- 13.1. Consider a written report of the business of the Executive Board since the last meeting of the European Assembly.
- 13.2. Decide matters of policy referred to it by the Executive Board (or by any Constituent Member who has given 42 days' notice thereof to the Secretary) and give such directions as it thinks fit for the implementation of the policy by the Executive Board.
- 13.3. Discuss any matters referred to it by the WUPJ.
- 13.4. If the meeting be the first in the year, elect the Officers and consider and, if thought fit, approve the appointments of representatives to the Executive Board as provided for in Clause 6.
- 13.5. Consider and, if thought fit, approve the annual accounts of the EUPJ for the immediately preceding year.
- 13.6. Consider and, if thought fit, pass any resolution of which 28 days' notice in writing has been given which in the Chairman's opinion is proper for it to consider.
- 13.7. Approve or ratify the appointment of an independent and appropriately qualified person to carry out an examination of the annual accounts of the EUPJ for the immediately preceding year and/or the current year.
- 13.8. Ensure that the following procedural requirements are observed in the conduct of business at its meetings –
 - 13.8.1. Voting on a proposed resolution shall be by secret ballot where a Constituent Delegate has made a written request for such voting, received at the administrative office of EUPJ no later than 21 days prior to the meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed;

13.8.2. A Constituent Delegate who is unable to attend the meeting of the European Assembly in person, may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his place provided that notice of intention to appoint a proxy has been received by the Chairman or Secretary or administrator not less than 48 hours prior to the start time of the meeting and the actual proxy (in the form provided with the notice of the meeting) and copy of the notice of intention to appoint a proxy which was given in time, is given to the Chairman of the meeting prior to the start of the meeting.

14. DISSOLUTION

Should the EUPJ be dissolved, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any liabilities shall not be distributed amongst the Constituent Members but shall be given to such charitable organisation or organisations with objects similar to that of the EUPJ as the European Assembly may determine (subject to the approval of the English Charity Commission if that is required).

15. DECISIONS AND AMENDMENTS

15.1. Any decision as to the interpretation or meaning of this constitution shall be the responsibility of the European Assembly alone whose decision shall be final.

15.2. Adoption of this constitution shall be the responsibility of the European Assembly which shall also have the right to amend it (save that Clauses 2, 3 and 4 shall be amended only with the approval of the WUPJ) by resolution carried by a majority of two-thirds of the Constituent Delegates present, provided that the wording of the proposed amendment and the reason for it shall have been sent out in the notice convening the meeting.

Appendix 1 to EUPJ Constitution

Schedule of Constituent Delegates as at May 2013 (Clause 5.4 of the Constitution)

This Appendix sets out the number of Constituent Delegates which can be nominated to the European Assembly in terms of Clause 5.3.2 of the EUPJ Constitution.

1. The United Kingdom – 18 Constituent Delegates, 10 nominated by the MRJ, 5 nominated by LJ, 1 nominated by the Leo Baeck College, 1 nominated by Belsize Square Synagogue and 1 nominated by Westminster Synagogue;
2. France – 10 Constituent Delegates, nominated as determined by the Steering Committee of the Federation of French Progressive Communities or, if such body should not exist at any time, by a group composed of representatives of the various French Progressive Communities and mandated for this purpose;
3. The Netherlands – 8 Constituent Delegates, nominated as determined by the Verbond in the Netherlands;
4. Germany – 6 Constituent Delegates, 5 nominated by the UPJ in Germany and 1 nominated by the Abraham Geiger College.
5. Switzerland - 6 Constituent Delegates, nominated as determined by the Swiss Platform - PJLS;
6. Belgium - 6 Constituent Delegates, appointed by the Executive Board, in its discretion and after consultation with the Constituent Members in that country.
7. For each of the following countries in Europe – Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Spain and Sweden - 3 Constituent Delegates, nominated by the union of congregations in that country, provided that if no such union exists then 3 Constituent Delegates appointed by the Executive Board, in its discretion and after consultation with the Constituent Members in that country.
8. For each other Constituent Member which is not located in any of the countries referred to above and for each Constituent Member referred to in Clauses 4.1.1 (c) and (d), 1 Constituent Delegate.

Appendix 2 to EUPJ Constitution

Schedule of Representatives to the Executive Board (Clause 6.1.4 of the Constitution)

PART 1

This Appendix sets out the number of representatives which can be nominated to the Executive Board in terms of Clause 6.1.4 of the EUPJ Constitution.

1. The United Kingdom – 3 representatives, 1 nominated by the MRJ, 1 nominated by LJ and 1 nominated by the Leo Baeck College;
2. France – 3 representatives – nominated as determined by the Steering Committee of the Federation of French Progressive Communities or, if such body should not exist at any time, by a group composed of representatives of the various French Progressive Communities and mandated for this purpose;
3. Germany – 2 representatives – 1 nominated by the UPJ in Germany and 1 nominated by the Abraham Geiger College.
4. The Netherlands – 2 representatives nominated as determined by the Verbond in the Netherlands;
5. Switzerland - 2 representatives nominated as determined by the Swiss Platform - PJLS;
6. For each other country in Europe – 1 representative nominated by the union of congregations in that country, provided that if no such union exists then 1 representative appointed by the Executive Board, in its discretion and after consultation with the Constituent Members in that country.

PART 2

1. The Rabbinic Court for the Jewish Communities of Europe (known as the European Beit Din), 1 representative;
2. The European Conference of Progressive Rabbis (when formed) – 1 representative;
3. The Friends of Progressive Judaism in Europe – 1 representative;
4. Progressive Jewish Youth Movements in Europe – 1 representative nominated by those youth movements and recommended by the Executive Board, provided that if those youth movements cannot agree on such nomination or fail to so nominate a representative, then 1 representative appointed by the Executive Board, in its discretion and after consultation with the youth movements.