

STATUTE

of the Association for Protection, Education, and Promotion of Equality and Human Rights CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

Based on Article 104, and in accordance with Article 18 paragraph 1 and Article 24 paragraph 1 of the Law on Associations and Foundations ("Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia" No. 52/10, 135/11, 55/16, and 239/22), on 05.03.2024, at the founding session of the Assembly of the Association for Protection, Education, and Promotion of Equality and Human Rights CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE, the following was adopted:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 – Status

The Association for Protection, Education, and Promotion of Equality and Human Rights CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE (hereinafter: *CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE*) is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental, and non-profit association of citizens that works on the respect, protection, and promotion of equality, rights, and freedoms of people.

Article 2 – Legal Personality, Name, and Seat

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE has the status of a legal entity.

The full name of the association is:

Association for Protection, Education, and Promotion of Equality and Human Rights CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE.

In legal transactions and public appearances, the association may also use the abbreviated name:

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE.

In international communication, the association shall use the following name in English:

Center for Equality and Justice.

The seat of CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE is in Skopje, at 22/2-18 "Vicho" Street, 1000 Skopje.

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE operates throughout the entire territory of the Republic of North Macedonia.

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE has its own seal and stamp.

Article 3

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE is not established for the purpose of generating profit.

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE may engage in economic activities through which profit is generated, provided that such profit is used exclusively to achieve the objectives of the association.

The income and assets of CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE shall be used solely for the purposes defined in this Statute, as well as in the strategic and programmatic documents of the association.

Article 4 – General and Specific Objectives

The general objective of CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE is to work on the protection, education, and promotion of equality and human rights.

The specific objectives are:

- Raising awareness among girls, boys, women, and men in all their diversity about their rights and freedoms through information, counseling, and legal support.
- Creating an enabling environment and strengthening socially and systemically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of children, girls, boys, women, and men through information, counseling, and protection.
- Improving the system of support and care for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups through continuous support and advocacy for institutional and systemic changes.
- Advocating for a just, inclusive, and gender-equal society.
- Cooperation with and capacity-building of institutions to become gender-responsive and transparent institutions that guarantee the realization of human rights.
- Influencing laws and policies to reduce poverty, improve health and social status, promote equality and the care economy, advance human rights, and improve systems and policies through the application of intersectionality.
- Advocating for gender, social, and climate justice as prerequisites for the realization of human rights, especially for disadvantaged and marginalized groups, and advocating for sustainable development.
- Influencing the realization of the rule of law through education, information, counseling, and protection, including reporting corruption.
- Education and promotion of the principles of non-discrimination and human rights through innovative approaches and media, including education and the online space.
- Improving the well-being of people through education and support programs.

Article 5 – Achievement of Objectives

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE shall operate in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of North Macedonia and the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

To achieve its objectives, the association shall act through:

- A human rights–based and intersectional approach as a foundational principle of all strategies and activities;
- Monitoring the situation of human rights, freedoms, and equality, including gender equality;
- Provision of legal assistance;
- Provision of support services based on the needs of disadvantaged groups;
- Advancement of laws and policies related to human rights, gender equality, gender-based violence, and care systems;
- Building and maintaining partnerships with civil society organizations at local, national, and international levels;
- Strengthening cooperation with institutions at local and national levels;
- Strengthening cooperation with the business sector;
- Acting on the understanding that vulnerability is a dynamic category dependent on context and time;
- Preparation, translation, publishing, and dissemination of analyses and publications;
- Organizing conferences, seminars, public actions, and other civic activities;
- Strengthening volunteerism;
- Ensuring continuous expertise, professionalism, and accountability;
- Ensuring financial sustainability and stability.

Article 6 – Publicity, Transparency, and Non-Discrimination

The work of CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE is based on the principles of publicity and transparency.

In all aspects of its work, the association promotes equality, non-discrimination, intersectionality, and inclusion.

Article 7 – Voluntariness and Confidentiality

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE provides services and information respecting voluntariness, confidentiality, informed decision-making, and freedom from pressure.

Article 8 – Establishment of Branches and Networks

CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE may establish branches and join networks and informal groups.

Branches are established by decision of the Assembly, while participation in networks is decided by the Management Board.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 9 – Membership

Any adult citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia or foreigner with permanent residence may become a member under conditions defined by this Statute.

A minor aged 14 or above may become a member with written consent from a legal guardian.

Membership conditions include:

- Commitment to the values and objectives of the association;
- Willingness to contribute to equality and non-discrimination.

Membership applications and conflict of interest declarations are submitted to the association or via its website.

Article 10 – Admission Procedure

Admission of new members is decided by the Assembly upon recommendation of the Management Board.

Decisions are final.

Article 11 – Conflict of Interest

Members, employees, and board members submit annual conflict of interest declarations.

No member or employee may obtain financial or material benefit through misuse of position or accept gifts or benefits.

Article 12 – Membership Register

The association maintains a membership register and guarantees data confidentiality upon request.

Article 13 – Rights and Obligations of Members

Members have the right to:

- Elect and be elected;
 - Propose initiatives;
 - Participate in activities;
 - Represent the association;
 - Pay annual membership fees.
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Article 14 – Termination of Membership

Membership ends by resignation, exclusion, or death.

III. BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 15 – Bodies

The bodies of CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE are:

1. Assembly
 2. Management Board
 3. President
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IV. FINANCING

Article 35 – Funding Sources

The association is funded through:

- Projects
- Donations
- Intellectual services

- Membership fees
 - Social entrepreneurship
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V. TERMINATION

Article 38 – Termination of the Association

Termination occurs by Assembly decision, court decision, or legal conditions.

VI. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 39 – Gender-Neutral Language

Terms used in masculine form are gender-neutral.

Article 41 – Entry into Force

This Statute enters into force on the day of its adoption.

**PRESIDENT
CENTER FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE**