
Constitution of International Students' Union of Norway

Amended version 2005

§ 1. Objectives

ISU is an independent, democratic, non-profit, non-partisan student-run organization that is committed to the interests of all international students studying in Norway at institutions of higher education. ISU embraces diversity and welcomes all students to its activities and proceedings. ISU does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, gender, political or sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental disability, language fluency, nationality or country of origin.

§ 2. Membership

A member of ISU-Norway is an organization at tertiary institution that represents the interests of international students and has been accepted by the NA. Each member organization is represented by two delegates at the NA.

§ 3. Organisation

- a) National Assembly
- b) National Administration
- c) Local Branches
- d) Committees

§ 3.1 National Assembly

National Assembly is the highest organ of ISU and carries out its working plans, realises the budget, elects the President and Vice President.

§ 3.1.1 The National Assembly consists of:

- a) Representatives with speech, proposal and voting rights: Two representatives from each local branch. The President has the right to vote in case of a tie.
- b) Observers with speech and proposal rights:
 - One from each committee
 - ISU National Secretary
 - ISU Vice President
 - One from NSU
 - One from StL

§ 3.1.2 National Assembly meetings are open. The National Assembly can decide which meetings are exclusive by passing a resolution by a simple majority vote.

§ 3.1.3 National Assembly has the necessary quorum when 80% of the delegates are present. Simple majority decides National Assembly's resolution.

§ 3.1.4 National Assembly can, with a 2/3-majority vote, deny delegates their rights given to them in §3.1.1 if their branch has violated §§ 3.3.6. They will then get a status as “not elected” and are not included in the 80% quorum-demand in.

§ 3.1.5 Simple majority decides National Assembly's resolution.

§ 3.1.6 The President calls National Assembly, usually once each semester. An extraordinary National Assembly must be called if:

- a) The President demands it
- b) Three fourths of the Branches demand it

§ 3.2 National Administration

National administration consists of the President, Vice-President and a National Secretary. In cases where the President is not available for important events of periods, the Vice-President shall serve as his/her representative and shall be granted the authorities of President on an interim basis. In cases where the Vice-President is not available for important events of periods, the alternate Vice-President acts on his/her behalf.

§ 3.2.1 The National President

The posts of President, Vice-President and alternate Vice-President are elected for a periods of 1 year, after which new elections are held. The President and Vice-President may not hold their position for more than two consecutive years at a time. The Alternate Vice-President is a passive position. The outgoing President and Vice-President have an overlapping period of one month with the newly elected President and Vice-president. The President and Vice-President answer to the NA.

Duties of the President:

- Maintaining communication with the local branches
- Being the link between local branches and national ISU, NSU and StL
- Representing international students in NSU's and StL's national meetings
- Representing international students to the Norwegian Government and to external organisations
- Responsibilities for ISU's finances
- Leading the work of ISU in the establishment of new ISU branches in Norway

§ 3.2.2 The National Secretary

The National Secretary is appointed by a hiring board, which consists of the National President, a representative of NSU, a representative of StL, the outgoing National Secretary (if this person is available). The National President may also nominate one representative of the local branches to the board.

The duties of the National Secretary are described in a separate Job Description document.

§ 3.3 Local Branches

§ 3.3.1 ISU's local branches are the highest organisations for international students at the universities and university colleges in Norway. Every local branch has a president who is responsible for the operation of the respective branch.

§ 3.3.2 Local branches must present a written report on their activities to the National Assembly. Presidents of board members of local branches are responsible for handling the reports.

§ 3.3.3 Local branches are to work to create an environment at their respective educational institutions where international students can contribute and fulfil their educational and social potential. This includes representing international students to local student organizations, local school administration, the NA and ISU National Administration.

§ 3.3.4 Local branches are considered as autonomous divisions of ISU and shall reserve the power and authority to determine their own activities. Every local branch constitutes its own constituency.

§ 3.3.5 Local branches can promote their cases in ISU's National Assembly. Case papers should be sent three weeks before the NA.

§ 3.3.6 Local branches are to be run in a democratic manner, including, but in no way limited to, holding fair and open elections, and operating according to the explicit and implicit intent of the national constitution and the fundamental principles of the organization.

§ 3.3.7 ISU consists of nine branches: ISU Oslo, ISU Bergen, ISU Trondheim, ISU Tromsø, ISU UmB, ISU HiO, ISU Narvik, ISU UiS and ISU NHH (MiB Council)

§ 3.3.8 National Assembly can increase the number of local branches in order to include international students studying at colleges of art and science in Norway.

§ 3.3.9 One is allowed to occupy the same position only for two consecutive years.

§ 3.4 Committees

§ 3.4.1 National Assembly approves the establishment of each committee. National Assembly also gives the committee instructions on how to approach the task at hand.

§ 3.4.2 Committees are allowed to promote the cases to National Assembly, National Council or National Administration.

§ 4 Economy

§ 4.1 National President, assisted by the National Secretary, prepares a preliminary budget for the National Assembly.

§ 4.2 ISU receives the economic resources from:

- NSU according to the contract between NSU and ISU

- Ministry of Education and Research
- Grants from other organisations and institutes
- Other sources

§ 4.3 ISU's financial year runs from 1st January and ends 31st December.

§ 4.4 National Assembly approves the final budget.

§ 4.5 National Administration has the right to examine the Local Branches balance sheet.

§ 5 Impeachment of Officers

§ 5.1 Officers can be removed from their positions by a vote of simple majority in case of:

- a) Economic frauds (will report to police in special cases)
- b) Anti-union activities

§ 5.2 Impeachment of President

The National President can be removed from his/her position by 2/3 majority of the National Assembly. In this case the Vice National President will take the place of the National President until the next National Assembly.

The President can be removed from his/her position in case of

- a) Economic frauds (will report to police in special cases)
- b) Anti-union activities

§ 5.3 Impeachment of National Secretary

National Secretary can be removed from his/her position by 2/3 majority of the National Assembly. In this case the National President is responsible for organising a hiring board and the final appointment of a new National Secretary.

§ 6 Amendments to the ISU's constitution

§ 6.1 Amendment proposals should be sent to the National Administration at least 5 weeks before the National Assembly.

§ 6.2 To make amendment proposals a statute, they need to get 2/3 majority when voted on at the National Assembly.

§ 7 – Dissolution of ISU

Dissolution of ISU is possible if all delegates are present at National Assembly and unanimously decide to dissolve ISU. All property and resources will be returned to their origin.