



FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETIES (FEPS)

Constitution

Statement: This document does not create any legally-binding obligations on any party, and does not create a partnership.

1. Name of the Federation

The Federation shall be called the “Federation of European Phycological Societies”. Acronym: “FEPS”.

2. Mission Statement of the Federation

The aim of the Federation of European Phycological Societies is to provide a forum for all European phycological societies and individuals with an interest in phycology to enable, promote and enhance algal (including cyanobacterial) research, education and other activities, to increase public awareness of the importance of algae and cyanobacteria, and to contribute to public debate and policy issues involving these organisms throughout Europe.

3. Federation Activities

- 3.1.** Promotion of public understanding and public relations in matters involving algae
- 3.2.** Lobbying and public policy input at European level
- 3.3.** Transfer of knowledge and technology
- 3.3.** FEPS website, with news and links to phycological and other relevant websites
- 3.4.** Organisation of workshops, symposia and educational activities
- 3.5.** Links to other scientific societies across Europe
- 3.6.** Field meetings, training sessions and courses
- 3.7.** Register of experts in e.g. algal taxonomy across Europe
- 3.8.** Production of publications as appropriate
- 3.9.** Financial support for student bursaries, research-related visits/exchanges.
- 3.10.** Organisation of the European Phycological Congress

4. Membership of the Federation

There shall be three levels of Membership:

4.1. Full Member

4.1.1. The Full Member category shall make up the core membership of FEPS. This shall consist of national constituted Psychological Societies and Algal Groups from throughout Europe.

4.1.2. Admission to Full Membership shall be with the majority approval of the Council.

4.1.3. Each national Society or Group shall have the status of a single, Full Member.

4.2. Associate Member

4.2.1. The Associate Member category shall consist of National constituted Psychological Societies and Algal Groups from outside Europe.

4.2.2. Admission to Associate Membership shall be with the majority approval of the Council.

4.2.3. Each national Society or Group shall have the status as a single Associate Member.

4.2. Individual Member

4.3.1. Individuals who are not members of any national Psychological Society or Algal Group, or who do not have a constituted Society or Group in their own country or state, shall be encouraged to join one of the existing constituent Societies or Groups of their choice.

4.3.2. Psychologists with no available national Society or Group shall have the option of joining FEPS as Individual Members.

4.3.3. Citizens of countries neighbouring Europe shall also be eligible for Individual Membership.

4.3.4. Admission to Individual Membership shall be with the majority approval of the Council.

5. Privileges of Membership

Fully paid-up Members shall have the following privileges:

5.1. Full Member

5.1.1. to receive all notices pertaining to the activities of FEPS.

5.1.2. to attend all meetings, workshops and excursions, subject to payment of agreed registration fees.

5.1.3. to receive all literature issued by FEPS, free or at a reduced rate, as the Council of the Federation may determine.

5.1.4. to vote in the election of Members to the Council of FEPS and to vote in the conduct of the proceedings of FEPS at any meetings of the Federation.

5.1.5. to be eligible for service on the Council of the Federation, and its Committees or as its appointed Officers.

5.1.6. to introduce visitors at any meeting of the Federation (with the exception of an Annual General Meeting of the Federation), unless the Council by resolution suspends this privilege for any particular reason.

Full Member Societies and Groups shall ensure that the privileges to which they are entitled are passed on to their respective national members.

5.2. Associate Member

5.2.1. to receive all notices pertaining to the activities of FEPS.

5.2.2. to attend all meetings, workshops and excursions, subject to payment of agreed registration fees.

5.2.3. to receive all literature issued by FEPS, free or at a reduced rate, as determined by the Council.

5.3. Individual Member

5.3.1. to receive all notices pertaining to the activities of FEPS.

5.3.2. to attend all meetings, workshops and excursions, subject to payment of agreed registration fees.

5.3.3. to receive all literature issued by FEPS, free or at a reduced rate, as determined by the Council.

6. Membership Fees

6.1. Membership Fees shall be consistent with the low budget, minimal administration policy of the Federation.

6.2. Membership Fees shall be payable annually and in advance. They shall be due on the 31 of January each year.

6.3. Membership Fees shall be proposed by the Council.

6.4. Fees for Full Membership shall be at a standard per capita rate which shall be applied according to the total members of each national Society or Group.

6.5. Fees for Associate Membership shall be at a standard per capita rate which shall be applied according to the total members of each national Society or Group.

6.6. Fees for Individual Membership shall be payable on an individual basis. The initial Individual Membership Fee shall be ten Euros per capita.

6.7 Full Membership, Associate Membership and Individual Membership Fees for each Society or Group shall be set at the AGM of FEPS.

6.8. Every new Full Member and Individual Member shall pay to the Secretary or other designated Officer, within one month, the annual Membership Fee for the current year. Such payment shall entitle the Member to all privileges of the Federation for that year. The first annual Fee paid by any Member joining the Federation within the last 2 months of the calendar year shall also cover the succeeding year.

6.9. Membership Fees shall be publicised on the FEPS website.

6.10. If any Members shall be in arrears of payment of Membership Fees for more than 6 months, the Secretary or other designated Officer shall inform the Member that, if payment is not made before the end of December, the Member's name shall be removed from the Federation Membership.

7. Resignation of Membership

7.1. Resignation of membership shall be signified in writing to the Federation Secretary or other designated Officer. Letters of resignation of Membership shall be received by 30 September to become effective on January 1st of the following year.

7.2. The Member so resigning shall be liable for payment of the annual subscription for the current year plus any arrears due.

8. Governance

8.1. The Federation shall be governed by the Full Members. Hereafter, it is called the Council.

8.2. The Full Members shall elect the Officers at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

8.3. President. The President shall serve for a two-year period and afterwards shall serve as immediate Past President in an advisory role for another two years.

8.4. Vice-President. The Vice President is also the President-elect and shall serve for a two-year period to be followed immediately as President.

8.5. Secretary. The Secretary shall serve for a two-year period and immediate reappointment is possible.

8.6. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall serve for a two-year period and immediate reappointment is possible.

8.7. The Secretary and Treasurer can be combined and held by one person.

8.8. Secretary and Treasurer are full members of the Council.

8.9. The Full members shall conduct the business of the AGM.

8.10. During the interim of the AGM, FEPS will be governed by the elected officers and they shall consult with the Full Members when appropriate.

8.11. The AGM will be held once per year at a time agreed by the Council.

9. Amendments. Amendments or changes to the Constitution require a two-week prior notice before they can be enacted upon.

Approved by the FEPS Council on May 2012, Olsztyn, Poland.