

Pursuant to Article 22, paragraph 4, of the Act on Associations (“The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, no. 51/2009, 99/2011 other acts and 44/2018 – other acts) and Article 11, paragraph 1, section 1 of the Statute of the Independent Journalists’ Association of Vojvodina from Novi Sad adopted on June 8, 2019, at the Assembly meeting held on May 28, 2022, the following was adopted:

STATUTE

OF THE “INDEPENDENT JOURNALISTS’ ASSOCIATION OF VOJVODINA” CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER

I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Objectives

Article 1

The “Independent Journalists’ Association of Vojvodina” citizens’ association (hereinafter: Association) is a voluntary, non-governmental and non-profit association, established on January 17, 1990, for an indefinite period in order to cherish and improve the professional standards in journalism, empower journalists to act as the carriers of democratic changes and advocates of an institutional and regulatory system that would enable journalists to perform their tasks professionally.

Business name and abbreviated business name

Article 2

The name of the Association is “Независно друштво новинара Војводине” in Serbian, in Cyrillic alphabet.

The name of the Association is “Nezavisno društvo novinara Vojvodine” in Serbian, in Latin alphabet.

The name of the Association in the languages and alphabets of ethnic minorities is:

- in Slovak: “Nezávislý spolok novinárov Vojvodiny”,
- in Hungarian: “Vajdasági Független Újságíró Egyesület”,
- in Ruthenian: “Независне друштво новинаров Војводина”,
- in Romanian: “Societății ziarștilor Independenți din Voivodina”,
- in Croatian: “Nezavisno društvo novinara Vojvodine”.

The abbreviated name in the Serbian language is: “НДНВ”.

Head office

Article 3

The head office of the Association is in Novi Sad.

The address of the Association's head office is decided by the Executive Director.

Seal design

Article 4

The Association shall have a round seal, with the name of the Association written on the rim of the seal in Serbian, in both Cyrillic and Latin alphabet, "Независно друштво новинара Војводине" and "Nezavisno društvo novinara Vojvodine", in Ruthenian "Независне друштво новинаров", in Romanian "Societății ziarștilor Independenți", in Slovakian "Nezávislý spolok novinárov", in Hungarian "Független Újságíró Egyesület", in Croatian "Nezavisno društvo novinara", while the centre of the seal features the name "Vojvodina" written in Cyrillic and Latin alphabet.

Transparency

Article 5

The work of the Association is public, and it reflects the Association's commitment to the principles of transparency, ensured by the following:

- Cherishing the policy of transparency;
- informing the members and the public through public announcements and newsletters;
- submitting reports at the sessions of the Managing Board and the Assembly;
- organizing other public events.

The notices regarding the sessions and other issues shall be made public, if necessary, at the Association's head office, in media outlets or at other public places envisaged for public advertising or in some other suitable way.

The Association shall publish the information regarding its finances on its official website.

Alliances and associations

Article 6

The Association may join alliances and associations in Serbia and abroad.

A decision on joining an alliance or association is taken by the Assembly.

CHAPTER

II

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND ASSETS

Objectives

Article 7

The Association's objectives are to:

- Contribute to creating a society founded on democratic values;
- Cherish and improve the professional standards in journalism;
- Improve the legal and social-political framework, so that journalists and media outlets would be free and protected;
- Enhance the education and professional development of journalists.

Activities

Article 8

In order to achieve its objectives, the Association may engage in the following:

- Organization of public debates within forums or other formats;
- Facilitating access to legal and psychological assistance to journalists and providing protection;
- Organization of events, such as concerts, exhibitions, theatre performances, promotions, seminars and presentations;
- Individual or joint organization of professional events, provision of advisory services and other types of education and training in the fields relevant to the Association's objectives;
- Publishing various media formats;
- Publishing publications, audio and video recordings related to media and the topics media deal with;
- Provision of media services;
- Cooperation with other journalists' and media associations dealing with media and public information;
- Collecting and processing scientific and professional literature in the fields relevant to the Association's objectives;
- Participation in creating media laws and regulations, monitoring of their implementation and suggesting amendments to relevant bodies;
- Initiating and participating in activities related to the rule of law, gender equality, fight against discrimination and protection of ethnic minority groups, fight against corruption, completely in compliance with the program objectives of the Association;
- Cooperation with media and state bodies in order to stimulate the development of digital society and digital journalism;
- Cooperation with other interested parties.

Obtaining funds for achieving the objectives and financial management

Article 9

The Association obtains funds by collecting membership fees, receiving donations and aid (financial and other), applying for project financing with bilateral and/or multilateral bodies and/or foundations,

receiving financial subsidies, estates, interests on deposits, collecting rent, dividends and in other ways envisaged by the law.

The Association shall generate income by performing activities stipulated in the Act on Associations and the law which regulates classification of activities, i.e. in compliance with the Regulation on Classification of Activities (“The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, no. 54/2010), the Association may perform activities classified under number 70.21 (“Activities related to communication and public relations”).

The Association may commence with direct performance of these activities only after it has been registered with the Serbian Business Registers Agency.

The Association may collect funds from other legal entities founded by the Association in compliance with the applicable law and the decision of the Managing Board.

The profit generated in paragraph 2 and paragraph 4 of this Article, as well as funds generated in a way stipulated in this Article may solely be used for achieving the objectives of the Association, including covering the running costs and financing certain projects.

CHAPTER III

MEMBERSHIP

Article 10

An eligible candidate can be any person of legal age provided they are a journalist, an editor, a photojournalist, a copy editor, a proof-reader, an illustrator, a caricaturist, a technical editor, media practitioner, a person dealing with public relations, or an associate in these fields, who is worthy of becoming a member of the Association and who meets the criteria stipulated in this Statute.

A worthy candidate is a person whose previous behaviour, public appearances, professional work, and private life available to the public have been in line with the objectives and the Statute of the Association and who has abided by the Serbian Journalists’ Code of Ethics.

Any retired individual can be a member of the Association provided they had the status defined in the previous paragraphs of this Article.

Other requirements

Article 11

Apart from the criteria stipulated in Article 10, other requirements for becoming a member include the following:

- Signing a form,
- Obtaining written recommendations from two members of the Association, and
- Obtaining a positive opinion of the Court of Honor regarding the candidate’s worthiness

A membership in the Association is on a voluntary basis and it is gained following the procedure stipulated in the Rulebook on Membership.

A decision regarding accepting a new member is made by the Executive Director.

Before making a decision on membership, the Executive Director shall obtain the opinion of the Court of Honor regarding the candidate's worthiness.

Membership commences on the day when the form is signed, which is also the day when all the rights, obligations and liabilities of the member come into effect.

Rights, obligations and liabilities of members

Article 12

A member may:

- participate in the work of the Assembly,
- participate in activities conducted by the Association under the conditions defined by the Association,
- use their active and passive voting right, as defined by the Statute,
- submit an initiative to the Managing Board regarding concrete actions to be taken by the Association;
- enjoy the services provided by the Association to its members,
- conduct other business, in compliance with the Statute.
- submit an initiative to the Managing Board regarding taking concrete actions by the Association;

A member's liabilities are:

- to adhere to the principles, the Serbian Journalists' Code of Ethics of Serbian Journalists and the Statute of the Association,
- to pay the membership fee in full and before the deadline defined by the Executive Director,
- to fulfil other liabilities defined by the Statute.

The Rulebook on Membership provides details regarding membership, membership fee, termination of membership, as well as the rights, obligations and liabilities of members.

Membership fee

Article 13

The membership fee shall be paid in the amount defined by the Managing Board and in the manner defined by the Executive Director.

Every member of the Association shall receive their press ID card after they have paid the membership fee.

The ID card with a photo can be used solely for the purpose of identifying the member when they act in the capacity of a member of the Association.

The manner in which the card is issued, its shape, design and content are determined by the Executive Director.

The members of the Association who are university students or pensioners may be exempt from paying the membership fee in compliance with the Rulebook on Membership.

Termination of membership

Article 14

The membership in the Association can be terminated in the following ways:

- By submitting a written voluntary resignation,
- Following a decision of the Court of Honor, pursuant to Article 42 of the Statute,
- Failing to pay the membership fee for more than 6 months after the previous membership expired,
- When the provisions stipulated in Articles 10 and 11 of the Statute are breached after the membership was approved,
- When the member has committed a criminal offence that make them unworthy of being a member of the Association, following a decision of the Court of Honor.

Incompatibility of membership

Article 15

A member of the Association shall not hold public office or any have any authority over public law, including but not limited to

- Being elected or appointed by a state body to hold public office,
- Being elected or appointed by a political party or movement to hold any public office.

The provisions from the previous paragraph shall not come into effect if the member holds public office or has authority over public law as a representative of the Association in line with the objectives of the Association, based on a recommendation of the Executive Director.

A member of the Association shall not be member of other association, organization, alliance, political party, movement or grassroots organization whose objectives are opposite from the Association's.

If the situation described in this Article occurs, the member's rights and obligations stemming from the membership shall be suspended for as long as the situation lasts.

Every member of the Association, as well as every body or proxy appointed by the Association retains the right to initiate proceedings for establishing incompatibility of membership, as defined in the Rulebook on Membership.

CHAPTER

IV

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

Management and management bodies

Article 16

The members manage the Association directly or through their elected representatives in the bodies of the Association.

The bodies of the Association are:

- Assembly
- Managing Board
- Executive Director
- Court of Honor
- Committees

The permanent bodies of the Association are the Assembly, the Managing Board, the Executive Board and the Court of Honor.

The temporary bodies of the Association are committees.

Composition and jurisdiction of the Assembly

Article 17

The Assembly is the supreme body of the Association.

The Assembly is composed of all members who have paid their membership fee in full or who have been exempt from paying, as defined in Article 13 of the Statute.

The Assembly adopts decisions regarding the following:

- adopting the Statute of the Association, its changes and amendments,
- adopting the annual financial report of the Association,
- status changes of the Association,
- appointment and discharge of members of the Managing Board,
- report on the work of the Managing Boards,
- report on the work of the Court of Honor,
- grievances of a member of the Managing Board related to the decision of the Court of Honor to exclude the member from the Association,
- termination of the Association,
- adopting a rulebook on the work of the Assembly,
- appointment and discharge of members of the Court of Honor,
- memberships in alliances and associations in Serbia and abroad,

- rulebook on membership,
- other issues defined by the Statute.

Acting within the scope of its jurisdiction, the Assembly may pass decisions and conclusions, or provide opinions, recommendations and guidance.

Types of sessions, convoking and running sessions of the Assembly

Article 18

The sessions of the Assembly may be regular and extraordinary.

The sessions may be held directly or via means of electronic communication.

Regular sessions

Article 19

A regular session is held at least once a year.

A regular session is convoked by the Chair of the Managing Board, as defined in the Rulebook on the work of the Assembly.

Extraordinary session

Article 20

An extraordinary session, as defined in the Rulebook on the work of the Assembly, may be convoked upon an initiative of:

- at least 20% of the members of the Association
- a majority of the members of the Managing Board.

Passing decisions

Article 21

There is a quorum for the Assembly to conduct business and pass decisions and it is when a session of the Assembly is attended by at least 10% of the total number of members of the Association who meet the condition stipulated in Article 17, paragraph 2 of the Statute.

The Assembly passes decisions by majority vote of the total number of members attending the session, except in cases when status changes are adopted or when the work of the Association is terminated, in which case two thirds of the votes of the total number of members attending the session are necessary.

Transitional and final provisions regarding the Assembly

Article 22

The Rulebook on the work of the Assembly shall regulate all matters not regulated by this Statute which fall under the scope of the jurisdiction of the Assembly, pursuant to the Statute.

Composition and jurisdiction of the Managing Board

Article 23

The Managing Board is the executive body of the Association which manages the work of the Association and ensures that the Association strives to achieve the objectives stipulated in the Statute.

The Managing Board may have no fewer than five and no more than nine members.

The members of the Managing Board do not need to be members of the Association.

A member of the Managing Board may be an esteemed professional from a certain field, who has the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out the function of a member of the Managing Board.

A member of the Managing Board shall not carry out any other function in the Association during the term of office.

A member of the Managing Board shall not receive any remuneration from IJAV, nor can they receive any financial compensation on other grounds, except for covering incurring costs related to the work of the Managing Board (travel expenses, accommodation expenses, food...).

Jurisdiction of the Managing Board

Article 24

The Managing Board shall pass decisions regarding the following:

- achievement of the Association's objectives and adherence to the Statute,
- strategy of the Association's operations,
- coordination of activities of the Association,
- conducting monitoring of operations and legality of activities,
- control of financial management,
- convoking a session of the Assembly in compliance with the Statute,
- implementation of decisions and other acts of the Assembly,
- submitting an annual report on the work of the Managing Board to the Assembly,
- submitting a financial report of the Association,
- submitting a proposal to the Assembly regarding establishing the fee for the work of the members of the Managing Board,
- proposals of the Statute, bylaws, and policies,
- establishing temporary bodies of the Association,
- appointment and discharge of the Executive Director,

- rights and liabilities of the Executive Director,
- monitoring of the work of the Executive Director,
- approval of strategic proposals of the Executive Director,
- receiving funds from other legal entities,
- amount of membership fee,
- establishing other legal entities,
- initiatives of members regarding taking concrete actions,
- appointment and discharge of other people authorized as representatives,
- appointment and discharge of the Chair of the Managing Board,
- grievance of a member of the Association related to a decision of the Court of Honor to terminate their membership,
- signing a memorandum of cooperation, memorandum of understanding, cooperation agreement, joining a coalition and other types of associations that do not represent joining alliances,
- rulebook on the work of the Managing Board,
- other bylaws and policies in compliance with this Statute that are not under jurisdiction of another body.

The Managing Board also conducts other tasks assigned by the Assembly, as well as tasks which do not fall under the scope of jurisdiction of another body pursuant to the Statute.

Appointment of members of the Managing Board

Article 25

Every member of the Association who has paid the membership fee on time or who has been exempt from paying the membership fee in compliance with Article 13 of the Statute may nominate themselves or another person for a member of the Managing Board. The nomination must be accompanied by a short biography of the candidate and a statement on the candidature, which should be submitted to the Association, i.e. the electoral committee.

Having received the nomination, the electoral committee shall inform the person/body authorized to convoke a session of the Assembly about the received nominations for members of the Managing Board.

The members of the Managing Board are elected by the Assembly by majority vote of the members attending the session.

Term of office and liability of members of the Managing Board

Article 26

In order to ensure continuity of the work of the Managing Board, at least two members of the Managing Board shall be elected for a period of two years at the first election for the members of the Managing Board, while other members shall be elected for a period of four years. At the first election for the

members of the Managing Board, the electoral committee shall suggest the length of the term of office for the members of the Managing Board.

Following the first election for members of the Managing Board, the term of office for every subsequent member of the Managing Board shall be 4 years, with an option for re-election for one more term of office as a member of the Managing Board.

Members of the Managing Board are responsible to the Assembly.

Managing Board sessions, quorum, decision making

Article 27

The sessions of the Managing Board can be regular or extraordinary.

A regular session of the Managing Board is held at least three times a year.

An extraordinary session of the Managing Board can be convoked upon a request from the Chair of the Managing Board or from a majority of the members of the Managing Board at any moment if there are extraordinary circumstances that justify convoking an extraordinary session of the Managing Board.

A notice on a session and the agenda shall be submitted to the Executive Director, who has the right to attend sessions of the Managing Board, but does not have any voting rights, as stipulated in the Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board.

The employees, associates and members of the Association may attend the sessions of the Managing Board, without voting rights, if the capacity of the room allows.

Managing Board decisions

Article 28

There is a quorum for the work of the Managing Board and the decision it makes. At least two thirds of the total number of members of the Managing Board need to be present at the session of the Managing Board.

The Managing Board passes decisions by majority vote of all present members. The procedure of convoking and running a session of the Managing Board, the method of suggesting the agenda, the agenda itself, the method of establishing whether there is a quorum, the method of keeping minutes, as well as all other matters not regulated, but within the jurisdiction of the Managing Board are defined by the Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board.

Termination of the term of office of members of the Managing Board

Article 29

The term of office of a member of the Managing Board expires after the end of the period for which the member was elected.

A member of the Managing Board may see its term of office terminated in the following situations:

- if a final decision of the court or some other body forbids them from performing certain activities and business,
- if the member of the Managing Board has been declared legally incompetent,
- if they have been sentenced to prison, regardless of the length of the sentence,
- if they have been issued a security measure, corrective measure or protection measure over a period of more than six months, which leads to the member being unable to hold the position,
- resignation,
- discharge,
- death.

The initiative for discharge of a member of the Managing Board, the procedure of discharging a member of the Managing Board and passing a decision regarding the discharge of a member of the Managing Board are regulated by this Statute, the Rulebook on the work of the Court of Honor and the Rulebook on the work of the Assembly.

Chair of the Managing Board

Article 30

The work of the Managing Board is managed by the Chair of the Managing Board.

The members of the Managing Board elect and discharge the Chair among themselves by majority vote of the total number of all members.

The Chair of the Managing Board is also member of temporary bodies of the Association.

The Chair of the Managing Board:

- chairs and runs the sessions of the Managing Board,
- ensures that the sessions of the Managing Board are held in compliance with the provisions of this Statute,
- drafts and submits proposals of agendas for sessions of the Managing Board,
- convokes, chairs and runs the sessions of the Assembly in compliance with the Statute,
- is obliged to monitor whether all members of the Managing Board exercise their rights and liabilities in compliance with the Statute and the Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board,
- is obliged to cooperate and assist the Executive Director,
- is obliged to ensure that the members of the Managing Board are informed about their rights, obligations and liabilities defined by the Statute and the Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board,
- appoints and discharges the chairs of committees and evaluates their work,
- has the right to attend sessions of committees or to delegate another member of the Managing Board to act as a proxy at those committee sessions.

The Chair of the Managing Board shall also perform other tasks assigned to them by the Managing Board.

The provisions of this Statute pertinent to the termination of the term of office of a member of the Managing Board shall also apply to the Chair of the Managing Board, and so shall all other provisions of this Statute.

Transitional and final provisions regarding the Managing Board

Article 31

The Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board shall define all matters not regulated by this Statute, but which are under jurisdiction of the Managing Board and the Chair of the Managing Board according to the Statute.

Executive Director

Article 32

The Executive Director is authorized to represent the Association in legal matters.

The Executive Director is a person who meets the conditions for being a member of the Managing Board and who has developed managerial skills.

The Executive Director is appointed by the Managing Board.

The Association may have several people authorized to represent it, and they are appointed by the Managing Board.

Other persons authorized to represent the Association shall have a scope of authority that is defined by the Managing Board.

Term of office and liability of the Executive Director

Article 33

The term of office of the Executive Director is four years.

The Executive Director is responsible to the Managing Board.

The Executive Director is obliged to submit to the Managing Board a written report on their work before the end of February for the previous year.

Termination of term of office of the Executive Director

Article 34

The term of office of the Executive Director expires at the end of the period for which they were elected.

The term of office of the Executive Director can be terminated in the following situations:

- if a final decision of the court or some other body forbids them from performing certain activities and business,
- if the Executive Director has been declared legally incompetent,
- if they have been sentenced to prison, regardless of the length of the sentence,
- if they have been issued a security measure, corrective measure or protection measure over a period of more than six months, which leads to the member being unable to hold the position,
- resignation,
- discharge,
- death,
- the Association has been removed from the list of associations kept at the Serbian Business Registers Agency, pursuant to Article 49 of the Act on Associations.

The Executive Director is obliged to remain on duty until a new Executive Director is elected, but not for more than 30 days if that has been defined by the contract concluded between the Executive Director and the Association, except in case when the circumstances that had led to the term of office being terminated prevent it.

The initiative for discharge of the Executive Director, the procedure of discharging the Executive Director and passing a decision regarding the discharge of the Executive Director are regulated by this Statute, the Rulebook on the work of the Court of Honor and the Rulebook on the work of the Managing Board.

Jurisdiction of the Executive Director

Article 35

The Executive Director is in charge of the following:

- representing the Association,
- establishing and conducting the Association's policy,
- conducting activities of the Association in line with this Statute, decisions and guidelines of the Managing Board,
- recommending establishing other legal entities to the Managing Board,
- passing and executing decisions regarding registering other legal entities based on a decision of the Managing Board,
- conducting the procedure for accepting new members and passing decisions regarding accepting new members,
- passing decisions regarding the address of the head office,
- passing decisions regarding submitting strategic recommendations to the Managing Board,
- passing decisions regarding membership status in compliance with the opinion of the Court of Honor,
- passing decisions on how ID cards are issued, their shape, design and content,
- exempting members from paying the membership fee,

- passing decisions regarding termination of membership for reasons defined in Article 15 of the Statute,
- informing the Court of Honor about a breach of obligations on behalf of a member of the Association, as defined in Article 15,
- passing decisions regarding termination of membership because of failure to pay the membership fee,
- conducting the procedure of removing members from the list of members in compliance with the Statute,
- keeping records related to membership fees and members, including a record of members' e-mail addresses,
- submitting reports on their work to the Managing Board and informing it about their work,
- submitting strategic recommendations to the Managing Board,
- cooperating with the Managing Board,
- passing decisions regarding convoking a session of the Assembly in compliance with the Statute,
- passing decisions regarding the e-mail address and website, setting them up and running them,
- publishing information regarding the Association's finances on the website of the Association, as well as other information in compliance with decisions of the Managing Board and this Statute,
- organizing and conducting competitions for electing members of the Electoral Committee in compliance with the Statute,
- recommending a member of the Association for public office or authority over public law,
- initiating procedure and passing decisions regarding establishing incompatibility of a member,
- initiating procedure and passing decisions regarding abolishing the decision that a member is incompatible,
- passing decisions regarding labor rights and liabilities,
- passing decisions regarding the salaries and other fees paid to the employees and other people commissioned,
- passing decisions regarding the rights and liabilities of employees and takes actions in order to ensure work and technological discipline,
- passing bylaws and policies related to employment, as well as other bylaws, policies and rulebooks of the Association that no other body is in charge of,
- recommending the Rulebook on Membership to the Assembly,
- passing decisions regarding applying for projects,
- passing decisions regarding cooperation on future projects (selecting partners for joint participation, selecting members for project consortiums).

The Executive Director also conducts other business in compliance with the Statute and decisions of the Managing Board.

Electoral Committee

Article 36

The electoral committee is a body in charge of the following:

- organizing and managing competitions for selecting members of the Managing Board and the Court of Honor,
- checking whether candidates for members of the Managing Board meet all the criteria stipulated in Article 23 of the Statute,
- checking whether candidates for members of the Court of Honor meet all the criteria stipulated in Article 37 of the Statute,
- informing relevant bodies of the Association about nominations for members of the Managing Board and the Court of Honor,
- drafting the rulebook on the committee's work.

The electoral committee has three members and two deputies. Members of the Electoral Committee and their deputies shall be members whose membership in the Association is longer than 5 years at the moment when their nominations for a member or deputy member of the Electoral Committee are submitted. Members of the Electoral Committee and their deputies are appointed by the Assembly.

The term of office of members of the Electoral Committee and their deputies is five years, with an option to be re-elected without any limitation.

A membership in the Electoral Committee is incompatible with other roles and functions at the Association during the term of office.

The term of office of a member of the Electoral Committee can be terminated in the following situations:

- they are no longer a member of the Association,
- if a final decision of the court or some other body forbids them from performing certain activities and business,
- if the member of the Electoral Committee has been declared legally incompetent,
- if they have been sentenced to prison, regardless of the length of the sentence,
- if they have been issued a security measure, corrective measure or protection measure over a period of more than six months, which leads to the member being unable to hold the position,
- resignation,
- discharge,
- death,
- the Association has been removed from the list of associations kept at the Serbian Business Registers Agency, pursuant to Article 49 of the Act on Associations.

In case the term of office of a member of the Electoral Committee has been terminated or if they are temporarily unable to perform their duties, they shall be replaced by a deputy member of the Electoral Committee.

The Rulebook on the work of the Electoral Committee shall regulate all issues which are under jurisdiction of the Electoral Committee in compliance with the Statute but are not regulated by the Statute.

Court of Honor – composition, selection procedure and incompatibility of roles

Article 37

The Court of Honor is composed of three members.

Members of the Court of Honor are selected among the members of the Association.

Every member of the Association who has paid their membership on time or who has been exempt from paying the membership fee in compliance with Article 13 of the Statute may be nominated for a member of the Court of Honor, provided that they have been a member of the Association for at least 5 years.

The nomination for a member of the Court of Honor shall include a short biography of the candidate and a statement confirming they accept the nomination. These documents are submitted to the Association, i.e. the Electoral Committee.

A membership in the Court of Honor is incompatible with other roles and functions at the Association during the term of office.

A member of the Court of Honor shall not receive any remuneration from IJAV, nor can they receive any financial compensation on other grounds, except for covering incurring costs related to the work of the Managing Board (travel expenses, accommodation expenses, food...).

Term of office and liabilities of members of the Court of Honor

Article 38

The term of office of members of the Court of Honor is five years, with an option to be re-elected without any limitation.

The Court of Honor is responsible to the Assembly.

The Court of Honor shall submit a report on its work to the Assembly before the end of February for the previous year.

Termination of the term of office of members of the Court of Honor

Article 39

The term of office of a member of the Court of Honor expires after the period for which they have been elected.

The term of office of a member of the Court of Honor can be terminated in the following situations:

- they are no longer a member of the Association,
- if a final decision of the court or some other body forbids them from performing certain activities and business,
- if the member of the Court of Honor has been declared legally incompetent,
- if they have been sentenced to prison, regardless of the length of the sentence,

- if they have been issued a security measure, corrective measure or protection measure over a period of more than six months, which leads to the member being unable to hold the position,
- resignation,
- discharge,
- death,
- the Association has been removed from the list of associations kept at the Serbian Business Registers Agency, pursuant to Article 49 of the Act on Associations.

Initiating a proceeding against a member of the Court of Honor, voting on a decision to terminate the term of office of a member of the Court of Honor and passing a decision to terminate the term of office of a member of the Court of Honor are regulated by the Rulebook on the work of the Court of Honor.

Methodology of the Court of Honor

Article 40

For the work of the Court of Honor and its decisions to be valid, all three members of the Court of Honor need to be present at the session.

The Court of Honor is independent in its work and other bodies of the Association cannot supervise the Court's work, issue orders on how to act in individual cases, nor can they jeopardize the Court's independent position.

The members of the Court of Honor are obliged to act without any delay.

The liabilities of the members, breach of the Statute and other breaches of members of the Association shall be determined by the Court of Honor in a separate proceeding which has been defined in this Statute and the Rulebook on the work of the Court of Honor.

Jurisdiction of the Court of Honor

Article 41

The Court of Honor shall

- initiate and conduct a procedure and pass a decision on implementing measures from Article 41 of the Statute in case of serious breach of the Statute or the Serbian Journalists' Code of Ethics, inflicted damage onto the Association by public statements and actions of its members, minor breaches of the Statute, bylaws and policies of the Association,
- provide an opinion on candidates for membership in IJAV.

Breach of duty and right of appeal

Article 42

A breach of duty of a member or associate of the Association includes the following:

- serious breaches of the provisions of the Statute or Serbian Journalists' Code of Ethics,
- serious breach of the Statute related to failing to report incompatibility of a member in compliance with Article 15 of the Statute,
- inflicting damage to the reputation of the Association by public statements and actions.

If a proceeding before the Court of Honor establishes that a member or associate of the Association has breached their duty as stipulated in the paragraph above, the Court of Honor may decide to impose one of the following measures:

- public warning,
- suspension of membership for one year,
- permanent termination of membership.

When imposing a measure from paragraph 2, section 3 of this Article, the Court of Honor shall inform the Assembly or the Managing Board about the reasons for termination.

Having received a notification from the previous paragraph of this Article, the Assembly shall pass a decision regarding discharge of the appointed member, while the Managing Board shall be in charge of passing a decision regarding discharge of the Executive Director, as defined in this Statute and the rules of procedure, which define the methodology of discharging appointed members.

When passing decisions from paragraph 2, section 3 of this Article regarding a member of the Association, the Court of Honor shall instruct the Executive Director to conduct the procedure of terminating the membership.

A member of the Association whose membership has been terminated may file a complaint within 15 days from receiving the decision.

The complaint from paragraph 6 of this Article shall be considered by the Managing Board.

The grievance procedure, deciding on a complaint and convoking an extraordinary session of the Assembly are regulated by the rules of procedure of the Court of Honor.

Transitional and final provisions regarding the Court of Honor

Article 43

The rules of procedure of the Court of Honor shall regulate all issue not regulated by this Statute, but which belong under jurisdiction of the Court of Honor pursuant to the Statute.

Committees

Article 44

Committees are established by the Managing Board and its decisions.

Committee members are selected by the Managing Board.

The chairs of committees are elected by Chair of the Managing Board among committee members.

The Chair of the Managing Board is a member of all committees by default.

The Chair of the Managing Board shall attend committee meetings when needed.

When deciding on establishing a committee, the Managing Board shall decide on the following:

- composition,
- methodology of decision making,
- jurisdiction,
- term of office,
- discharge,
- quorum,
- majority vote for decision making,
- methodology of work,
- convoking sessions,
- sessions,
- rights, obligations and liabilities of committee members,
- other issues of importance to the work of committees.

If a member of the Managing Board has their membership terminated for any reason, they shall no longer be a committee member if they used to be members of both a committee and the Managing Board.

If a member of the Association has their membership terminated for any reason, they shall no longer be a committee member if they used to be members of both a committee and the Association.

CHAPTER

V

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Termination of the Association and management of assets

Article 45

The Association can be terminated by a decision of the Assembly, when the conditions for achieving the Association's objectives are no longer present, as well as in other circumstances envisaged by the law.

In case of termination, the assets of the Association shall be transferred onto a national non-profit legal entity established in order to achieve the same or similar objectives, i.e. the Assembly shall make a decision regarding termination and the beneficiary of assets in compliance with the Act on associations.

Direct implementation of the Act on Associations

Article 46

All matters not regulated by this Statute shall be regulated by the provisions of the Act on Associations.

Publishing, enforcement and independent provisions

Article 47

This Statute shall come into effect on the day of its adoption.

By adopting this Statute, the Statute of the Independent Journalists' Association of Vojvodina Citizens' Association of June 8, 2019 shall become invalid.

After this Statute comes into effect, the legal representative of the Association elected in compliance with the Statute of the Independent Journalists' Association of Vojvodina of June 8, 2019 (hereinafter: previous legal representative) shall remain the legal representative until a new legal representative is elected (hereinafter: extension of term of office), for a period of up to 60 days after this Statute is adopted.

Before the Executive Director is elected, the Managing Board from the previous convocation shall recommend the Rulebook on Membership and the Rules of procedure of the Assembly.

Chair of the Assembly

Veljko Milić