

Contemporary European Studies Association of Australia Constitution

1. The name of the Association shall be the Contemporary European Studies Association of Australia and its address shall be determined by the Committee, but shall remain within Australia.
2. The objects of the Association shall be:
 - (i) to promote for the public benefit teaching and research in contemporary European studies, in such fields as law, economics, politics, culture and recent history and in furtherance of this object but not otherwise;
 - (ii) to maintain and foster links between Australian universities or institutions and those in European countries as well as with such other bodies as may be thought fit;
 - (iii) to provide such help as may prove possible towards the promotion of study in these fields;
 - (iv) to foster co-ordination of teaching and research by all appropriate means including the maintenance of registers of teaching and research and the organising of meetings and seminars.
3. Membership of the Association shall be open to:
 - (i) Members of universities or institutions who are engaged in relevant teaching or research; herein referred to as individual members;
 - (ii) Such universities or university departments (or other institutions which may be approved for this purpose) which undertake teaching or research in relevant subjects.
 - (iii) Other interested individuals, eg. Journalists, diplomats.
4. The subscription rates for individual members, participating universities or institutions shall be determined by the Committee from time to time, subject to the approval of the ensuing Annual General Meeting.
5. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by:
 - (i) A committee
 - (ii) A Chairperson
 - (iii) A Secretary or Secretaries
 - (iv) A Treasurer
6. The Committee shall consist of:
 - (i) A Chairperson and other officers who shall be individual members of the Association;
 - (ii) At least four members elected from among the members of the Association;
 - (iii) Such other persons as may be co-opted by the Committee. Co-option shall be for a period not exceeding one year but a person may be re-co-opted. In exercising the power conferred by this sub-clause regard shall be had to the need for ensuring that the Committee is representative of the regions, the subject-interests and the types of institutions which are represented in the Association.
 - (iv) The quorum shall be five.

The Committee shall meet at least once a year between Annual general Meetings, but its business may be conducted by correspondence. It shall have power to adopt rules of procedure.

7. (i) the officers of the Association and the members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of one year by the members of the Association present at the Meeting.
(ii) The election shall be conducted by a Returning Officer appointed by the Committee;
(iii) In electing to each office and to each place on the Committee, members of the Association shall have one vote;
(iv) Nominations for officers and Committee members may be submitted in advance of the Annual General Meeting but shall be receivable at the Meeting itself. Any candidate who does not indicate his/her assent in person at the Meeting shall do so in a signed statement submitted to the Returning Officer before the election;
(v) The officers shall be elected by the alternative vote. In the case of the other members of the Committee, the six candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.
8. The Chairperson shall have a deliberative and casting vote.
9. Minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Committee shall be kept by the Secretary. The Accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer and shall be audited annually and presented the Committee and to the General Meeting. The minutes and accounts shall be available for inspection by all members.
10. This Constitution shall be ratified or adopted with modifications at the first General Meeting and may thereafter be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Association and one member representing each corporate subscriber present and voting at any meeting for which one month's notice has been given of a motion to that effect, provided that no alterations shall be made which could cause the Association to cease to be a charitable body.
11. All questions relating to the interpretation of this Constitution shall be determined by the Committee by a simple majority.
12. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with Rules drawn up by the Committee and approved by the Annual General Meeting. Such rules when adopted by the Committee shall have interim validity until approved or amended by the Annual general Meeting.
13. In the event of the Association dissolving or winding up any assets remaining after all debts and liabilities have been satisfied shall be applied to or for some other charitable purpose or purposes, preferably a purpose connected with the first object of the Association.