

# **Statutes of NedMalta**

## **The Dutch-Speaking Community Association in Malta**

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### **Article 1 – Name**

The name of the association shall be:

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**NedMalta—The Dutch-Speaking Community in Malta**, hereinafter referred to as “the Association”.

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### **Article 2 – Legal Form and Status**

1. The Association is a voluntary, non-profit and independent organization.
2. It operates in accordance with Maltese law governing voluntary organizations.
3. The Association does not pursue political or commercial objectives.
4. All activities shall be carried out for the benefit of the community.

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### **Article 3 – Registered Office**

1. The registered office of the Association shall be located in Malta.
2. The Executive Board may change the registered address within Malta when necessary.

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### **Article 4 – Mission and Vision**

#### **4.1 Mission**

NedMalta is the central community for Dutch-speaking people in Malta. Whether members are living, working, studying, doing an internship, or visiting Malta, the Association aims to ensure their stay is smooth, safe, and enjoyable.

#### **4.2 Vision**

The Association strives to build a strong, supportive, and inclusive community in which Dutch-speaking people can rely on each other and feel at home in Malta.

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## **Article 5 – Objectives**

The objectives of the Association are:

- a) To provide reliable information, guidance, and support to Dutch-speaking residents, interns, workers, and visitors in Malta;
- b) To assist members in finding housing, internships, employment, and essential services;
- c) To organize social, cultural, and networking activities, including Dutch Kingsday;
- d) To offer free and voluntary assistance in medical, legal, and safety-related matters;
- e) To support vulnerable persons, especially young people and women, in unsafe or difficult situations;
- f) To promote cooperation between the Dutch-speaking and Maltese communities;
- g) To support charitable organizations focused on safety, equality, and human rights;
- h) To represent the interests of the Dutch-speaking community where appropriate.

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## **Article 6 – Activities**

To achieve its objectives, the Association may:

1. Organize events, meetings, and community gatherings;
2. Operate online platforms, social media groups, and information channels;
3. Provide guidance on healthcare, insurance, legal procedures, and housing;
4. Offer translation and mediation services;
5. Develop partnerships and sponsorship agreements;
6. Collect donations and organize fundraising initiatives;
7. Refer members to professional services when necessary.

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## **Article 7 – Membership**

### **7.1 Eligibility**

Membership is open to:

- Dutch nationals;
- Dutch-speaking residents of Malta;
- Other persons who support the objectives of the Association.

## **7.2 Types of Membership**

- a) Ordinary Members
- b) Supporting Members
- c) Honorary Members

## **7.3 Admission**

Membership is granted upon application and approval by the Executive Board.

## **7.4 Termination**

Membership ends by resignation, expulsion, or death.

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# **Article 8 – Rights and Duties of Members**

## **8.1 Rights**

Members have the right to:

- Participate in Association activities;
- Vote at General Assemblies (ordinary members);
- Propose initiatives;
- Access community support services.

## **8.2 Duties**

Members shall:

- Respect these statutes and internal regulations;
- Act in the best interest of the Association;
- Contribute positively to the community;
- Respect confidentiality in sensitive cases.

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# **Article 9 – Governing Bodies**

The governing bodies of the Association are:

- a) The General Assembly
- b) The Executive Board

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## **Article 10 – General Assembly**

1. The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Association.
2. It shall be convened at least once per year.
3. The General Assembly shall:
  - o Approve annual reports and accounts;
  - o Approve budgets;
  - o Elect and dismiss Board members;
  - o Amend statutes;
  - o Decide on dissolution.
4. Decisions are taken by simple majority, unless otherwise stated.

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## **Article 11 – Executive Board**

### **11.1 Composition**

The Executive Board shall consist of at least:

- Chairman
- Vice-Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Additional members may be appointed.

### **11.2 Term**

Board members are elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected.

### **11.3 Responsibilities**

The Board is responsible for:

- Daily management;
- Financial administration;
- Strategic planning;
- Safeguarding welfare and support activities;
- External representation;
- Compliance with Maltese law.

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## **Article 12 – Support and Welfare Services**

1. The Association provides free and voluntary support to members, including:
  - a) Medical translation and guidance;
  - b) Legal and safety assistance;
  - c) Support in cases of misconduct, abuse, or unsafe situations;
  - d) Assistance with employment, internships, and housing disputes.
2. All support shall be handled with confidentiality and respect.
3. The Association does not replace professional legal or medical services.

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## **Article 13 – Charitable Commitment**

1. In memory of the Association's founder, Shannon Mak, the Association supports initiatives focused on women's rights and safety.
2. A portion of profits and all designated donations shall be allocated to recognized charities, including:
  - Women's Rights Foundation;
  - Blijf van m'n Lijf-huis;
  - Other approved initiatives.
3. The Board shall ensure transparent reporting of donations.

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## **Article 14 – Representation**

1. The Association shall be legally represented by:
  - The Chairman, or
  - Two Board Members acting jointly.

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## **Article 15 – Financial Resources**

1. The Association's income consists of:
  - Membership fees;
  - Event revenues;
  - Sponsorships;
  - Donations;
  - Grants.
2. All funds shall be used exclusively for the objectives of the Association.
3. No profits shall be distributed to members.

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## **Article 16 – Financial Year and Accounts**

1. The financial year runs from 1 January to 31 December.
2. The Treasurer shall prepare annual financial statements.
3. Accounts shall be reviewed and approved by the General Assembly.

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## **Article 17 – Amendments**

1. These statutes may be amended by the General Assembly.
2. A two-thirds majority of votes is required.

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## **Article 18 – Dissolution**

1. The Association may be dissolved by decision of the General Assembly.
2. In case of dissolution, remaining assets shall be transferred to a non-profit organization with similar objectives.

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## **Article 19 – Final Provisions**

1. Matters not provided for in these statutes shall be decided by the Executive Board in accordance with Maltese law.
2. These statutes enter into force upon adoption by the General Assembly.

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**Adopted on:** 23-03-2008

**Location:** Nunspeet, the Netherlands

**Signatures:**

Chairman



Secretary

