



Articles of Organisation

Chapter I – Name, Aim, Location

- 1) The International Industrial Relations Association (hereinafter called the Association) is hereby constituted by agreement amongst the British Universities Industrial Relations Association, the Industrial Relations Research Association (United States), the International Institute for Labour Studies (Geneva, Switzerland), and the Japan Institute of Labour.
- 2) The aims of the Association are of a purely scholarly and professional character, without regard to political, philosophic or religious considerations. The Association does not endorse opinions on policy questions.
- 3) The seat of the Association is at Geneva, Switzerland. It may be transferred to another place by decision of the Executive Committee.

Chapter II - Functions

- 4) The general purpose of the Association shall be to promote the study of industrial relations throughout the world in the several relevant academic disciplines, by such means as:
 - a) encouraging the establishment and development of national associations of industrial relations specialists;
 - b) facilitating the spread of information about significant developments in research and education in the field of industrial relations;
 - c) organising conferences and round table discussions; and
 - d) promoting internationally planned research.
- 5) In particular, the Association shall:
 - a) convene an international congress, normally at three-year intervals;
 - b) convene regional congresses, specialized meetings or study groups on particular topics;
 - c) encourage and to the extent feasible arrange for the publication of papers and proceedings prepared for its meetings and by other means promote the publication and diffusion of information on significant new developments in industrial relations research.

Chapter III - Membership

- 6) Membership in the Association is without national limitation.
- 7) Members may be national or regional (the term "regional" refers to a group of countries in the same geographical area) industrial relations associations, the primary purpose of which is the advancement of knowledge and research in this field.

- 8) Associates may be:
 - a) institutional: universities and colleges (or departments of the same), and research institutes concerned with the scholarly study of industrial relations as well as specialist and professional organizations in this field;
 - b) individual: those engaged in research or teaching activities and practitioners in the field of industrial relations.
- 9) To become an associate of the Association, a candidate must demonstrate special interest in the industrial relations field in terms either of scholarly work or professional activities.
- 10) The admission of members and institutional associates shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

Chapter IV - Organs

- 11) The organs of the Association are:
 - the Council
 - the Executive Committee
- 12) The Council shall be composed of the members of the Association.
- 13) Each member of the Association shall have one vote in the Council.
- 14) The Council shall meet normally once in three years on the occasion of the international congress.
- 15) The Council shall elect the President of the Association, who shall serve as President-elect until her/his term of office as President commences, the Secretary and other members of the Executive Committee, and give the Executive Committee such general guidance or instructions as it deems appropriate.
- 16) The Executive Committee shall be limited to a maximum of fifteen persons, including the officers as indicated in Article 17. At no time shall there be less than three male and three female members of the Executive Committee.
- 17) The Officers of the Association shall be the President, her/his immediate predecessor, the President-elect, and the Secretary of the Association.
- 18) The President, Secretary and the members of the Executive Committee, other than the President-elect, shall be elected for terms of three years and are eligible for re-election. The President-elect shall be chosen by the Council normally three years, but not later than one year, unless rendered impossible by her/his death or desistance, prior to the three-year term which she/he will serve as President. The Committee may co-opt other members to vacancies occurring between meetings of the Council. No more than two nationals of any single country may simultaneously be members of the Executive Committee.
- 19) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for determining the programme and managing the finances of the Association, subject to such guidance or instruction as it may receive from the Council.

- 20) The Executive Committee shall decide on all questions not covered by the present Articles of Organisation. It shall represent the Association in regard to third parties.

Chapter V - Resources

- 21) The resources of the Association are its assets, gifts, legacies, grants and dues of members and associates. The Executive Committee shall fix the amount of dues of members and associates which shall be payable to the Secretary of the Association.

Chapter VI - Transitional Arrangements

- 22) The sponsoring organisations, i.e., the British Universities Industrial Relations Association, the Industrial Relations Research Association (United States), the International Institute for Labour Studies (Geneva), and the Japan Institute of Labour, shall appoint a Provisional Executive Committee with the tasks of:
- organising the first international congress
 - preparing the first meeting of the Council to take place at the time of the congress.
- 23) The Provisional Executive Committee, prior to the first session of the Council, shall have all the powers, duties and responsibilities assigned by these Articles of Organisation to the Executive Committee.

Chapter VII - Amendments

- 24) The Executive Committee shall have the power to make such amendments to these Articles of Organisation as it considers necessary, it being understood that the amendments adopted must be subsequently approved by the Council by a two-thirds majority vote.

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Article 16 amended September 1992

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