

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF IRELAND

1. TITLE

The Hellenic community of Ireland shall establish (1964) an association without any political colouring of self interest whatsoever, with the name “HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF IRELAND”. The said association shall include any person of pure Greek or Greek – Cypriot origin, as well as the family members thereof up to family relation rank A, in cases in which such have been married to alien men or women, regardless of nationality, religion and place of birth and which shall be accepted by this present.

2. SEAT

Dublin shall be the seat of the “Community”. The provisional residence shall be that of the Chairman thereof.

3. SEAL

The seal of the “Community” shall depict the Parthenon with the sun encircled by the words “HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF IRELAND”

4. OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the “Community” are:

- a. The maintenance and support of the national conviction and the cultivation of the Hellenic language and the religious and patriotic sentiments of the members thereof, as well as the preservation of the Hellenic customs and traditions with the assistance of the official representation of the motherland;
- b. The cultivation and maintenance of the feeling of solidarity and mutual assistance among all those of the same descent;
- c. The maintenance of close contact among those of the same descent with their country;
- d. The support of the rights of those of the same descent in Ireland with every appropriate legal means;

5. PARTICULAR OBJECTIVES

The particular objectives of the “Community” are:

- a. The support and the assistance towards the Orthodox Community of Ireland for the preservation and maintenance of the Hellenic Orthodox Church;
- b. The organizing of classes for teaching the Hellenic language as well as the establishment of a Hellenic library;
- c. The organizing of lectures, exhibitions, festivities and other events;
- d. The support and the participation in the activities and events of other groups with similar objectives as the “Community’s”;
- e. The effort to institute scholarships for Greeks at Irish Schools and Universities. The support and assistance to Greek students in Ireland;
- f. The establishment of a “Subsidiary Society of Ladies” within the gulfs of the “Community”

6. MEMBERS

The community shall consist of Regular, Non-Regular, Subsidiary and Honorary members.

7. REGULAR MEMBERS

The regular members must be persons who are of Greek or Greek – Cypriot origin (as stated in article 1), 18 years of age or more, who are permanent residents of Ireland, at least for the last 12 months and who have been accepted by the majority of the Board of Directors. Regular members should accept the purposes of the “Community”; respect the articles of association, and the

resolutions of the general assembly of the Board of Directors. Regular members only shall have the right to vote and provided they have paid their contribution prior to the elections. The regular members cannot be elected in the Board of Directors unless they are permanent residents in Ireland for more than 3 years. The annual contribution shall be set forth at the general assembly. In addition, Greek and Greek – Cypriot students who are studying in Ireland shall be entitled to vote, however without the right to be elected in the Board of Directors of the “Community”.

8. NON – REGULAR MEMBERS

The non – regular members are persons who are residents of Ireland for less than 12 months. The non – regular members should accept the purposes of the “Community”; respect the articles of association and the resolutions of the general assembly of the Board of Directors. The non-regular members shall be entitled to vote, however without the right to be elected in the Board of Directors of the “Community”. These members can only be elected if they reside in Ireland for more than 12 months and have paid the annual contribution as has been set by the general assembly.

9. SUBSIDIARY MEMBERS

Individuals of any nationality whatsoever may become subsidiary members, provided these have been approved by the majority of the Board of Directors and agree with the terms stipulated by article 7 on regular members. Subsidiary members shall, have no voting right.

10. HONORARY MEMBERS

The Board of Directors, upon resolution of the majority thereof, shall be entitled to award the title of honorary member or honorary Chairman to persons who have offered or offer great services either to the “Community” or to Hellenism in general. Honorary members shall be exempted from contribution. The Board of Directors shall be entitled to award the title of donor, benefactor or great benefactor to person, organization, etc., depending on the significance of the donation given to the “Community”. A transcript of the resolution in writing of the said award shall be issued to the person honoured and a book shall be kept at the seat of the “Community” with the names of those who were deemed worthy of the said honourable distinctions entered therein.

11. THE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

The general assembly has voted and agreed to set an annual subscription for all members of the Hellenic Community. The amount of the annual subscription has been decided according to the following criteria.

- a. Regular member: any person of Greek or Greek – Cypriot origin, older than 18 years of age.
- b. Non – regular member: any person of Greek or Greek – Cypriot origin older than 18 years of age, who has resided in Ireland less than 12 months.
- c. Subsidiary member: any person from any nationality apart from the Hellenic nationality older than 18 years of age.
- d. Family subscription: this type of subscription may be paid by regular members so their family members can also be included in the Community.

12. EXPULSION

Expulsion of a member of the “Community” shall be imposed if, in the opinion of the majority of the Board of Directors, the member in case has insulted, through the behaviour thereof, the prestige or the interests of the “Community”. In such a case, the Board of Directors shall resolve on either the provisional or the definitive expulsion of such member upon prior invitation to the defence thereof. The said resolution must be confirmed by the General Assembly and then it becomes final.

13. RESOURCES

The fixed revenue of the “Community” shall originate from contributions, revenue from the movable and immovable property of the “Community”, fees and revenue from festivities, balls,

excursions and other events. Extraordinary revenue shall originate from donations and other bequests. The movable and immovable property of the “Community” shall be insured and entered in the name thereof. As bank...

14. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a. The general assembly of members shall convene every other year in the month of November and the date thereof shall be set forth by the Board of Directors;
- b. An extraordinary general assembly of members may be convened by the Board of Directors either when it deems this expedient or when at least 8 of the regular members request this from the Board of Directors in writing, while clearly including the purpose thereof;
- c. The regular members shall be notified of the convening of the general assembly by post newsletter, signed by the Chairman and the Secretary four weeks prior to the date of the assembly;
- d. The agenda of the General Assembly shall be as follows:
 1. Elections of Chairman of the General Assembly or the Extraordinary General Assembly, i.e. Chairman, Secretary and one member;
 2. The report of the Board of Directors and the acceptance of the minutes;
 3. The report of the treasurer and the acceptance of the report;
 4. The election of a new Board of Directors;
 5. The election of auditors on behalf of the “Community”;
 6. Miscellaneous issues.
- e. A quorum shall be reached in any assembly in which 51% of the regular members thereof are present. In a contrary case it shall be postponed for half an hour after which the assembly shall be considered in quorum if the sum of the members present and of those who voted by brief is 21 or more. Resolutions shall be made by majority, by raising hands or in certain cases, upon decision of the assembly, by secret vote. The resolutions shall be entered in the minutes and signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Assembly.

15. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The administration and the management of the “Community’s” property shall be trusted, 1st upon the General Assembly and 2nd, the members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for all the activities of the “Community”. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to care that the financial affairs of the “Community” are in a good state. Otherwise, the Board of Directors must call an extraordinary general assembly in order to decide on the measures to be taken.
- b. The Board of Directors shall consist of 7 members elected by the general assembly for a period of two years. The members of the Board of Directors who leave may be re-elected. Within one week from the date of their notification regarding the convening of the General Assembly (see article 14) the regular members are entitled to recommend in writing to the Chairman of the Community, the names of the nominees for the Board of Directors. The complete list with the nominees shall be sent to the regular members of the Community two weeks prior to the date of the Assembly.

The General Assembly elects the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary General and Deputy and the Treasurer, as well as two other members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman is entitled to be elected for two consecutive periods only, (i.e. in total four years). This ex-Chairman is then disqualified from holding this position for the next 2 years only. However, during this 2-year period, he/she may put him/herself forward for another position within the Board of Directors.

- c. In the case of death, a long-lasting sickness or resignation of a member of the Board of Directors, the place of this member may be substituted temporarily and until the next, regular

The number of members of the Board of Directors elected in such a way may not exceed three within the same year.

- d. The Board of Directors shall convene every three months or when two of the members request this and there is a quorum when at least four of the members thereof are present. Resolutions, when there is no unanimity are made by majority. In case of a tie, the Chairman has a double vote. Resolutions must be entered in the minutes and signed by the members present. Urgent resolutions may also be made by phone but then should be confirmed in then next assembly.

If a member is constantly absent from the meetings without a serious reason, then the Board of Directors upon joint decision thereof, may request the resignation of such member. Every member of the Board of Directors who is absent for more that four consecutive months from Ireland automatically ceases to be member of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors appoints a substitute thereof pursuant to the provisions of article 15 of the Articles of Association.

- e. The Chairman or the Vice – Chairman, in absence or obstruct of the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer, simultaneously with the election thereof, automatically form the “Minor Community Office” which handles serious issues of the Community, which are urgent, due to the fact that it is very difficult for the Board of Directors to convene in short periods and in extraordinary cases because the members of the community as well as of the Board of Directors are dispersed throughout Ireland. The decisions of the “Minor Community Office” are subject to ratification by the Board of Directors in the next regular assembly thereof. Decisions of both bodies shall be taken by simple majority as provided by paragraph c of article 15 of the Articles of Association.

16. THE CHAIRMAN AND THE VICE - CHAIRMAN

The Chairman shall represent the Community, receive and distribute all the mail and documents concerning the Community, preside over the Board of Directors and implement the policy of the Community. In addition, the Chairman shall sign all the documents and where needed shall sign together with the Secretary General, the Treasurer or one of the members of the Board of Directors. The Vice – Chairman shall represent or substitute the Chairman depending on the case and whenever the Chairman requests this. The Vice – Chairman shall be charged with the duties of the dean and the person who is responsible for the events of the Community.

17. SECRETARY AND SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General shall administer the entire correspondence of the Community, keep all the minutes of the assemblies, sort out the various documents, place these in the relevant book and assume the maintenance of the file. The assistant Secretary shall assist, represent and substitute the Secretary General depending on the case.

18. THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall manage the accounts of the “Community” and in particular, the Fund, the Log Book, the General as well as the Book on Revenue, Expenses, the Budget, the Balance Sheet and inventory. Accounts shall be closed at the end of the month proceeding the date of the General Assembly. The Treasurer collects on behalf of the “Community” in particular, the contributions, the donations, and the bequests either in kind or in cash. He shall conclude all payments on behalf of the “Community” and proceed to the balancing of the Budget pursuant to the resolutions of the General Assembly and Board of Directors. Furthermore, the Treasurer shall prepare the Balance sheet and Budget and submit these firstly to the Board of Directors of the approval of the members

thereof. He shall enter in a special book, all the donations and bequests granted to the Community. The Treasurer shall deposit all monies on behalf of the Community in the Bank except for a small amount for the necessary small expenses, which do not exceed the account of 20 Euros. Upon approval of the Board of Directors he may withdraw monies from the Bank. Cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and the Chairman or in case the latter is absent by the Vice – Chairman.

19. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

DURATION – DISSOLUTION OF THE “COMMUNITY”

The duration of the “Community” is infinite however; it must dissolve if the number of members is decreased to 6. In case of dissolution of the “Community”, for any reason whatsoever, the entire property thereof as well as the books, the papers and the documents, shall be provisionally transferred to the Diocese of Thyatira, for a maximum period of six months and if in the meantime a new “Community” has not been formed, the entire property shall be donated to the said Authority in order to be used for humanitarian purposes. The winding up shall be materialised by the Board of Directors.

20. AMMENDMENT OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The General Assembly shall be entitled to proceed to amendments of the Articles of Association if 75% of the regular members present vote in favour of these and if in advance the recommended amendments have been duly submitted before the Chairman who shall forward these to the regular members along with the notification of the General Assembly (see Article 14).

The present Articles of Association have been approved by the General Assembly.

Dublin, 14 April 2005

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN – Mr Marinos Remidianakis

VICE CHAIRMAN – Mr Petros Tsogas

TREASURER – Mr Dimitris Karagiorgis

SECRETARY – Ms Liza Dionisiou

ASST. SECRETARY – Mr Mihalios Youlton

ORDINARY MEMBER – Mrs Thomae Kakouli – Duarte

ORDINARY MEMBER – Mrs Nora Salveta