

Articles of Association of the Charitable Association Kokiri – Home of World Learning e.V.

§1 Name and Registered Office

The name of the Association is “**Kokiri – Home of World Learning.**” It shall be entered in the Register of Associations and shall thereafter bear the suffix “**e.V.**”

(registered number **VR 20205**).

The registered office of the Association is in Cologne, Germany.

Kokiri – Home of World Learning e.V., VR 20205, Amtsgericht Köln

§2 Financial Year

The financial year shall be the calendar year.

§3 Purpose of the Association

The purpose of the Association is to promote Indigenous knowledge internationally and to support its integration into the fields of education and health. The primary task of the Association is to provide people with practical, sustainable, and innovative approaches to the use of natural resources.

In particular, the Association aims to support the construction of schools, archives, and communication centers dedicated to Indigenous knowledge and its integration into the modern world. In the long term, the aim is to establish multiple schools, archives, and communication centers built from sustainable and natural resources, where children and adults have the opportunity to apply their knowledge in practical ways and in harmony with nature. The Association also promotes the further development of academic exchange programs focusing on the aforementioned areas.

Through the education of the communities concerned and communication among them, the Association seeks to help shape a future in which knowledge, tradition, and nature can be connected worldwide.

The Association exclusively and directly pursues charitable purposes within the meaning of the section **“Tax-Privileged Purposes”** of the German Fiscal Code (*Abgabenordnung – AO*). Accordingly, the purposes of the Association are:

1. The promotion of science and research;
2. The promotion of assistance for young people and older persons;
3. The promotion of art and culture;
4. The promotion of education, general and vocational education, including student support;
5. The promotion of nature conservation and landscape management within the meaning of the German Federal Nature Conservation Act and the nature conservation laws of the federal states, as well as environmental protection, coastal protection, and flood protection;
6. The promotion of fire protection, occupational safety, disaster protection and civil protection, as well as accident prevention;
7. The promotion of international understanding, tolerance in all areas of culture, and the idea of understanding among peoples;
8. The promotion of development cooperation;
9. The promotion of local heritage and local history.

The purpose of the Association shall be achieved in particular through:

1. Procuring and transferring material and financial resources to those responsible on the ground;
2. Establishing and maintaining contacts and networking relevant actors worldwide;
3. Cooperation with international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, with health and education experts, and with institutions of higher education;
4. Providing individual academic support to children and adults;
5. Carrying out the Association's own activities and projects on the ground.

§4 Charitable Status

The Association exclusively and directly pursues charitable purposes within the meaning of the section **“Tax-Privileged Purposes”** of the German Fiscal Code. The Association operates on a non-profit basis. It does not primarily pursue its own economic interests.

The Association's funds shall be raised through membership fees, donations, and, where applicable, public grants. Donations and public grants may only be accepted if they are not subject to conditions that conflict with the purposes of the Articles of Association.

The Association's funds may only be used for the purposes set out in these Articles of Association. Members shall not receive any benefits from the Association's funds. No person may be favored through expenditures unrelated to the purposes of the Association or through disproportionately high remuneration.

The Association shall publish its income and expenditures in an appropriate manner (e.g., on its website), thereby ensuring transparency regarding the use of membership fees and donations.

§5 Membership

1. The Association shall have members and honorary members.
2. Membership in the Association may be acquired by any natural or legal person upon written application. The Board shall decide on applications for membership. A rejection of an application for membership does not require justification and shall not be subject to appeal.
3. Honorary membership may be granted to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Association and whom the General Assembly proposes for honorary membership.
4. Every member is obliged to pay membership fees. Members may be exempted from membership fees by the Board. Honorary membership is exempt from membership fees. The General Assembly shall determine the annual membership fee for the following calendar year. Members may choose to pay their membership fees monthly, quarterly, or annually.
5. Membership shall end upon resignation, expulsion, or death. Resignation shall be declared in writing to the Board. A member may only be expelled for good cause and such expulsion requires a resolution of the General Assembly.

§6 Governance of the Association

1. The governing bodies of the Association are the **Board** and the **General Assembly**.
2. An **Auditor/Treasurer's Auditor (Kassenprüfer/in)** shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of one year. Their term of office shall begin in the quarter following the General Assembly.
3. The duties of the Auditor shall include, in particular:
 - a) conducting spot checks of the Association's cash accounts and bookkeeping;
 - b) auditing the annual financial statements and submitting a corresponding audit report to the Board no later than two weeks before the General Assembly.
4. The Board may appoint special representatives.

§7 Board

1. The Board shall be responsible for all matters that are not assigned to the General Assembly by these Articles of Association or by law. Its duties shall include, in particular:
 - a) managing the day-to-day affairs of the Association;
 - b) representing the Association in and out of court;
 - c) preparing, convening, and chairing the General Assembly;
 - d) implementing resolutions of the General Assembly;

- e) further developing the strategic objectives of the Association and monitoring their implementation;
 - f) preparing the annual financial statements;
 - g) submitting an annual report.
2. The Board within the meaning of §26 of the German Civil Code (*Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch – BGB*) shall consist of the **1st Chairperson and 2nd Chairperson**. They shall represent the Association in and out of court.
 3. With regard to the judicial and extrajudicial representation of the Association vis-à-vis third parties, the **1st Chairperson and 2nd Chairperson shall each have sole power of representation**.
 4. Board members shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. Their term of office shall begin in the quarter following the General Assembly. After their term of office has ended, the Board members shall continue to conduct the affairs of the Association until a new Board has been elected. Re-election shall be permitted without limitation.
 5. The Board shall remain in office until a new Board has been elected.
 6. Upon termination of membership in the Association, the person's office as a Board member shall also terminate.

§8 General Assembly

1. The ordinary General Assembly shall be held at least once a year. The invitation shall be issued by the Board in writing, with a notice period of two weeks, and shall include the agenda. The General Assembly does not have to take place at the registered office of the Association.
2. An extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened if one third of the members requests this from the Board in writing, stating the purpose and reasons.
3. At the beginning of the General Assembly, a secretary/minute-taker shall be elected.
4. The General Assembly shall be responsible for:
 - a) electing and dismissing Board members;
 - b) electing and dismissing special representatives;
 - c) approving the budget for the following financial year;
 - d) receiving the annual report and granting discharge to the Board;
 - e) determining the annual membership fee for the following financial year;
 - f) amendments to the Articles of Association;
 - g) dissolution of the Association.
5. All members are entitled to participate in the General Assembly. The Board may admit guests.
6. The General Assembly shall be chaired by a member of the Board.
7. Elections and votes shall generally be conducted by a show of hands, unless a voting member present requests a secret ballot or secret vote.
8. The General Assembly shall have a quorum regardless of the number of members present.

9. Minutes shall be prepared recording the resolutions of the General Assembly and shall be signed by the chair of the meeting and the secretary/minute-taker.

§9 Dissolution of the Association

In the event of the dissolution of the Association or the loss of its tax-privileged purposes, the assets of the Association shall pass to **Children Alliance for Tradition and Social Engagement e.V., VR 13161, Local Court of Cologne**, which shall use them directly and exclusively for charitable purposes.