

IPRA Statutes

(Adopted in Ahmedabad-Gujarat, India in November 2018)

Art. 1: Name

The International Peace Research Association (IPRA) was established at a conference held in London on December 3, 1964.

Art. 2: Nature

IPRA is a voluntary non-profit international scientific association of researchers and educators.

Art. 3: Purpose

The purpose of IPRA is to advance research into the conditions of peace and the causes of war and other forms of violence. To this end IPRA will engage in global cooperation for the advancement of peace research by:

- promoting national and international studies and teaching for pursuit of world peace,
- facilitating global contacts among scholars and educators
- encouraging the global dissemination of research results through scientific publications and information on other peace research activities.

Art. 4: Diversity

- IPRA is fully committed to the principles of equity and diversity, based on geographical representations, genders, races, classes, sexual preferences, ages, religions, cultures, political perspectives, and areas of expertise in research, education, and action/advocacy. This diversity should be reflected by all institutions (Secretary General(s), Council, Executive Committee, Regional Associations, Commissions and other organs that may be established in the future).

Art. 5: Activities

To achieve its purpose IPRA will engage, in close cooperation with UNESCO and other international governmental and non-governmental organisations, in:

- organising international general and special conferences,
- assisting in the international cooperation and co-ordination of peace research, including setting up institutions, university programmes, programmes and chairs and the exchange of peace researchers,
- supporting scientific journals, book series, reports and other publications also in social media on peace research,
- establishing national and regional peace research institutes, programmes, chairs, councils and associations,

- publishing (disciplinary, multi-, trans- and inter-disciplinary and transformative) scientific studies resulting from IPRA conferences reflecting high academic standards,
- directing the attention of scientists and practitioners to emerging aspects of peace research and peace education.

Art. 6: Members

- IPRA consists of individual scholars, scientific institutions and scientific associations who have paid their membership fee. IPRA may also have personal or institutional supporting members. Applications by new members will be considered by the Executive Committee.

Art. 7: The General Conference

- IPRA's General Conferences shall be held every two years. The scientific programme will be prepared by the Secretary General(s) and the Administrative Meeting will be prepared by the Secretary General(s), the Council with the advice of the Executive Committee. The Secretary General(s) may appoint a programme chair.

Art. 8: The Administrative Meeting of the General Conference

- The Administrative Meeting of the General Conference shall determine the general policy of IPRA. It shall hear and approve the report of activities and the financial report of the Secretary General(s) and any other report the Secretary General(s), IPRA's Council or Executive Committee will submit.
- The Administrative Meeting elects the Secretary General(s) and the IPRA Council.
- It is possible to elect one or two Secretary Generals. If two SGs are elected they may serve either for two years or consecutively for two years each. One should be male and the other female and both should represent different geographical areas.
- The term of the IPRA Council begins immediately and lasts until the next Administrative Meeting at the next General Conference.
- Individual or institutional members who have paid their membership fees have one vote. Representatives voting in proxy for individual or institutional members that are not present at the Administrative Meeting must have a written signed certificate from the respective individual or institutional members and a confirmation by IPRA's financial officer that the membership fees were paid and received prior to the Administrative Meeting.

Art. 9: IPRA Council

- The IPRA Council shall consist of 24 elected members, representing as far as possible the different geographic regions of the world and scientific disciplines. The Council is also made up of ex officio members (without voting rights)

responsible for various functions of the organisation. The Council is the highest decision-making body between Administrative Meetings, and will advise and give input to and support its Executive Committee and SGs.

- The Administrative Meeting, in consultation with the regional association meetings which take place during the General Conference, elects the 24 Council members by quota-election for a period of two years. Only one direct consecutive re-election is possible. The two candidates in each quota group who receive the highest votes are elected:
 - A-1) Africa/female, A-2) Africa/male,
 - B-1) Asia-Pacific/female, B-2) Asia-Pacific/male,
 - C-1) Europe/female, C-2) Europe/male,
 - D-1) Latin America/female, D-2) Latin America/male,
 - E-1) North America/female, E-2) North America/male,
 - F-1) Middle East/female, F-2) Middle East/male.
- Ex officio members with voting rights are the Newsletter Editor, President of the IPRA Foundation, heads of regional associations and the Secretary General(s).
- Additional ex officio, non-voting members are one convener of each IPRA Commission. The Administrative Meeting may appoint other ex officio members for specific purposes.

Art. 10: The Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee consists of six members, which are nominated by the Secretary General(s) and elected by the Council from its members representing the six regional groups. It must be gender and regionally balanced. The Secretary General(s) will be Ex-officio member(s). For administrative continuity the outgoing Secretary General(s) may serve in the next Executive Committee until the next IPRA conference. If a vacancy occurs, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy by cooption.
- The Executive Committee shall give advice to the Secretary General(s), determine IPRA's policy matters between Council and Administrative meetings, and assist in the policy implementation and all interim work of IPRA.
- The Executive Committee may appoint subcommittees for specific tasks (e.g. to prepare revisions of the statutes and to assess IPRA's work).

Art. 11: The Secretary General(s)

The Secretary General(s) shall be responsible for the conduct of day-to-day activities of IPRA, including organising a general conference every two years. The Secretary General(s) should normally be full faculty members. One or two Secretary General(s) may be elected.

- One Secretary General is elected for a two year's term. One reelection is possible.
- Two Secretary Generals may be elected for a two or four year's period. One Secretary General should be female and male and both should represent different regions.

- She or he or both will consult with the Executive Committee and keep the Council informed.

Art. 12: Regional Associations and Councils

- Regional Peace Research Associations are established and should be associated with IPRA based on the approval of an Administrative Meeting. They may have their own legal status and statutes in line with the legal provisions of the country of inscription. Their operations shall be semi-autonomous from IPRA and may enter into agreements with other organisations freely on mutually acceptable terms in line with IPRA's objectives and aims.
- Based on these provisions a Regional Peace Research Association may elect or appoint its own structures, decision-making bodies, conveners, and representatives.
- An Administrative Meeting of IPRA may withdraw its endorsement if the goals or functioning of the regional association and IPRA become incompatible.

Art. 13: IPRA Commissions

- IPRA's scientific work occurs in its Commissions. New Commissions may be proposed by IPRA members and will be established by the SGs in consultation with the Executive Committee and the IPRA Council.
- IPRA Commission Conveners are the key actors in organising peace research and representing its academic quality. A Commission may elect or appoint one or more conveners who must be IPRA members in good standing. Young promising IPRA members should be encouraged to become co-conveners. IPRA's commissions should be encouraged to publish their results in peer-reviewed journals or books.
- If an elected convener acts against the aims of IPRA, he/she may – in rare and exceptional circumstances – be removed by the Executive Committee, and replaced in consultation with the Commission in question.
- General functioning of the Commissions shall be reviewed but not infringed upon by the Executive Committee. All Commissions should submit reports on their past activity within 60 days of the General Conference.
- Conveners who fail to do so should be once reminded to send their report within 30 days. In case of omission, the SGs and the Ex. Com. should propose in cooperation with Commission members a new convener to manage the Commission until the next conference.
- Conveners rotate out of leadership at least every six years.
- Given the constraints in the number of available conference rooms and to reduce the costs for renting such rooms the Secretary General(s) in consultation with the Council and Commission Conveners may merge commissions for the next General Conference.

Art.13a: IPRA Study or Working Groups

- IPRA Study or Working Groups may be established with the approval of the Executive Committee, provided that their purposes and activities are compatible with this Statute.

Art. 14: IPRA's Advisory Council

An Advisory Committee on Peace Research shall be made up of directors or representatives of major peace research institutes, programmes, national and regional organisations, foundations and advocacy groups supporting peace research, without IPRA voting or decision-making privileges but to assist in achieving these tasks:

- Advising IPRA's bodies in its longer-term strategic goals and activities;
- Helping IPRA in organising its biannual general conferences;
- Inviting IPRA members to participate in the conferences, events, and/or research initiatives convened by Advisory Committee members;
- Encouraging its researchers to participate in IPRA's scientific conferences and to present their research results;
- Enhance the academic quality of the submissions and the academic reputation of IPRA's publications;
- Facilitate exchange programmes for both established scholars and young scholars from the Global South in their academic institutions;
- Supporting IPRA and its activities and members, both financially and in other ways, e.g. helping setting up and funding a permanent secretariat of IPRA to handle its administrative tasks (collecting membership and conference fees, fundraising, supporting publications etc.).

Art. 15: Nomination Committee

- The Administrative Meeting may appoint a Nomination Committee to submit a slate of candidates for the offices of Secretary General and IPRA Council members at the next General Conference. If this is not feasible the Secretary General(s) may do so after consulting with the Executive Committee.

Art. 16: Nominations and Elections

- Any paying IPRA member may nominate the Secretary General(s) and members of the IPRA Council in writing stating who made the nomination, and that the nominee has agreed to be nominated. Anybody who has paid the membership fee and is duly nominated is eligible for election to an IPRA office.
- All nominations must be made at least 24 hours before the Administrative Meeting. Nominations must be carefully reviewed by the Nomination Committee.
- The Nomination Committee shall prepare a list of submitted nominations. If there are no more nominees than offices, the Administrative Meeting may decide to elect by acclamation. Otherwise, all elections require a secret ballot.

Art. 17: Permanent Administrative Office of IPRA

IPRA SG(s) should promote setting up IPRA's permanent administrative office that should keep the archives and maintain IPRA's permanent website, and file all agreements of the Administrative meeting, the audited financial reports and the reports of Commission Convenors. Other functions should include:

- Coordinating all IPRA activities,
- Managing the finance, fundraising and grants of the Association,
- Undertaking evaluation and ensuring quality assurance of all IPRA activities including conferences and papers presented,
- Consolidating proposed IPRA publications and forwarding to the relevant committees
- Dispatching press releases under the instructions of the SGs.

Art. 18: Finance

IPRA's financial resources include:

- Annual individual and institutional membership fees that are determined by the Administrative Meeting or the IPRA Council,
- Subventions, grants and donations,
- Fees for conferences and for special services.
- The association and financial year is the calendar year (from 1 January to 31 December).
- The Secretary General(s) in consultation with the Executive Committee may appoint a cashier acting under their supervision and two auditors who have been or are members of the IPRA Council. Their task is to review the accounting records, to certify that the accounting has been correct and transparent and to report their results to the IPRA Council and the Administrative Committee.
- The original accounting records should be archived by the cashier or the Secretary Generals.

Art. 19: Languages

- IPRA's working language is English. All members are entitled to express themselves in one of UNESCO's working languages.

Art. 20: Publications and Statements

- Decisions as to what publications are to appear under the auspices of IPRA, and what statements are to appear in the name of IPRA, shall be taken by the Secretary General(s). In case of doubt the Executive Committee should be consulted.

Art. 21: Amendment

This Statute may be amended by a 2/3 majority of the entitled paying members present and voting at the Administrative Meeting of a General Conference.

Art. 22: Termination of Membership

Membership may be terminated:

- by letter of resignation directed to the Secretary General(s),
- by a vote of exclusion adopted by a Council for reasons of activity incompatible with the aims of the Association.

Art. 23: Dissolution

- The decision to dissolve the Association shall need a 2/3 majority of the members participating in the Administrative Meeting of a General Conference that was called for this purpose at least three months in advance.
- If IPRA is dissolved, the Regional Associations may take up the functions of IPRA. The key representatives of the regional organisations should continue the task of IPRA by consensus or by 2/3 vote, until it is possible to restart IPRA.

IPRA STATUTES (revised as of November 2018)
IPRA STATUTES (revised as of August 2014)
IPRA STATUTES (revised as of November 2012)
IPRA STATUTES (registered as of March 2008 in Belgium) in Dutch
IPRA STATUTES (revised as of September 2006) in English
IPRA STATUTES (revised as of September 2006) in French