

# **Statutes of the EGATIN Association (European Group Analytic Training Institutions Network) e.V.**

## **1. Name, registered office**

- a.** The association bears the name "EGATIN (European Group Analytic Training Institutions Network)".
- b.** With the entry in the register of associations, the association also has e.V. (in English: registered association) in its name.
- c.** It has its registered office in Berlin.
- d.** The financial year is the calendar year.
- e.** The official languages of the association are German and English, the working language of the association is English. The currency for calculating membership fees and other financial matters is the euro.

## **2. Purpose**

- a.** The association is a non-profit organisation; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes and has no direct or indirect links to governments, states, political parties or other political bodies.
- b.** EGATIN is an association of organisations that offer training programmes in group analysis, which generally consist of personal therapy in the group, theory and supervision.
- c.** EGATIN contributes to the development and expansion of training in group analysis as "a practice based on a fundamental social understanding of the individual and their context, which is used for therapy in groups as well as for understanding broader social organisations and phenomena".
- d.** The association offers opportunities for dialogue and exchange at European and international level between the organisations mentioned under point b.
- e.** EGATIN promotes high standards in group analytic training through the exchange of expertise and experience between member organisations:
  - professional and other training programs;
  - Pre-qualification, qualification and post-graduate programmes and activities;
  - theoretical, clinical and pedagogical paradigms, models and goals;

- Procedures and criteria for selection in vocational training programs;
  - Standards and criteria for qualification (graduation);
  - Standards and criteria for authorisation to practice ;
  - Curriculum material, texts, assignments and projects;
  - Principles, methods and approaches of supervision;
  - Principles, methods and approaches in training group analysis and in the use and significance of other forms of personal therapy for training;
  - ethical principles and codes of conduct;
  - Committee and organisational structures that support points a - j above.
- f. EGATIN promotes and maintains links with institutions and organisations that support the aforementioned objectives.
- g. The association's funds may only be used for the purposes specified in the association's statutes. Members shall not receive any benefits from the Association's funds.
- h. No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.
- i. The association works selflessly.
- j. EGATIN will protect and respect the character, integrity and internal affairs of each member organisation. In addition, EGATIN will endeavour to promote the development and differentiation of each member organisation according to its own interests and aspirations, provided these are compatible with the EGATIN Statutes.

### **3. Activities**

- a. The association promotes activities in the fields of science, education and culture. EGATIN's activities include the organisation of the annual Study Days and meetings of delegates from the institutes.
- b. EGATIN establishes and maintains relationships with similar national and international organisations wherever such contacts can further EGATIN's objectives.
- c. EGATIN will make its resources available in the form of advice and discussion to training organisations or individuals who request support in promoting such developments that are in line with its objectives.

### **4. Financing**

The association is mainly financed by membership fees.

### **5. Membership**

- a. Membership of EGATIN is open to any organisation, whether a natural or legal person, that offers or plans to offer formal training in group analysis.
- b. Membership categories:

- Ordinary members.

The EGATIN member organisations are represented by a designated delegate. There are three levels of membership with different voting rights and different membership fees.

**I. Introductory level:** for organisations that offer introductory courses or general courses that do not lead to admission to practice.  
Introductory members have one vote.

**II. Intermediate level:** for organisations that have not yet reached the criteria for qualification but are preparing or have recently started an offer of group analytic training leading to a full professional qualification to work as a group analyst.  
Members in the intermediate stage have two votes.

**III. Qualifying level:** for organisations that offer training as described above under II and that meet the following additional criteria:

- i. The qualification requirements have been met by at least five graduates of the organisation.
- ii. The main responsibility for training and organisation has been assumed locally.
- iii. The work of the organisation is based on its own statutes.
- iv. The organisation's graduates are governed in their practice by a code of ethics or code of practice. Qualified members have three votes.

- Honorary members

Honorary members are appointed by the General Meeting on the recommendation of the EGATIN Committee on the basis of their services to EGATIN and group analysis. They receive all communications and are invited to the Annual General Meeting, but cannot participate in the "Sensitivity Meetings" of the delegates. They have no voting rights.

- Individual membership

Professionals who are committed to the development of group analytical training programmes can join EGATIN as individual members. They have voting rights.

**c. Admission to the association**

Organisations seeking membership must submit a written application in text form to the EGATIN Committee, setting out the points relevant to their membership and undertaking to comply with the EGATIN Statutes.

**d. The EGATIN Committee decides by simple majority whether to recommend the admission of an institute to the General Meeting.**

The final decision on admission and the category of membership is taken by a simple majority at a delegates' meeting.

**6. End of membership**

- a. Membership of the Association ends upon death (in the case of legal entities, upon the opening of insolvency proceedings or the rejection of insolvency proceedings due to lack of assets), resignation or exclusion.
- b. Resignation must be declared in writing to the Committee. Resignation can only be declared with six months' notice to the end of the financial year. Member organisations wishing to terminate their membership are obliged by this agreement to pay their outstanding contribution for the entire current year.

## **7. Measures**

- a. The Committee may impose sanctions on members:
  - i. For significant breach of statutory obligations or violation of regulations and resolutions;
  - ii. Due to payment arrears of contributions of more than one year's membership fee with six months of payment arrears despite a reminder;
  - iii. For behaviour detrimental to the association.
- b. Disciplinary measures are
  - i. Exclusion from the association.
- c. A member may be penalised by the Committee in accordance with the aforementioned regulations. Legal entities as members must accept responsibility for the behaviour of their representatives. The resolution of the Committee requires a majority of the votes cast. The member must be heard before a resolution is passed by the Committee. In the event of payment arrears, the reminder including the threat of expulsion shall replace the hearing of the member. A member who acts against the statutes of the association, in particular through racist and xenophobic or criminally relevant behaviour, is to be expelled from the association. The member must be informed in writing of the Board's decision.
- d. If a member has been expelled by resolution of the Committee, the member may appeal to the General Meeting within one month of notification of the expulsion decision. The General Meeting shall decide on the expulsion at the next General Meeting. A separate general meeting does not need to be convened. The member's rights shall be suspended until the General Meeting decides on the expulsion.
- e. If the excluded member does not appeal to the General Meeting as the appeal body within the deadline, the member shall be deemed to have been definitively excluded. This must be indicated in the letter of expulsion to the member.

## **8. Rights and obligations of members**

- a. The EGATIN member organisations exercise their rights uniformly through their representatives designated as delegates. Each delegate has the right to participate in joint events and to vote at the General Meeting in accordance with their organisation's membership category.

- b. Every member has the duty to promote the interests of the Association, in particular to pay their membership fees regularly and, as far as they are able, to support the life of the Association through their co-operation.

## **9. Admission fee and membership fees**

- a. Members are required to pay a regular annual membership fee. The amount and due dates of the annual fee are proposed by the Committee to the General Meeting and decided by the General Meeting.
- b. Honorary members do not have to pay any contributions.
- c. The three categories of membership are each associated with a different membership fee.
- d. Upon joining EGATIN, the current full annual contribution is due, regardless of which part of the contribution year is still outstanding.
- e. The respective annual membership fees are set out in the membership fee regulations.

## **10. General Meeting**

- a. The General Meeting is the highest decision-making body of the Association and is convened at regular intervals in accordance with the provisions of these Articles of Association.
- b. The General Meeting is responsible for the following tasks:
  - Passing resolutions on important matters of the Association;
  - Election of the Committee and other officers;
  - Remuneration of Committee members;
  - Approval of the annual financial statements and discharge of the Committee;
  - Election of the auditors;
  - Amendment of the Articles of Association;
  - Decisions on extraordinary expenses or investments;
  - Admission and expulsion of members as an appeal body;
  - Determining the focal points and objectives of the association's work;
  - Appointment of honorary members;
  - Dissolution of the association.

## **11. Convening and formalities of the General Meeting**

- a. The Committee must convene an ordinary General Meeting at least once a year. The Committee must convene an Extraordinary General Meeting if the interests of the Association so require or if at least one tenth of the members so request in writing, stating the purpose and reasons.

- b.** Each member organisation may only send one delegate to a General Meeting. However, an organisation may nominate a substitute delegate to attend and vote if the main delegate is unable to attend. Other interested persons may attend as guests, but may be excluded from all agenda items that the person chairing the meeting deems to be non-public.
- c.** By resolution of the Committee, the General Meeting may also be convened as a virtual meeting - provided there are no mandatory statutory provisions to the contrary - in which members can participate and exercise their membership rights by means of electronic communication without being present at the meeting venue.
- d.** The use of any form of telecommunication and data transmission is permitted, including a combination of different methods, which guarantees the audio (and video) transmission of all speeches both from and to members participating in person and those participating online. This ensures that the right to speak, submit motions and obtain information is also guaranteed for members participating online.
- e.** Members shall receive the access data for the virtual meeting room no later than three days before the start of the meeting. Members are obliged not to disclose the access data provided to third parties and to keep it under lock and key. Members participating virtually must ensure that unauthorised third parties cannot gain knowledge of the contents of the meeting.
- f.** The invitation to the General Meeting shall be sent in text form with a notice period of at least 14 days to the last communication address provided by the member for this purpose. The notice period begins when the invitation is sent.
- g.** Members are obliged to inform the Committee of their current e-mail address. If the member fails to do so, the association is not obliged to invite them by other means.
- h.** In the following cases, it is not permitted to hold the General Meeting or to pass resolutions electronically:

  - For resolutions on the dissolution of the Association;
  - In the event of changes to the purpose of the Association.
- i.** Resolutions of the General Meeting may also be passed electronically by resolution of the Committee. Notwithstanding Section 32 (3) BGB, the consent of the members is not required for this. The corresponding draft resolutions are sent to the members by email together with the date ten days before the resolution is passed. They may submit amendments up to three days before voting begins. Resolutions are passed by video conference or similar means. Members no longer have the right to speak or submit motions in this context.
- j.** If the General Meeting is held in hybrid form, members may be requested to inform the Association by e-mail within one week of receipt of the invitation whether they will participate by means of electronic communication or at the venue of the meeting. The Association may refuse to allow members who have failed to provide this notification to participate at the venue if the required room capacity is not available.

- k.** At hybrid general meetings, the chair of the meeting may restrict the right to speak and submit motions to members who are physically present. These restrictions must be announced in the invitation to the general meeting.
- l.** Votes at the General Meeting can be cast using a smartphone app that the association makes available to members.
- m.** The General Meeting is chaired by the Chair of the Committee or, if she or he is unavailable, by her or his deputy or, if she or he is unavailable, by a chair to be elected by secret ballot by the General Meeting.
- n.** The General Meeting passes resolutions by secret ballot with the majority of votes cast by the members present. In elections, the candidate who receives the relative majority of valid votes cast is elected; in the event of a tie, a run-off vote must be held between several candidates. Resolutions to amend the Articles of Association require a majority of three quarters, while resolutions to amend the purpose or dissolve the Association require the approval of nine tenths of the members present.
- o.** A properly convened General Meeting always has a quorum.
- p.** The transfer of voting rights to other members is not permitted.
- q.** Minutes shall be taken of the General Meeting and signed by the chairperson of the meeting and the keeper of the minutes. The minutes must be made available to all members and will be presented for approval at the next General Meeting.
- r.** Further details on the organisation of the General Meeting can be regulated in separate rules of procedure.

## **12. Committee**

- a.** The committee within the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code (BGB) consists of at least one and up to seven members, each of whom has sole power of representation. The committee members are divided among themselves into the following committee positions:
  - Chair;
  - Treasurer;
  - Secretary;
  - Membership Secretary;
  - International Liaisonperson
  - Webmaster;
  - Additional Member.
- b.** Committee members co-opted by the committee have no right of external representation.

- c. The committee members are elected for a period of three years. They will remain in office until the position in the committee is successfully reappointed. Re-election is possible.
- d. Committee members must be at least 18 years of age.
- e. The members of the Committee are only liable in cases of gross negligence and wilful intent.
- f. The members of the Committee may be exempted from the prohibition on self-contracting (Section 181 BGB) by the General Meeting.
- g. The General Meeting may authorise the Committee to amend the Articles of Association by resolution of the Committee on the basis of information from the registry court, the tax office or a supervisory authority.
- h. The Committee is authorised to appoint a managing director as a special representative in accordance with § 30 BGB (German Civil Code) to manage the day-to-day administration. The managing director must be entered in the register of associations.
- i. Upon termination of membership of the Association, the position on the Committee shall also end.
- j. The re-election or premature dismissal of a member by the General Meeting is permissible.
- k. If a member leaves the Committee prematurely, the remaining members of the Committee are authorised to appoint a member of the Association to the Committee until the end of the regular term of office. The subsequently appointed member of the Committee has no power of external representation.
- l. The Committee meets as required. Meetings are convened in text form (letter, e-mail, etc.) by the Chair or, if they are unable to do so, by their deputy. A notice period of one week should be observed. The Committee is quorate if at least three members are present. Resolutions are passed by a majority of the valid votes cast. In the event of a tie, the Chair has the casting vote or, if they are unable to attend, their deputy. Committee meetings may be held in person, in hybrid form or virtually. Resolutions may also be passed by means of telecommunication.
- m. The resolutions of the Committee must be recorded in the minutes, as must the way in which the resolution was reached. The minutes must be signed by the secretary.

### **13. Remuneration**

- a. If necessary and taking into account the financial circumstances and the budget situation, the General Meeting may decide that offices in the association and its bodies are to be exercised in return for payment on the basis of a contract of service in return for appropriate remuneration or payment of an appropriate lump-



sum expense allowance. The Committee is responsible for deciding on the start, content and end of contracts in accordance with Section 26 BGB.

- b.** The Committee may, if necessary and taking into account the economic circumstances and the budgetary situation, award contracts for activities for the Association to third parties in return for appropriate remuneration or fees.
- c.** In addition, the members and employees of the Association are entitled to reimbursement of their necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in connection with their work for the Association. These include, in particular, travelling expenses, postage, telephone, copying and printing costs. Members and employees must observe the principle of economy. The Committee may decide to set flat-rate allowances for expenses within the scope of tax law.
- d.** The claim for reimbursement of expenses can only be asserted within a period of 3 months after it arises, otherwise the claims are deemed forfeited. Reimbursements will only be granted if the expenses are substantiated with verifiable receipts and statements.

#### **14. Cash auditors**

- a.** The General Meeting appoints two auditors for a period of two years. They remain in office until new elections are held. The tasks of the cash auditors include the annual audit of the factual and mathematical accuracy of the receipts and records as well as the economic efficiency of the use of funds.
- b.** The actions of the Committee may only be approved once the auditors have submitted their audit report for the year to be approved to the General Meeting.

#### **15. Dissolution**

- a.** In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the Chair of the Committee and their deputy are jointly authorised liquidators, unless the General Meeting appoints other persons.
- b.** If the Association is dissolved, the assets of the Association remaining after liquidation shall be divided equally among the members.
- c.** The above provisions shall apply accordingly if the legal capacity of the association has been withdrawn.

**Signatures of the Foundation Members**

**Of EGATIN e.V.**

**Founded 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

<b>Place, Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>
	<b>Rudolf Stefan Balmer</b>	
	<b>Anneli Bittner</b>	
	<b>Taras Levin</b>	
	<b>Martin Lüdemann</b>	
	<b>Egle Pauziene</b>	
	<b>Mirjana Pernar</b>	
	<b>Katrin Stumptner</b>	
	<b>Linde Wotton</b>	