

# CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY

(Proposed: January 2020; Adopted: July 16, 2020; Mods Adopted July 24, 2023; Mods Adopted January 13, 2025; Mods Adopted July 2, 2025)

## ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of this association is the International Society of Political Psychology.

## ARTICLE 2. PURPOSES

The Society is a nonprofit scientific, educational, and non-partisan organization with the following purposes:

- A. To establish a community of scholars and concerned individuals in universities, government, the communications media, and elsewhere, who have scientific and practical interests in examining the relationship between political and psychological phenomena;
- B. To facilitate communication of scientific research, theory, and practice across disciplinary, national, and ideological boundaries, both among members of the Society and those outside the Society;
- C. To increase the theoretical and practical significance of political psychology both inside and outside academia. Practical significance shall be guided by the principles of universal human rights;
- D. To provide mutual support among members of their freedom to generate and disseminate their findings and ideas.
- E. To promote the goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion, both within the Society and its governance and operations, and outside the Society in the world at large.

## ARTICLE 3. POLICY POSITIONS

The Society may take official positions of principle on public issues if such positions are immediately and directly concerned with the purposes of the Society as specified in Article 2. The Society shall not take any positions or carry out activities which would jeopardize its tax exemption under the revenue laws of the jurisdiction within which the Society is based for legal purposes. The Society may take official positions only upon an affirmative vote by a 60% majority of the full membership of the Governing Council. In cases where timeliness is critical, the Executive Committee may act upon a 75% affirmative vote of its entire membership, provided that any such action is communicated to the Governing Council for its review as soon as is practical. All positions taken under this provision shall be made public to the membership in a reasonable amount of time following the vote. No member of the Society may be precluded from expressing his or her views as an individual on issues to

which political psychology pertains; however, any reference to a person's official position in the Society shall be included with the disclaimer that the position listing is for "purposes of identification only."

#### **ARTICLE 4. MEETINGS**

The Society shall have at least one Scientific Meeting a year when its entire membership has the opportunity to gather to exchange information regarding research, theory, or the practice of political psychology and can discharge the business of the Society. The Society may sponsor or hold additional scientific meetings, including regionally-focused meetings.

#### **ARTICLE 5. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Any person sharing the purposes of the Society and paying dues may be a member of this organization regardless of his or her academic discipline, profession, nationality, and theoretical or ideological outlook.
- B. Members who have paid dues are entitled to:
  - 1. Receive copies of the official publications and newsletters of the Society, as defined by the Governing Council; such copies may be solely available electronically.
  - 2. Attend, participate in, and vote at the annual Business Meeting of the Society;
  - 3. Vote in all official ballots conducted by the Society;
  - 4. Participate in other general activities sponsored by the Society.
- C. ISPP reserves right to revoke membership of anyone who behaves in an unprofessional manner in accordance with procedures as defined in the ISPP Policies.

#### **ARTICLE 6. GOVERNANCE**

The governance of the Society shall be conducted by the Governing Council, by the annual Business Meeting of members, and by votes of Society members on official ballots.

#### **ARTICLE 7. GOVERNING COUNCIL**

- A. The Governing Council shall include the following members, who shall be voting members unless otherwise specified:
  - 1. All members of the Executive Committee as defined in Article 8;
  - 2. The Editors of the journal *Political Psychology*; provided that if there is more than one Editor, together they will hold only one vote on the Governing Council;
  - 3. Fifteen members-at-large elected for three-year terms, with five of the fifteen elected each year. No regularly elected at-large member may be re-elected to a consecutive term, however members may be elected to multiple non-consecutive terms.
  - 4. The Chair of the Early Career Committee.

5. The Executive Director as an ex-officio non-voting member.
- B. The Governing Council shall have the power to determine by By-laws or Policies who, other than the members listed In Article VII, Section A, may be invited to its meetings. Meeting and communications of the Governing Council are otherwise closed.
- C. In cases of disputed elections, the Governing Council shall be the judge of its own membership.
- D. The Governing Council shall meet at the time of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society, and once between Annual Meetings. With the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee members voting, the President may convene other meetings of the Council.
- E. The Governing Council may establish its own rules of procedure. In the absence of a rule established by the Council, Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.
- F. The Governing Council, by a vote of majority of the members in attendance and voting at its meetings, providing a quorum exists, shall have the power to:
  1. Make all decisions necessary and proper to carry out the business of the Society and further its purposes, subject to the Constitution and By-laws, except where a supermajority vote is required under this Constitution and By-laws;
  2. Appoint an Executive Director upon recommendation of the Executive Committee which shall serve as a Search Committee;
  3. Appoint the Treasurer to a term of five years, upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, which shall serve as a Search Committee;
  4. Appoint the Councilor to a term of five years, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, which shall serve as a Search Committee;
  5. Appoint the Editors of any and all publications of the Society, upon recommendation of the appropriate Search Committee and the Executive Committee as described herein and in By-laws and Policies;
  6. Create and provide for the operations of any peer-reviewed or non-peer-reviewed publications of the society, and dissolve any publication as it deems necessary, except for the journal *Political Psychology*, subject to existing contracts with editors and publishers;
  7. Adopt a budget and generally authorize expenditures of the Society, as well as establish membership dues and conference fees;
  8. Adopt such financial policies as necessary to prudently manage the Endowment of the Society (if any) and the use of Endowment funds, subject to the By-laws.
  9. Select the site of the Annual Meeting and any other general or regional meetings of the Society;

10. Approve rules consistent with this Constitution and By-laws for conducting the annual Business Meeting, for holding elections, and for submitting proposed amendments and resolutions to members, subject to any applicable By-laws;

#### **ARTICLE 8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following voting members: President, President-Elect, Past-President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, and the Councilor. The Executive Director shall serve as a non-voting member.
- B. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by (a) the President alone, or (b) by the Executive Director with the consent of no fewer than two voting members of the Executive Committee, or (c) by any four voting members of the Committee.
- C. The Executive Committee shall:
  1. By a majority vote of its full voting members, make decisions on behalf of the Society between meetings of the Governing Council. Any such decisions shall be reported to the Governing Council in due course, which shall have the right to review and revise decisions;
  2. By a majority vote of its full voting membership, nominate to the Governing Council candidates for Executive Director, Councilor, and the Editors of official peer-reviewed publications. Any member of the Executive Committee under consideration for one of these positions shall not participate in any proceedings related to that nomination;
  3. With the approval of a majority of those voting, providing a quorum participates, approve the employment contract, and set the compensation of the Executive Director, both upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee;
  4. Undertake assignments growing out of measures duly adopted by the Governing Council or by the membership at the annual Business Meeting;
  5. Assist and advise the President as requested.
  6. Carry out any and all other responsibilities as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

#### **ARTICLE 9. PRESIDENT**

- A. The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the Society, and shall serve for a term of one year, beginning at the close of the second annual Scientific Meeting after election as President-Elect and ending at the close of the next such meeting, and shall thereafter be ineligible to be elected again to the office of President-Elect or President.
- B. The President shall:
  1. Oversee and assist all other officers of the Society in the performance of their particular functions.

2. Propose programs and policies designed to promote the purposes of the Society;
3. Convene and preside over meetings of the Governing Council, Executive Committee, and the annual Business Meeting;
4. Together with the Executive Director, prepare an agenda for meetings of the Governing Council, the Executive Committee, and the annual Business Meeting;
5. With the Executive Director, oversee the work of the Central Office;
6. With the Treasurer and Finance Committee, oversee the handling of the Society's funds and the development of a budget for the Society;
7. In consultation with the Executive Committee, appoint chairs and members of all committees whose chairs or members are not otherwise specified in the Constitution and By-laws.
8. Carry out any and all other responsibilities as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

#### **ARTICLE 10. PRESIDENT-ELECT**

- A. The President-Elect shall automatically succeed to the Presidency at the close of the second Annual Meeting after election.
- B. The President-Elect shall:
  1. Appoint the chair or chairs of Conference and the Program Committee for the Annual Scientific Meeting to be held during the presidential year, in consultation with the Executive Committee;
  2. Establish the theme of the Annual Scientific Meeting to be held during the presidential year and with the Program Committee prepare a Call for Participation;
  3. Carry out such other duties as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee, and as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

#### **ARTICLE 11. PAST-PRESIDENT**

- A. The President shall automatically succeed to the office of Past-President upon the completion of the term as President.
- B. The Past-President shall:
  1. Serve on committees if so appointed by the President.
  2. Carry out such other duties as requested by the President and the Executive Committee, and as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

**ARTICLE 12. VICE-PRESIDENTS**

- A. There shall be three Vice-Presidents, one being elected each year for three-year overlapping terms, with their terms of office beginning at the close of the first Annual Meeting after their election.
- B. Regularly elected Vice-Presidents shall be ineligible at any time to succeed themselves as a Vice-President.
- C. The Vice-Presidents shall carry out such other duties as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee, and as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

**ARTICLE 13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CENTRAL OFFICE**

- A. The Executive Director shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of the Society and shall be appointed by the Governing Council upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- B. The Executive Director shall report to the Personnel Committee, which shall oversee the Executive Director's work
- C. The Executive Director's scope of work shall be specified in relevant employment contracts, this Constitution and By-laws, and appropriate Policies adopted by the Governing Council.
- D. The Central Office shall consist of an Executive Director and such staff as the Executive Director shall appoint subject to budgetary authorization, and with the consent of the Governing Council.
- E. The Executive Director shall:
  - 1. Propose policies and programs designed to promote the purposes of the Society;
  - 2. Administer the Central Office; including recommending hiring, compensation, and termination of Central Office staff to the Governing Council;
  - 3. Assist the President, other officers, committees, and agencies of the Society in the performance of their duties and respond in a timely fashion to their requests, as appropriate;
  - 4. Maintain the records and files of the Society;
  - 5. Perform such other duties as the President, the Personnel Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Governing Council may direct;
  - 6. Serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of all appropriate committees.

**ARTICLE 14. TREASURER**

- A. The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the Society, and shall be elected by the Governing Council, on the recommendation by a majority vote of the full

membership of the Finance Committee, for a five-year term of office. No person shall serve more than two terms as Treasurer.

B. The Treasurer shall:

1. In consultation with the President and Executive Director, develop a budget for the Society, and submit that budget for review and approval to the Finance Committee, and the Governing Council, as specified in the By-laws and Policies;
2. In consultation with the Executive Director, propose membership dues rates and conference registration fees;
3. Manage the finances of the Society, receiving and dispensing funds in accordance with the policies and programs established by the Governing Council;
4. Report on the financial status of the Society to the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee, the Governing Council, and the annual Business Meeting;
5. Generate or approve of any fund-raising plans and programs proposed to benefit the Society;
6. Carry out such other duties as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

C. If the Treasurer is faced with a request for a significant expenditure of Society funds between meetings of the Governing Council that departs from the adopted budget then in force, the Treasurer shall seek authorization for the expenditure from the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee is needed for authorization.

D. The Treasurer and any acting treasurer, must adopt fiduciary responsibility towards the Society's finances.

#### **ARTICLE 15. COUNCILOR**

A. The Councilor shall be elected by the Governing Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, for a five-year term of office. No person shall serve more than two terms as Councilor.

B. The Councilor shall:

1. Serve as policy adviser to the President and Executive Committee, giving special attention to ways of fulfilling the Society's goals and maintaining its diversity and openness;
2. Interpret the Constitution and By-laws of the ISPP when called upon to do so by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Governing Council. The Councilor's interpretation shall be binding, unless overturned by an affirmative vote of at least 75% of the Governing Council members present and voting;

3. Carry out such other duties as specified in the Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies.

#### **ARTICLE 16. COMMITTEES**

- A. The Governing Council may establish any committee it deems necessary, specifying the membership and responsibilities of each committee it creates, and shall specify whether the committee is a standing committee, or if not, shall specify the committee's term.
- B. Appointments to committees, including their Chairs unless otherwise specified, shall be made by the President, in consultation with the Executive Committee.
- C. Except where the membership is specified herein, both members of the Governing Council and general members of ISPP may be appointed to committees. Committee size shall be determined by the President and shall reflect the practical needs and work of each committee.
- D. Notwithstanding the above, the following committees are established:
  1. Finance Committee, responsible for oversight of the Society's finances and of the Treasurer. The Finance Committee shall be chaired by a member of the Governing Council appointed by the President, and the Treasurer shall service as a non-voting ex-officio member. This committee shall act as the Search Committee when a new Treasurer is to be appointed and shall recommend appointment to the Governing Council by a majority vote of its full membership. The Finance Committee shall administer any Endowment or Investment Policy defined in By-laws or Governing Council Policies. The Governing Council shall specify the additional membership, operations, and responsibilities of this committee, in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws.
  2. Personnel Committee, responsible for the oversight of the Executive Director. The Personnel Committee shall consist of the President, the President-elect, the Past-President, and the Treasurer, and shall be chaired by the President. This committee shall act as the Search Committee when a new Executive Director is to be appointed and shall recommend appointment to the Executive Committee by a majority vote of its full membership. This committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee the compensation of the Executive Director and other Central Office staff from time to time, and shall negotiate any and all employment contracts. Contracts shall be subject to final approval by the Executive Committee.
  3. Program Committee, responsible for the organization of the academic program for the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Program Committee shall work under the direction of the President-elect who appointed its members. The Program Committee shall follow any policies and procedures approved by the Governing Council for the operation of the academic program.
  4. Early Career Committee, responsible for programmatic activities and support for Early Career Scholars, as defined by the Governing Council. The Early

Career Committee shall nominate its Chair each year for a one-year term, which nomination shall be subject to ratification by the Executive Committee. Membership on the Early Career Committee shall be self-perpetuating, with the Committee soliciting new members as necessary, subject to ratification by the Executive Committee.

5. Editor Search Committees, responsible for soliciting nominations and making recommendations for the election of Editors of ISPP peer-reviewed publications.
  6. Awards Committees, responsible for identifying winners of ISPP awards, following Governing Council Policies for each award.
- E. All committees shall be subject to this Constitution, By-laws, and Governing Council Policies on membership, representation, and diversity expectations, as appropriate.

#### **ARTICLE 17. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS AND VOTES**

- A. Any meeting of the Governing Council and its committees, including the Executive Committee, may be held electronically following procedures specified by By-laws and Policies adopted by the Governing Council to govern electronic meetings.
- B. Any member of the Governing Council and its committees, including the Executive Committee, may attend any meeting electronically, and may electronically vote following procedures specified by By-laws and Policies adopted by the Governing Council to govern electronic votes.

#### **ARTICLE 18. THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

- A. The annual Business Meeting shall be held during the Society's Annual Meeting. All members are entitled to participate and vote at the Business Meetings they attend.
- B. The annual Business Meeting shall include a presentation of the financial condition of the Society, among its other business.
- C. The annual Business Meeting shall have the power to:
  1. Receive and consider reports;
  2. Raise and discuss matters relevant to the purposes of the Society;
  3. Adopt resolutions consistent with the purposes of the Society and its Constitution by a simple majority of those present, provided that the proposed text of a resolution has been communicated to the Executive Director or the President at least forty-eight hours in advance of the Business Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 19. PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY**

- A. The Society shall be responsible for the publication of at least one peer-reviewed journal titled *Political Psychology* (at the time of this Constitution), which will contain scholarly articles examining the relationship between psychological and political phenomena and will reflect the interdisciplinary, international, and inter-professional quality of the Society.

- B. The Governing Council may contract as necessary with publisher(s) to ensure the timely publication of the Society's publications.
- C. The Editor(s) of all ISPP peer-reviewed journals shall be elected by the Governing Council, upon nomination by the Executive Committee, for a once-renewable five-year term of office, after a duly-constituted Search Committee has made a recommendation to the Executive Committee. Appointment shall require a completed Memorandum of Understanding between the Editor-elect and ISPP which shall be made available to the Governing Council before it votes. Editors of other ISPP publications shall be appointed by the Governing Council using procedures it determines.
- D. In the case of the appointment of an Editorial Team, the team shall designate an Editor-in-Chief to represent the team to the Governing Council. The designee shall be responsible for all aspects of the publication. This shall not limit the ability of the team to have co-Editors-in-Chief, nor to change the team member designated to represent it from time to time.
- E. The Editor-in-Chief of any official publication shall manage solicitation, receipt, review, editing, and publication, and may delegate any of these responsibilities to other members of the editorial team, as appropriate.
- F. In consultation with the President and Executive Committee, the Editor(s) of any official peer-reviewed journal shall appoint to an Editorial Board such members as deemed able to participate in editorial activities and the development of policy. Consideration should be given to having the Editorial Board reflect the interdisciplinary, international, and inter-professional quality of the Society, as well as to ensure diverse membership as defined in any ISPP diversity policy.
- G. If an Editor-in-Chief should resign before completion of the term of office, the President in consultation with the Executive Committee may appoint an Acting Editor for a specified period of time not to exceed one year, and a search for a new Editor (or team) shall be undertaken.
- H. The Governing Council may authorize additional peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed publications for the Society as the occasion arises and funds are available. The editorships of such other publications and policies governing the publications shall be established by the Governing Council, but in the case of peer-reviewed publications shall follow the outline and requirements of this Article.

#### **ARTICLE 20. QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE**

- A. Except for the Executive Director, who shall be a person with the professional qualifications necessary to the office, all Society Officers and Governing Council Members shall be members of the Society at the time of their election or appointment and throughout their terms of office. Any Officer or Governing Council Member who allows membership to lapse and fails to correct the lapse in a reasonable time shall be considered to have resigned from office.
- B. No elected or appointed officer, including editors of ISPP peer-reviewed publications, may hold more than one elected or appointed position simultaneously.

If elected or appointed to a new position while currently serving an unfinished term in another position, the older position shall be considered vacated upon the assumption of the new office.

#### **ARTICLE 21. NOMINATIONS**

- A. A Nominating Committee shall be formed at the Governing Council meeting between Annual Scientific Meetings each year to nominate candidates for the election to be held in the following year. The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of five elected members of the Governing Council and three other ISPP members not currently serving on the Governing Council, appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the Chair of the Nominating Committee. No currently serving member of the Nominating Committee may be nominated for any elective position.
- B. The Past-President and the Councilor shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting members of the Nominating Committee and shall provide advice on the nomination process and nominees during its deliberations.
- C. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one candidate for President, one candidate for Vice President and ten candidates for the Governing Council.
- D. Upon presentation of the nominations slate, the Governing Council may, for good cause and by majority vote, strike any name from the list, and require that the Nominating Committee replace that proposed nominee forthwith. If the nominee is replaced while the Governing Council is in session, the Governing Council shall approve the replacement, otherwise the Executive Committee shall approve the replacement.
- E. In addition to the nominations process detailed here and in the By-laws, any member of the Society may be nominated as a candidate for elective office by petition of no less than three percent of the current Society membership, using reasonable procedures specified by the Governing Council.

#### **ARTICLE 22. ELECTIONS**

- A. Elections for President, Vice-President, and Governing Council shall be held each year concluding at least two months in advance of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society.
- B. The election of officers shall be administered by the Executive Director and shall take place in the following manner:
  - 1. All then-current members of the Society shall be eligible to vote in the election;
  - 2. The ballot shall include the names of the ten candidates for the Governing Council as well as the candidate(s) for President and the candidate(s) for Vice-President;
  - 3. To the extent technically possible, the order of nominees for the Governing Council shall be randomized on each ballot.

4. The ballot shall also provide access to biographical statements for each candidate;
5. The five candidates for Governing Council who receive the most votes shall be declared elected;
6. If, as a result of a petition by members of the Society, more than one candidate for President or Vice-President appears on the ballot, the candidate who receives a plurality of the votes cast for that position shall be declared elected;
7. If the elections for President and Vice-President are uncontested, the candidates nominated for those offices shall be declared elected.

### **ARTICLE 23. VACANCIES IN OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY**

Any person serving in a Society office may take temporary leave and resume office following procedures specified in the By-laws. Such leave shall not be considered to create a vacancy.

In the event of a vacancy in any elected or appointed position within the Society, such vacancy shall be filled as follows. Upon election or appointment, the new Officer or Governing Council member shall take office immediately and shall serve for the remainder of the uncompleted term.

- A. President. Upon a vacancy in the office of President, the President-Elect shall become President, and complete the remainder of the term and continue as President until the expiration of their elected term of office. In this case, the vacancy in the office of President-Elect shall not be filled until the next regularly-scheduled election.
- B. President-Elect. Upon a vacancy in the office of President-Elect, except when the vacancy in the office of President-Elect is created by succession to the office of President, the Executive Committee shall immediately convene to select a nominee for President-Elect, by a majority vote of its entire membership. Such nomination shall be presented to the Governing Council for its approval, by a majority of those members voting.
- C. Treasurer. Upon a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, the Chair of the Finance Committee shall serve as interim Treasurer until a new Treasurer can be appointed to fill the remainder of the term. Procedures for such appointment will follow the regular process for appointing a Treasurer. The Chair of the Finance Committee will retain position as Chair while serving as interim Treasurer.
- D. Executive Director. Upon a vacancy on the office of Executive Director, a search for a new Executive Director shall begin immediately following the procedures specified for appointment of the Executive Director. The Executive Committee shall make whatever provision it considers necessary for the continuing operations of the Society during any period of vacancy in the office of Executive Director.
- E. All other Offices, including Governing Council. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled in accordance with procedures specified in the By-laws.

**ARTICLE 24. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- A. Any elected or appointed Officer or Governing Council member may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the Executive Director and President. Resignations will be effective immediately upon receipt of this letter.
- B. The Governing Council, by a two-thirds vote of its entire voting membership, may remove any elected or appointed Officer or Governing Council member for good cause, and following Policies which must allow for due process.
- C. Any elected or appointed Officer or Governing Council member who fails to attend two successive regular meetings of the Governing Council without notice and good cause shall be considered to have resigned and a vacancy shall be declared.
- D. Any elected or appointed Officer or Governing Council member who is not on temporary leave and is unresponsive to Governing Council and committee duties for any four-month period without notice and good cause shall be considered to have resigned and a vacancy shall be declared.

**ARTICLE 25 BY-LAWS**

- A. By-laws may be established or amended by the Governing Council as it deems necessary, at a duly called meeting, upon approval by a two-thirds affirmative vote of its full membership.
- B. New By-laws or amendments to existing By-laws must be first proposed by a majority vote of Executive Committee, or any Governing Council Committee, or by the Governing Council as a body, before being submitted to the Governing Council.
- C. Any proposed new or amended By-law must be made available to the all members of the Governing Council at least 30 days in advance of any vote to adopt any proposed revision.

**ARTICLE 26. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in two ways:
  - 1. By the Governing Council on the recommendation of a majority of its voting members;
  - 2. By a petition submitted to the Executive Director and the President by at least 50 ISPP members.
- B. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to all members in an official ballot not less than one month before the voting period opens. Voting may remain open for no longer than two months.
- C. Voting may be electronic.
- D. The ballot shall provide a background statement to the membership regarding the rationale for the amendment.
- E. Amendments approved by two-thirds of those voting shall be declared ratified if the total number of those voting is not less than one-quarter of the members of the

Society as of the date of the opening of voting. Announcement of the outcome of the vote shall be made to all members of the Society.

**ARTICLE 27. ENACTMENT OF THIS CONSTITUTION**

- A. This Constitution shall be submitted to the membership of the Society and shall be considered ratified following its approval by two-thirds of all members voting, providing the total number of those voting is not less than one-quarter of the Society's current membership. Announcement of the outcome of the vote shall be made to all members of the Society.
- B. Upon ratification, this Constitution shall supersede all prior Constitutions and By-laws.

## **BY-LAWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**(Proposed, January 2020; Adopted: July 2020; Amended July 2023; Adopted July 2023 )**

### **CHAPTER I. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. In addition to his or her voting and other rights specified in the Constitution, each current member of the Society shall be entitled to recommend to the Governing Council the formation of special committees and the development of new projects of the Society.
- B. Any member may volunteer to be considered for membership on any Society committee.
- C. On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Governing Council may establish differences in dues structure, e.g., different dues for students, retirees, people in nations with currency problems, etc. Differences in dues structure do not affect the right of all members to participate in Society activities but may affect the receipt of some Society publications.

### **CHAPTER II. GOVERNING COUNCIL**

- A. Activities and decisions of the Council are not subject to change by any officer or member of the Society. They may be changed only by the Council itself; or by a majority of the members of the Society in an official ballot, following a resolution passed at the annual Business Meeting; or by a separate balloting of the membership.
- B. The following shall be invited to all meetings of the Governing Council, as non-voting observers:
  - 1. The editor(s) of any Governing Council designated official publications of the ISPP, other than editors of *Political Psychology*;
  - 2. The Program Chair(s) and Conference Chair(s) (if any) for the Annual Scientific Meetings;
  - 3. The ISPP Director of Communications, if one shall have been appointed by the Governing Council.
  - 4. Any other person(s) whom the Executive Committee, the President, or the Governing Council believes can provide useful information.

### **CHAPTER III. THE CONDUCT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES**

- A. Except in the case of an emergency, all members of all committees, including the Executive Committee and the Governing Council, shall be given at least one week's notice of any electronic meeting and at least two months' notice of any in-person meeting, by the Chair of the body or the Executive Director.
- B. The agenda for all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Governing Council, and the Annual Business Meeting shall be presented in advance of the sessions for which they are prepared and made available to those attending the sessions.

- C. No committee charged with nominating or selecting candidates for office or honors in the Society may nominate a member of the selection committee.

#### **CHAPTER IV. ONLINE MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES AND ONLINE VOTING**

- A. The following rules shall govern all meetings and votes held electronically, and shall be established in accordance with any applicable laws that may apply to the Society based on where it is domiciled:
  - 1. Any regularly scheduled meeting of any voting body may be held electronically if the body determines to do so by a majority vote, and provided that all members of the body have electronic access to the meeting.
  - 2. In all cases where votes are required within the Governing Council or its committees, such votes may be submitted in person, by telephone, or electronically, during a duly called meeting of the voting body. The Governing Council shall establish procedures for casting and recording all electronic votes.
  - 3. Voting by Society members for Officers, Governing Council, and Amendments to this Constitution, may be electronic following procedures specified by the Governing Council.
  - 4. Meetings of the Governing Council will normally be in person on the schedule specified by this Constitution, provided that members may attend electronically if necessary. Members attending electronically shall be counted among the total of those attending while they are online.

#### **CHAPTER V. THE SOCIETY'S SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

- A. In consultation with members of the President, the Executive Committee and others as appropriate, the chair(s) of the Program Committee shall manage the solicitation, receipt, and evaluation of proposals for inclusion in the program for the Annual Scientific Meeting.
- B. In choosing the chair(s) of the Program Committee for each Annual Scientific Meeting, the President-Elect should seek members who are particularly conscious of the goal of reflecting the diversity of our membership, as specified in Article 5 of the Constitution.
- C. In collaboration with the Program Committee, the Executive Director shall manage the operation of the Annual Scientific Meeting.
- D. Should the Governing Council approve other ISPP meetings in accordance with Article 4 of the Constitution, it shall determine appropriate policies and procedures with respect to such meetings.

#### **CHAPTER VI. QUORUMS**

- A. For the Executive Committee:

A quorum in the Executive Committee shall consist of 50%+1 of its full voting membership. For decisions of the Executive Committee to take effect, a quorum must cast a vote, and a majority of those voting must agree to the decision, except as otherwise specified in the Constitution or By-laws.

B. For the Governing Council and all other committees:

Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or By-laws, the quorum required for all decisions shall be a simple majority of the membership of the deliberating body. Votes shall be considered passed when approved by a majority of those present and voting, unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or By-laws.

**CHAPTER VII. NOMINATION OF ELECTIVE OFFICERS**

- A. The Nominating Committee shall complete its work and present its slate to the Governing Council no later than the next Governing Council meeting held between Annual Scientific Meetings.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall keep its deliberations private, and shall not provide any list of potential nominees other than the final slate it proposes to the Governing Council.
- C. The Nominating Committee shall solicit nominations from the membership and shall also consider the list of those considered for nomination in the past, or nominated but not elected.
- D. Nominees for President, and Vice President shall be expected to have significant prior experience with the governance of the Society, such as serving on the Governing Council, as a member of a committee, or in other significant service to the Society.
- E. No sitting Vice-President shall be eligible to be nominated for President until the last year of his or her term as Vice-President.
- F. The Nominating Committee shall give careful consideration to the interdisciplinary, international, and inter-professional membership of the Society, and shall further consider the diversity of the Governing Council should the slate of nominees be elected, and shall endeavor to fully implement any diversity policy adopted by the Governing Council.
- G. In considering candidates for elective office, the Nominating Committee may interview candidates face-to-face but shall decide on them in their absence.
- H. If any nominee cannot accept the nomination after the nominating slate has been approved by the Governing Council the Nominating Committee by majority vote of its full membership may fill a vacancy in the list, and shall present any such additional names to the Executive Committee for review and approval.
- I. Any member of the Nominating Committee (voting or nonvoting) may present to the Governing Council his or her objections to the nominating process or to particular nominees, and the Governing Council then shall decide on the objections.
- J. No deletions or other substitutions from the list of candidates presented by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Governing Council may be made by any officer or officers of the Society, except as specified herein in the case of vacancies.
- K. To appear on the official ballot, a petition of any member nominated by no less than three percent of the current Society membership must be received by the Executive Director at least four weeks before the balloting.

- L. The names of nominees for each elective office shall appear on the ballot with no indication of whether each was nominated by the Nominating Committee or by petition.
- M. Candidates shall be declared elected if they gain a plurality of the vote cast. In the case of a tie vote, the tie shall be broken by a random process overseen by the Executive Director.
- N. Specific numbers and/or percentages from Governing Council elections and appointments will not be shared or released, except to the candidate regarding their own vote, if requested, and to the Governing Council. The ISPP Central Office will be responsible for keeping records of the votes and informing winners and publicizing the results.<sup>1</sup>

#### **CHAPTER VIII. SELECTION OF APPOINTIVE OFFICERS**

- A. Peer-reviewed journal Editor Search Committee.
  - 1. When a new editor or editorial team is sought for any peer-reviewed publication, an Editor Search Committee shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee.
  - 2. The Editor Search Committees shall:
    - a. Have five members. Three may be former officers, but not more than two may be incumbent officers. One of the two incumbent officers should be the VP of Communications and Publications;<sup>2</sup>
    - b. Broadly seek applicants for the editorship, using all methods available to build a diverse and comprehensive pool of candidates;
    - c. Present its recommendation to the Executive Committee, which shall, after a majority affirmative vote of its full voting membership, recommend a nominee to the Governing Council.
- B. Nominees for Councilor shall be expected to have significant prior experience with the governance of the Society, such as serving on the Governing Council, as a member of a committee, or in other significant service to the Society.
- C. Nominees for Treasurer shall show some expertise in managing finances and accounts.
- D. In considering candidates to recommend for appointment, any Search Committee may interview candidates face-to-face but shall decide on them in their absence.
- E. Any member of the Society may propose another member as a nominee for an appointive office to any member of the Search Committee, the Executive Committee, or the Governing Council, at or before a meeting of any of these bodies.
- F. The decision of the Governing Council is final as to appointive officers.

#### **CHAPTER IX. VACANCIES AND TEMPORARY LEAVES**

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<sup>1</sup> Added and approved July 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Revised and approved July 2025.

#### A. Vacancies

1. If a vacancy should occur in any office specified under Article 23 (E) of the Constitution, the President shall determine the need for the appointment of a substitute. If a need is determined, the President, after consulting the nominating committee, shall appoint a person who ran for Governing Council but was not elected, to serve for the remainder of the vacated term.
2. If the President determines the office need not be filled immediately, it shall remain vacant until the next generally scheduled election, at which it will be filled for the remainder of the term using regular election procedures.

#### B. Temporary Leave

1. Any elected or appointed Officer, Editor, or Governing Council Member may take a temporary leave from office for up to a maximum of six months, provided advance notice of the approximate dates of leave are provided to the President and Executive Director at least one month prior to the start of leave. If advance notice is not possible, then notice of intent to return to duties must be provided within two months of the beginning of the temporary leave.
2. The President shall determine whether to appoint a person to temporarily carry out the duties of the member on leave. If a temporary appointment is necessary, the President shall make the appointment, which shall expire when the member on leave returns to duties or resigns from office.

### **CHAPTER X. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS**

- A. Each Vice-President shall be elected to one of the following areas of responsibility and shall carry out that responsibility throughout the term of office:
  1. Initiatives: In collaboration with applicable persons/groups, develops plans and strategies to advance ISPP initiatives and mission in the areas of diversity/accessibility, internationalization, and membership growth.<sup>3</sup>
  2. Conferences: In collaboration with applicable persons/groups, is responsible for guiding the selection process of future meeting destinations; considering future conference developments; gathering data where/when applicable.<sup>4</sup>
  3. Communications: In collaboration with applicable persons/groups, develop and maintain a communication strategy for ISPP, and how it will be executed sustainably. Also devise ways to increase interest in and reach of ISPP communications. Communication channels include the journal and Advances, ISPP web site, ISPP social media outlets, newsletters and blog.<sup>5</sup>
- B. In soliciting nominations and electing Vice-Presidents, the area of responsibility shall be specified and included in the nomination and election materials.

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<sup>3</sup> Added and approved July 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Added and approved July 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Added and approved July 2023.

**CHAPTER XI. ENDOWMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

- A. The Society shall aggregate all long-term financial assets into a single investment pool and the Governing Council may engage a financial advisor to manage the pool as a fiduciary agent of the Society. This investment pool shall be treated as an Endowment for the benefit of the International Society of Political Psychology. Notwithstanding this provision, the Treasurer shall ensure that a minimum amount of operating funds are always available to meet expected expenses and minimum bank balances. Such operating funds shall not be considered part of the Endowment and shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.
- B. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for managing the Endowment in accordance with the Constitution, the By-laws, and Governing Council Policies. The President is encouraged to appoint at least one past-president or past-treasurer to the Finance Committee. The Treasurer, who serves ex-officio as non-voting Finance Committee member, shall have a vote for Endowment and Investment Policy-related decisions.
- C. With the guidance of the Treasurer, and the financial advisor, if any, the Finance Committee shall have the responsibility to oversee investments and expenses, determine the annual Endowment yield, review any audit of the Endowment, and report to the Governing Council and the membership the results of their activities.
- D. The ISPP investment policy shall be designed to maximize principal growth of the Endowment over the long term, consistent with preservation of capital. The Treasurer, working with the financial advisor, if any, shall regularly review the Endowment to insure it is properly and fully invested, and shall report at least semi-annually to the Finance Committee on its status. Major changes in how funds are invested shall be approved by the Finance Committee prior to their implementation.
- E. The annual fiscal-year yield shall be calculated as the three-year average return on invested endowment funds calculated across the prior fiscal years, not including any additions made to the principal of the endowment. Up to three-quarters of the calculated annual fiscal year yield may be used no later than the following fiscal year by the Governing Council as it deems necessary for the operations of the Society, including special initiatives, small grants, or any other legitimate purpose in service to the Society's aims, while one-quarter must be added to the endowment principle. At the end of each fiscal year any of the budgeted fiscal-year yield not actually spent during that year shall be added to the principal of the endowment and shall not be available to spend in future years.
- F. The Governing Council shall not, except in the case of a financial exigency that threatens the continuation of the Society, its peer-reviewed publications, or its Annual Scientific Meeting, use any portion of the principal of the Endowment for any operations of the society.
- G. Contributions to the Endowment
  - 1. The Endowment shall begin with the existing financial assets considered as the ISPP Endowment as of the date of the adoption of this Bylaw.

2. After the close of each fiscal year, once all expenses are paid and income realized, the Treasurer shall as soon as practical calculate the net operating surplus for that year, subtracting total expenses from total income. If this amount is positive, the Treasurer shall as soon as practical transfer the surplus amount to the Endowment principal, after first assuring that enough cash will remain in the operating account to ensure that expenses will be paid in a timely fashion.
3. New donations, gifts, or bequests may be made either for the general benefit of the International Society of Political Psychology or to support a specific extant or new proposed activity to be sustained by the yield of the investment. Such funds shall be added to the Endowment principal, with records kept for restricted funds as to their purpose and amount. The principal of all restricted funds shall be reported separately from unrestricted funds, and shall be presumed to grow at the same rate as the overall endowment.
4. In the case of new activities, donors shall be informed that all donations for specific activities must be accepted by a majority vote of the Governing Council endorsing the new activity. Further, the amount of the donation must be sufficient (either by itself or together with other such gifts and donations) to provide for the budgeted amount of the activity (as estimated by the Investment Committee). Further, donors must accept the following language as controlling the use of said gifts: "This gift of [amount] is to be used for the purpose of [activity] and such related activities as benefit the goals and purposes of the International Society of Political Psychology." This clause is to ensure that if a donation for a specific purpose or activity grows beyond what is necessary to fund that activity, the surplus can be used for other purposes that benefit ISPP, and also to provide for the possibility that at some future time the activity may no longer be useful or necessary.

## **CHAPTER XII. BY-LAWS ENACTMENT**

- A. These By-laws shall be submitted to the membership of the Society and shall be considered ratified following approval by two-thirds of all members voting, providing the total number of those voting is not less than one-quarter of the Society's current membership. Announcement of the outcome of the vote shall be made to all members of the Society.
- B. Upon ratification, these By-laws shall supersede all prior By-laws.
- C. Following ratification, future changes to the By-laws shall be made in accordance with the appropriate Article of the Constitution.