

Statutes

Applies from the last statute change 30.01.2025 and replaces all previous versions.



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1. Organization

1.1. Name

The name of the section is "Erasmus Student Network Linköping". The official abbreviation of Erasmus Student Network Linköping is "ESN Linköping".

1.2. Headquarters

The section is established in both Linköping and Norrköping, with its headquarters located in Linköping.

Kårallen, 581 31 LINKÖPING, SWEDEN

Organization number: 802435-7488

1.3. Aim and objectives

ESN Linköping is a non-profit independent student section at Linköping University which is religiously and politically independent and works on a voluntary basis. The aim of ESN Linköping shall be aligned with the aims of ESN AISBL and ESN Sweden. ESN Linköping shall work for the benefit and well-being of international students within higher education. The section shall work for all students, Swedish and International. The aims of the section are:

- ... to arrange reception of international students,
- ... to recruit and educate buddy students and connect peer students to international students.
- ... to arrange activities for students at Linköping University in the aim of supporting, networking, well-being, and community,
- ... to actively participate in and maintain a good connection with ESN on a national and international level.
- ... to improve social and academic integration of international students with the Swedish community and the student life of Linköping University,
- ... to make a positive contribution to the experience of the international students at Linköping University.

1.4. Organs

The organs of ESN Linköping are:

- Annual Meeting
- Board
- Committees and working groups (More information in General Guidelines)

The executive body of ESN Linköping consists of its Board. The Board of ESN Linköping



reserves the right to initiate committees and working groups which may facilitate or render added value to the function of the section.

The establishment or the dissolution of a committee or an organ requires an absolute majority of the Board members.

1.5. Control Documents of the Section

The control documents of ESN Linköping consist of the following:

- 1. Statutes
- 2. Budget
- 3. General Guidelines
- 4. Business plan

The Statutes are publicly available on our website, esnlinkoping.org.

2. Change of Control Documents

The section Board is authorized to make editorial changes that do not alter the meaning of the statutes. Such changes must be documented and reported at the subsequent Annual Meeting.

2.1. Rules for Amending the Statutes

Amendments to the Statutes or amendments to the proposals shall be sent in by any member of the section to the Board latest five (5) days before the Annual Meeting. These amendments and proposals shall be discussed during the meeting, and must achieve at least a three-quarters majority to be effective.

2.1.1. Interpretation

In cases where interpretation of these statutes is in question, the Board's interpretation shall prevail, obtained with absolute majority within the Board.

2.2. Budget, General Guidelines, and Business Plans

Budgets, General Guidelines, and Business Plans can be amended unanimously at two consecutive Board meetings, provided that at least 75% of the Board members are present at each meeting.

3. Languages

For the statutes of ESN Linköping, the designated languages are English and Swedish. All meetings will be conducted in English. Official documents, such as protocols, must be drafted in English. If the Board considers it essential, protocols will be made available in either Swedish or English. Legally binding documents, including statutes, will be accessible in Swedish; however, only the English versions hold legal authority.

The translation of documents does not require the endorsement of an Annual Meeting and must be validated by two native Swedish-speaking Board members and approved by the President. If there are fewer than two native Swedish speakers in the Board, the translation work must be carried out by two native Swedish-speaking individuals appointed



by the Board, chosen with absolute majority.

4. Members

4.1. Membership

Any individual at Linköping University who is registered as a student or postgraduate is entitled to membership of ESN Linköping. Membership can be obtained by the entitled person by payment of the prescribed fee to the section.

4.2. Membership Fee

All members of ESN Linköping pay membership fees. The payment can be made either by investing time in by ESN Linköping acknowledged activities related to the organization or by buying an ESNcard, hence making a financial contribution. The Board of ESN Linköping owns the right to set the Membership fee on a yearly basis.

4.2.1. Time-based contribution

Acknowledged activities are involvement in the Board of ESN Linköping or in the ESN Linköping Board appointed committees. The membership is dissolved at the end of the mandate, alternating with an exit from involvement in ESN Linköping.

4.2.2. Honorary Member

An individual may be elected as an honorary member if they have made extraordinary contributions that significantly advance the interests of the section. Honorary members are elected by the ordinary section meeting upon the recommendation of the section Board. Election requires a three-quarters majority. All section members have the right to propose candidates for honorary membership to the section Board.

4.2.3. Financial contribution

An individual will receive membership in ESN Linköping when purchasing an ESNcard through ESN Linköping and registration in the database of ESN Linköping. The membership will last the time during which the ESNcard is valid.

5. Membership expiration

Each membership shall have a term of one year from the date of issuance, as stipulated in Section 3.2, "Membership Fee."

5.1. Rights at Annual Meetings

All members are entitled to attend, speak and propose on the Annual Meetings of ESN Linköping.

5.2. Exclusion of member

The ESN Linköping Board has the authority to exclude a member at any time if they breach Swedish law during an ESN Linköping-related activity or significantly harm the organization's objectives or standing. The Board may also temporarily restrict the member's



participation in activities and access to services provided by ESN Linköping. Prior to making a final decision, the Board will afford the member a chance to present their defence. Each exclusion case will be considered on an individual basis, without the possibility of refunding any membership fees paid.

5.3. Exclusion of membership

Members have the right to cancel their membership. Should a member decide to end their section with ESN Linköping, they must notify the Board by emailing board@esnlinkoping.org. Please note that membership fees are non-refundable.

6. Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting is the highest decision-making body of the section, in which all members have the right to attend, speak and propose. Every ESN Linköping section volunteer (committee and Board member) has the right to vote at the Annual Meetings. Voting through authorization is not allowed. The Annual Meeting is to decide whether to grant non-members co-optation.

6.1. Meeting summoning

The Annual Meeting of ESN Linköping will meet when summoned by the Board of ESN Linköping. The Annual Meeting reaches quorum when it is correctly announced according to 6.5 Announcement and at least 75 % of the members of the Board of ESN Linköping are present. Decision requires simple majority, in case of a tie the meeting president has the casting vote.

6.2. Function

The task of the Annual Meeting is to make required decisions and to review the work of the Board and other bodies, to formulate guidelines for the work of the section and to establish the financial framework of the section.

6.3. Annual Meetings

There shall be two Annual Meetings per year, The Autumn Annual Meeting and the Spring Annual Meeting. The Autumn meeting shall take place latest 30th of November and Spring meeting 30th of April.

6.3.1. Autumn Annual Meeting

The following topics shall be dealt with during the meeting:

- 1. Opening of the Meeting
- 2. Election of the President of the Meeting
- 3. Election of the Meeting Secretary
- 4. Adjustment of the Voting List
- 5. Election of Two Adjusters, also serving as Vote Counters
- 6. Confirmation of the Meeting's Proper Announcement



- 7. Adjournments
- 8. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting
- 9. Reports and Announcements
- 10. Financial Report for the Previous Fiscal Year
- 11. Auditors' Report for the Previous Fiscal Year
- 12. Decision on Discharge of Liability for the Positions with the Mandate Period from May 1st of the Previous Year to April 30th of the Current Year
- 13. Election of the new President and Treasurer with mandate period 01/01 31/12
- 14. Supplementary Election of the Board
- 15. Motions
- 16. Proposals from the Board
- 17. Any Other Business
- 18. Closing of the Meeting

6.3.2. Spring Annual Meeting

The following topics shall be dealt with during the meeting;

- 1. Opening of the Meeting
- 2. Election of the Chair of the Meeting
- 3. Election of the Meeting Secretary
- 4. Adjustment of the Voting List
- 5. Election of Two Adjusters, also serving as Vote Counters
- 6. Confirmation of the Meeting's Proper Announcement
- 7. Adjournments
- 8. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting
- 9. Reports and Announcements
- 10. Board's Annual Report for the Previous Year
- 11. Decision on Discharge of Liability for the Positions with the Mandate Period from January 1st of the Previous Year to December 30th of the Current Year
- 12. Supplementary Election of the Board
- 13. Motions
- 14. Proposals from the Board



- 15. Any Other Business
- 16. Closing of the Meeting

6.4. Extraordinary Annual Meeting

An Extraordinary Annual Meeting can be requested in addition to the standard two Annual meetings. Annualcement of an Extraordinary Annual Meeting will take place after:

- ESN Linköping Board requests.
- ESN Linköping's auditor requests so with a motivation to the Board.
- At least thirty (30) of the ESN Linköping members submit a request with a motivation to the Board.

An Extraordinary Annual Meeting must be held within five (5) weeks from receipt of the request to the Board. The announcement shall be treated in the same way as the Annual Meeting.

6.5. Announcement

For the meeting to be properly announced, the summons to the Annual Meeting should meet the following requirements:

- Made available to all members at earliest four (4) weeks before and least two (2) weeks before the meeting is to take place, containing:
 - o Date
 - o Time
 - o Place
 - Preliminary agenda

If it is an Extraordinary Annual Meeting, the summons may be made available to all members at the latest one (1) week before the meeting is to take place.

When needed, a revised summons shall be made available to the members of ESN Linköping latest three (3) workdays before the Annual Meeting is to take place.

6.6. Motions

Every member of ESN Linköping has the right to make a motion. Motions should be submitted to the secretary of the Board at least seven (7) days before the meeting is to take place. Motions submitted too late shall be dealt with at the next Annual Meeting, unless three fourths (3/4) qualified majority agree to make an exception.

Submitted motions shall by the Board of ESN Linköping be sent to parties the motion might concern in a separate document along with the Board's response, the latest three (3) workdays before the Annual Meeting is to take place.

6.7. Propositions

The Board of ESN Linköping has the right to, as a unit, make propositions. Decision regarding the presentation of a proposition requires a simple majority at a Board meeting. Propositions shall be submitted to the secretary of the Board at the latest three (3)



workdays before the meeting is to take place. Propositions submitted too late shall be dealt with at the next Annual Meeting, unless three fourths (3/4) qualified majority agree to make an exception.

Submitted propositions shall by the Board of ESN Linköping be sent to parties the proposition might concern in a separate document the last three (3) workdays before the Annual Meeting is to take place.

6.8. The right to propose amendments

Every member of ESN Linköping has the right to propose amendments to a presented motion or proposition.

6.9. Protocol

Protocol shall be kept at the Annual Meeting, which is to be revised and adjusted within two (2) weeks by two (2) of the meeting appointed members. The protocol shall be made available to the members of the section and be archived in paper in the archives of the section for at least seven (7) years in accordance with the Accounting Act and digitally for at least ten (10) years. Amendments, reservations and notes which have been submitted in writing shall be added to the protocol.

Voting protocol shall be kept at all times except during personal election.

7. Election Committee

The Election Committee of ESN Linköping shall consist of at least three members, one of whom shall serve as the president, ensuring representation from the current Board for transparency in the Board's activities. The Election Committee is nominated by the Board and elected during the Autumn meeting, where all members have the right to submit counter-proposals.

If the Election Committee is not elected during the Annual Meeting, it shall be formed by the whole Board, with the HR responsible acting as the president of the Election Committee.

Only section members are eligible to be elected to the Election Committee. The Election Committee convenes upon the call of its president. The president of the Election Committee is responsible for selecting the remaining members of the committee. A quorum for the Election Committee is achieved with a simple majority.

7.1. Responsibilities

The Election Committee is responsible for preparing the nominations for the Board, auditors, and other positions of trust as deemed appropriate by the Annual Meeting.

7.2. Counter Proposals

Every member has the right to submit counter proposals to the nominations made by the Election Committee. Counter proposals can be submitted in writing to the president of the Election Committee at least three working days before the Annual Meeting, or they may be



presented directly during the Annual Meeting. Additionally, individuals nominated as counter-candidates must be given the opportunity to present themselves at the Annual Meeting.

7.3. Interviews

All individuals who have applied for or have been nominated to any of the positions that the Election Committee is tasked with filling should be offered the opportunity for a personal interview with the president of the Election Committee and any other member of it.

7.4. Elections

7.4.1. Re-election

A Board member who intends to continue serving on the Board of ESN Linköping, whether in the same position or a different one, for the subsequent mandate year must submit their application by the specified deadline, just like all other candidates. This individual must participate in the same election process as other candidates. To avoid any conflict of interest, this individual may not be involved in the election procedure in any capacity other than as a candidate.

7.4.2. By-election

It is the task of the Board of ESN Linköping to, if no suitable candidate has been found for a specific position, announce the position as vacant in the summons of the Annual Meeting. If no candidate is elected at the Annual Meeting it is the task of the Board of ESN Linköping to execute a by-election in order to fill the vacant position, alternately in consultation with the elected Board members put the tasks and responsibilities of the vacant position on one or several other positions.

By-election shall take place during the Annual Meeting or at a regular Board meeting. The by-election only applies to the remaining mandate period of the position.

7.4.3. Replacements

Should a Board member resign from the Board during the business year, it is the task of the Board to decide whether to have a by-election for the remaining part of the mandate, in which case it is the task of the Board to announce and appoint a person for the position.

7.5. Vote

Election of the Board members will be made through closed voting at the Annual Meeting.

In order to be elected to the Board, nominations must go through an interview and voting process conducted by the current Board at least one Board meeting prior to the Annual Meeting. That Board meeting reaches quorum when at least 75 % of the members of the Board of ESN Linköping are present.

Each Board member may vote for multiple candidates. It is up to the Board to decide which type of voting to conduct. The Board may decide to present more than one candidate to the Annual Meeting for a final vote by the section. Once approved by the Board, the nominee(s) will then be subject to a vote by all attenders of the Annual Meeting.



7.6. Information and secrecy

Information and opinions about a candidate for a position should remain confidential within the election committee and should only be disclosed outside the committee in documents or actions presented at a Board meeting, or if specific reasons necessitate such disclosure.

8. The Board

8.1. Governing organ

ESN Linköping's highest decision-making organ is the Annual Meeting, second being the Board. It is the duty of the Board, the highest executive body, to ensure that operations are conducted in accordance with the statutes.

8.2. Composition

The Board of ESN Linköping must comprise a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of fifteen (15) members. These members shall include designated positions such as a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. One individual may assume multiple roles.

8.3. Eligibility of Board members

To be eligible for election to the Board, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Limits: Individuals may serve on the Board for a maximum of three consecutive years.
- Role Restrictions: No person may hold the positions of president and treasurer concurrently.
- Compliance: Candidates must adhere to all other specific eligibility requirements and guidelines as outlined in the section's statutes and General Guidelines.

8.4. Mandate

The term of office for President and Treasurer positions begins on the 1st of January and concludes on the 30th of December, elected during the Autumn Meeting. The term of office for the rest of the Board of ESN Linköping begins on the 1st of July and ends on the 30th of June, elected during the Spring Meeting.

8.5. Responsibilities and authorities

The Board is responsible for the direct management of the operations of ESN Linköping. To effectively manage these responsibilities, the Board is tasked with the following duties:

- Ensuring that ESN Linköping meets all requirements and obligations associated with being a local section of the Erasmus Student Network.
- Preparing topics for discussion at the Annual Meetings.
- Managing the finances and administration of ESN Linköping prior to the Autumn



Annual Meeting.

- Developing and proposing budgets and business plans for the forthcoming fiscal year.
- Compiling and presenting the annual business report to the Annual Meeting.
- Implementing decisions made by the Annual Meetings.
- Adhering to the directives established by the Annual Meetings.
- Organizing events that benefit the international student community at Linköping University, as part of ESN Linköping's ongoing activities.
- Ensuring that ESN Linköping operates within the approved budget and business plan in a satisfactory manner.

8.6. Right to vote

All members of the Board of ESN Linköping possess voting rights at the Board meetings. In the event of a tie, the president of the meeting holds the casting vote to resolve the deadlock.

8.7. Delegation of voting rights

A Board member of ESN Linköping who is unable to attend a meeting but has received approval for their absence from the president may delegate their vote to another Board member present at the meeting, provided the following conditions are met:

- All Board members must be informed about the agenda and items for vote no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting.
- A vote may only be delegated to a member who has not already been given a delegated vote for that meeting.
- The Board must be notified of the delegation of the vote no later than two (2) hours before the meeting starts. Notification is to be made by the absentee member via email to board@esnlinkoping.org, specifying the recipient of the delegated vote.

Delegated votes must be accorded the same level of importance as votes cast by members present at the meeting.

8.8. Resignation from the Board

The Board possesses the authority to discharge elected officials within the section who have formally requested to be relieved of their duties. Nevertheless, the authority to discharge the positions of president, treasurer, and auditors is reserved exclusively for the Annual Meeting.

A Board member may resign at any time by submitting a written notice to the current president or vice president. Upon resignation, the departing member is expected, if necessary, to continue assisting in their former area of responsibility to the best of their ability for a minimum period of one month.



8.9. Exclusion

A member may only be expelled from the section for actions against its purposes or interests, with the decision made at a section meeting after informing the member of the concerns. Similarly, a Board member can be excluded for missing three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse, as outlined in the guidelines, with the decision made at an ordinary Board meeting. Both processes ensure transparency and uphold governance standards within the section.

8.9.1. No Confidence Vote

Any member of ESN Linköping can initiate a vote of no confidence against the entire Board or an individual Board member if they breach the statutes, guidelines, or Board decisions, or if they engage in any other inappropriate behavior. Such a motion must be submitted to the president of the Board at least seven (7) days before a scheduled Annual Meeting. Alternatively, it can be raised during an Extraordinary Annual Meeting, ensuring there are formal avenues for addressing issues of governance and conduct.

9. Board meeting

9.1. Attendance and Quorum

The Board members of ESN Linköping are obliged to attend Board meetings unless they can provide a valid excuse. For valid excuses, please see the general guidelines of ESN Linköping. If indisposed, the Board members are obliged to notify the president or vice president at least two (2) hours before the meeting. The Board meeting reaches quorum when:

- The meeting is properly announced according to 9.4. Summons, and
- President or vice president and an absolute majority of the Board members are present.

In extraordinary circumstances, the president and/or vice president may appoint another Board member to act as the chair of the Board meeting.

A decision at a Board meeting needs an absolute majority.

9.2. Co-optation

Interested parties may after co-optation attend the Board meetings. The president or vice president should be notified of this latest the day before the meeting. Co-option can be granted with attendance, speaking, proposal and/or voting rights.

9.3. Protocols

Protocol from Board meetings shall be adjusted and archived digitally for ten (10) years. When deemed necessary, the protocol shall be sent to all Board members by email latest one (1) week after the meeting. Protocols count as approved when it has been adjusted and signed by the adjuster.



9.4. Summons

The Board members shall be summoned to the meeting at least two (2) days before the meeting through email. The summons shall contain information regarding date, time, place and agenda.

10. Accounts

10.1. Authorized signature

The president and treasurer are the signatory powers, individually. The individuals who are the signatory powers must be of age, i.e., older than 18 years old.

10.2. Fiscal Year and Business Year

The fiscal year runs from Jan 1 – Dec 31 and the business year runs between two (2) consecutive standard Annual Meetings.

10.3. Bookkeeping and Financial audit

The management of the Board shall be audited annually by at least one auditor appointed by the Annual meeting. Auditors of the section may not hold any other positions of trust within the section during the same fiscal year.

11. Dissolution of ESN Linköping

Decision of dissolution requires 2/3 qualified majority at an Annual Meeting, with at least 75 % of the Board members attending.

Should the section be excluded from ESN Sweden or ESN AISBL it is not necessary to dissolve the section unless the members decide thereof in accordance with the above stated requirements. If the section is dissolved, its potential remaining financial means pass on to ESN Sweden.



Appendix - Explanation of voting procedures

- Simple majority: A proposal wins if supported by a majority of more than half (> 50%) of the total number of votes cast. Absentee votes and abstained votes are not counted in the total votes cast. A simple majority is generally the most common and is used unless otherwise stated in the statutes or guidelines.
- Relative majority: A proposal wins if supported by more votes than any other proposal in a vote, without having to constitute an absolute majority.
- Absolute majority: A proposal wins if supported by a majority of more than half (> 50%) of all possible votes. Absentee votes and abstained votes are counted in the total number of votes. Absolute majority may also consist of other quotas, for example ²/₃ absolute majority or ³/₄ absolute majority.
- Qualified majority: A proposal wins if supported by a majority of more than half (> 50%) of all eligible voters present at the voting. A qualified majority may also consist of other quotas, for example ²/₃ qualified majority or ³/₄ qualified majority.

Example: ESN Linköping's Board consists of 13 Board members, and discussions are now going on about where to hold a dinner next week. Three proposals are being discussed at the meeting: Flamman, KK and HG.

Scenario 1: 13 Board members are present for the vote, Flamman gets 7 votes, KK gets 1 vote, HG gets three votes and 2 choose to abstain.

Scenario 2: 10 Board members are present for the vote, Flamman gets 3 votes, KK gets 3 votes, HG gets two votes and 2 choose to abstain.

Scenario 3: 9 Board members are present at the vote, Flamman gets 5 votes, KK gets 2 votes, HG gets two votes and 1 chooses to abstain.

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Simple majority	Flamman wins Flamman has a majority of the total votes cast (6 out of 11 votes)	No winner No proposal reaches a simple majority of the total votes cast (3 of 8 votes)	Flamman wins Flamman has a majority of the total votes cast (5 out of 8 votes)
Relative majority	Flamman wins Flamman has received the most votes of all the proposals	The president decides Flamman and NH get the same amount of votes. The president's vote will be the casting vote.	Flamman wins Flamman has received the most votes of all the proposals
Absolute majority	Flamman wins Flamman reaches 7 votes (>50% of 13 members: 7	No winner No proposal reaches 7	No winner No proposal reaches 7



	votes)	votes (>50% of 13 members: 7 votes)	votes (>50% of 13 members: 7 votes)
Qualified majority	Flamman wins Flamman reaches 7 votes (>50% of the 13 present votes: 7 votes)	No winner No proposal reaches 6 votes (>50% of the 11 present votes: 6 votes)	Flamman wins Flamman reaches 5 votes, which is the majority of all present votes (>50% of the 9 present votes: 5 votes)

Additional notes

- If the relative majority or simple majority is being used, a proposal can win with just 1 vote, provided that all other votes abstain. To make it fairer, the option "none of the options" should be included. This allows an outcome where none of the earlier proposals are selected. For simplicity, the above scenarios omitted that option and instead assumed that it received 0 votes.
- When the remaining majority forms are used in a yes or no question, "abstain" has in practice the same effect as "no", but it can be used as a symbolic "I do not know / I am unsure" choice.

Votes with plurality proposals

Upon a majority vote, excluding relative majority, none of the proposals may reach majority. In these cases, further voting is used. In the first round of voting, all the suggestions are included. Should one of the proposals reach a majority, that proposal is elected. If none of the proposals reach a majority, suggestions with the most votes are up for a second round. This may mean that more than two proposals are selected for the second round if three proposals share the same number of votes.

Example:

This example uses an absolute majority.

- Round 1 (13 votes)

"Where should ESN Linköping's Board have their dinner?"

Flamman: 5 votes

KK: 4 votes HG: 3 votes Abstain: 1 vote

None of the proposals reached an absolute majority. Flamman and KK continue to the next round.

If a proposal in the second round reaches majority, the proposal wins. If this is not the case, a majority vote on the proposal that received the most votes is held in the second round.



- Round 2 (13 votes)

"Where should ESN Linköping's Board have their dinner?"

Flamman: 5 votes

KK: 4 votes Abstain: 4 votes

No proposal reached absolute majority. Flamman is up for a final vote.

- Round 3 (13 votes)

"Should ESN Linköping's Board have their dinner at Flamman?"

Yes: 7 votes No: 4 votes Abstain: 2 votes

The proposal Flamman reached absolute majority and was selected as the location for the dinner.

Additional notes

Should a situation arise where two proposals have the same number of votes, but no one reaches the absolute majority, the vote of the President will be the casting vote. Examine the following cases: Flamman and HG both get 6 votes each, and 1 vote is abstained. Neither proposal will reach an absolute majority, which would mean that no dinner will be held even though 12 of the 13 Board members want this. The president's vote could then decide on the vote in favor of one of the proposals.