



# Bylaws for VIA Student Council

*Approved 24 February 2023 at the General Assembly in VIA Student Council*

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## **Name and place**

**§1.** The name of the organisation is VIA Student Council.

**§2.** The organisation belongs to VIA University College.

## **Purpose**

**§3.** VIA Student Council represents and takes care of the students' interests of both academic, student political, and social matter.

2. This includes, but is not limited to, formation of local Student's Council (De Studerendes Råd - DSR), finding representatives to various committees at VIA, function as a feedback partner for students, the executive board, Study Life and other relevant.

## **Members**

**§4.** VIA Student Council's board consists of; the student elected representatives for VIA's board, the chairpersonship, the student elected international representatives and the student elected board members from the individual campuses.

**§5.** Each campus has a maximum of two seats in the board.

2. Each board member may be active locally; either in DSR, social committees or the like.

3. The campuses send and withdraw their own board members.

4. A new member of the board from a campus, needs to send a summary from the concerned meeting, in which it has to be stated, how many participants were at the meeting, the result of the election, along with the bylaws from Campus-DSR, before the member can be accepted into the board.

5. If a campus-DSR does not exist at the concerned campus, the chairpersonship can summon all students at the concerned campus, to elect board members to VIA Student Council.

**§6.** If a campus has one or more associated satellites, then they need to offer 1 of the 3 seats in the board, provided that they find it desirable.

**§7.** At the absence of 3 consecutive meetings, without a notified reasoning to the chairpersonship or the student coordinator, the chairpersonship can withdraw the concerned board member.

2. This withdrawal needs to appear as a point in the agenda in the forthcoming meeting.

## **General Assembly**

**§8.** VIA Student Council's highest authority is the General Assembly.

**§9.** All students present from VIA University college's undergraduate programmes, have the right to vote and run as candidate at the General Assembly.

2. If a student is on leave, or is not an active student in any other way, the person concerned cannot possess any positions of trust in VIA Student Council, or in VIA's board.

3. When running for a trust of position, it is possible to forward a motivated text no later than 15 days before the general assembly's arrangement, which is sent out with a final agenda.

**§10.** The General Assembly needs to be held once a year in the first quarter.

**§11.** Summoning to the General Assembly, needs to happen 2 weeks prior to the arrangement of the General Assembly.

2. The summoning needs to be sent out to all students via their mail and needs to be accessible on MitVIA and adhere to §26, 2.

3. The General Assembly needs to be notified 4 weeks in advance of the arrangement by mail to DSR-mailboxes, and all students at VIA, and needs to be accessible on MitVIA.

**§12.** The agenda needs to at least include the following:

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Election of moderator, referee and 2 counters of votes.
3. The annual report of the chairpersonship.
4. Financial records.
5. The budget frame for the next period.
6. Amendments to the bylaws.
7. Election of the chairpersonship.
8. Election of representatives to the board.
9. AOB.

**§13.** Amendments of the bylaws can only happen at the General Assembly, of proposals which have been received by the chairpersonship at least 2 weeks prior to the General Assembly.

**§14.** Amendments of the bylaws can only be approved by a 2/3 majority.

**§15.** All decisions made at the General Assembly have immediate effect.

**§16.** A summary of decisions taken at the General Assembly, is published on MitVIA no later than 14 days after the General Assembly.

**§17.** At a parity of votes, §30, 2 is followed.

**§18.** Extraordinary General Assembly can be held, if there is a 2/3 majority for this amongst the board members in VIA Student Council.

*Stk. 2.* Extraordinary General Assembly is not subordinated to §26, 2.

## Positions of Trust

**§19.** The chairpersonship consists of 1 chairperson and 1 deputy chairperson.

2. At the withdrawal of the chairperson and/or the deputy chairperson, the board can elect a new student to the concerned position or summon to a General Assembly cf. §18.

**§20.** The chairpersonship oversees the day-to-day management of VIA Student Council.

**§21.** The students' representatives in VIA's board consist of two students who are elected at the annual General Assembly.

2. At the withdrawal of a representative, VIA Student Council elects a new representative.

3. Student elected at VIA's board are at the same time elected as board member in VIA Student Council with the same rights and duties as the remaining members, and participate actively in the Student Council's meetings.

**§22.** The representatives for the international students are made up of two students who are elected at the annual General Assembly. Their task is to represent international students across all VIA's campuses in VIA Student Council.

2. At the resignation of a representative, VIA Student Council's board elects a new representative.

3. Representatives are at the same time elected in as board members in VIA Student Council with the same rights and duties as the additional members, and participate actively at the Student Council's meetings.

**§23.** The representatives in 'Organisation for University College Students' board consist of two students who are elected at the annual general assembly.

2. At the withdrawal of a representative, VIA Student Council's (OPS) board elects a new representative.

3. Students elected to 'Organisation for University College Students's board are also elected as board members in VIA Student Council with the same rights and duties as the additional members and participate actively at VIA Student Council's meetings.

## Meeting Arrangement

**§24.** VIA Student Council arrange at least 6 meetings per year.

2. The series of meetings are presented at the General Assembly.

3. The series of meetings are determined by the chairpersonship.

**§25.** Meetings in VIA Student Council are open to all students at VIA University College.

2. It is not allowed to be influenced by alcohol and euphoriant drugs at the meetings, or behave in a way that is not compatible with good meeting culture.

**§26.** The summoning to the meeting needs to be send out to the board along with all DSR-mailboxes, and needs to be submitted to MitVIA, at least 7 days before the arrangement of the meeting.

2. All kinds of summons to meetings need to include; a temporary agenda, related appendixes and other relevant material.

3. The agenda is approved at the meeting.

**§27.** The minutes is forwarded at least 5 days after the meeting, after which the participants of the meeting have 5 days to submit any objections. Afterwards, the minutes will be available on MitVIA.

### **Decision-making authority**

**§28.** It is only the members of the board, who have the right to vote in VIA Student Council.

2. Each person has one vote.

**§29.** The Student Council at VIA is quorate, if half or more of the quorate board members are present.

2. At an uneven number of members, the number will be rounded down, when the quorum has to be determined.

**§30.** Decisions are made at a simple majority.

2. In the case of a parity of votes, a new round of debate will be carried out, followed by another vote. At a continuous parity of votes, this is considered rejected.

**§31.** At a simple majority, the board members can choose to close points at the meeting.

2. At closed points, only the board members and the student coordinator can participate, unless the board approves the presence of another person.

**§32.** Only points evident on the agenda are quorate.

### **Vote of no confidence**

**§33.** The board members of the Student Council at VIA can, with a 2/3 majority, put down a vote of no confidence against one, or more members of the board, with a reasoned documentation about the motive of this.

2. A member who has a vote of no confidence against them, cannot at any time possess any positions or occupations in the board.

**§34.** In the case of a vote of no confidence to the chairpersonship, a summoning to an extraordinary General Assembly must happen at least two weeks later.

### **Economy**

**§35.** The fortune of the Student Council at VIA is managed by the chairpersonship.

**§36.** Board members of the Student Council at VIA are not personally held responsible for any economic obligations the Student Council has made.

**§37.** VIA Student Council's Pool is managed by the chairperson of VIA Student Council.

2. VIA Student Council's Pool works separately from VIA Student Council's meetings and bylaws.