



ESPGHAN

Current Constitution 2020	Updated Constitution 2021	Changes
<p>ARTICLE 1</p> <p>The European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN) is a non-for-profit association governed by the present statutes and secondly, by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. The association is politically neutral and non-denominational.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 1</p> <p>The European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN) is a non-for-profit association governed by the present statutes and secondly, by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. The association is politically neutral and non-denominational.</p> <p>This document will also refer to statutes as “Constitution”.</p>	<p>Changes:</p> <p>Addition of sentence on reference to Constitution in addition to statutes. Historically, the document has always been called a “Constitution”. In Swiss law, such documents are referred to as “statutes”, so the addition is to avoid confusion and to keep to our original reference. Related changes to “Constitution” can be found throughout the document.</p>
<p>Article 5</p> <p>Full Member:</p> <p>The applicant for full membership should have a significant track record in PGHN, and at least five years full time post-training experience/employment and may apply for full membership without the requirement of personally presenting a paper to the society. Only full members in good standing (i.e. having paid their dues) have voting rights at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).</p>	<p>Article 5</p> <p>Full Member:</p> <p>Full Members should have a significant track record in PGHN, have at least five years full time post-training experience/employment and must practice/reside within Europe*. Only Full Members in good standing (i.e. having paid their dues) have voting rights at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and are eligible for functions within the governing bodies of ESPGHAN such as Council and Committees (unless positions are specific to representation of Trainee or Allied Health Professional Members). The option to apply for Full Membership is open for all other Membership categories, upon request, provided that the</p>	<p>Changes:</p> <p>Addition of sentences stating that Members must reside/practice within Europe* (please see below for clarification on definition of Europe). Additionally, a sentence has been added to highlight that only Full Members in good standing will be eligible for functions within governing bodies of ESPGHAN, unless explicitly required by Young or AHP representatives. This has always been the case within</p>



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<p>Trainee Member: Trainee members shall be members with less than ten years' experience in PGHN; trainee membership lasts up to five years; after that period, to remain in the Society, trainee members should apply for full</p>	<p>above criteria are met. Transitions from other member types to Full Member will be subject to the same member voting procedure as all other applications. From the adoption of this version (June 2021 onwards), existing Full members** residing/practising outside Europe*, including those who relocate to a country outside of Europe*, will be converted to Corresponding Member status and will benefit from subsequent lower membership fee. Members can re-apply for Full Member status upon return to a country of residence/practice within Europe*.</p> <p>Trainee Member: Trainee members shall be members with less than five years' experience in PGHN and must practice/reside within Europe*; trainee membership lasts up to five years; after that period, to remain in the Society, trainee members</p>	<p>ESPGHAN but needs to be included in addition to the rule of European practice/residence. The above additions have been added to reflect the views of the AGM, as voted in June 2020. A sentence has also been added to ensure all Member types are aware that Full Membership is available to all other Member types who fulfil the specified criteria and will be subject to the Member voting as all applications. Sentence added to ensure members are aware of status change when moving outside of Europe* The sentence that was previously added to highlight the fact that a poster presentation is no longer required has been removed to simplify the criteria.</p> <p>Changes: Addition of sentences stating that Members must reside/practice within Europe* (please see below for clarification on definition of Europe).</p>
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<p>membership. An age limit for applicants of forty years old will be applicable. Special dispensation will be given for applicants who began their training at a later stage.</p> <p>AHP Member: Allied Health Professional (AHP) Members shall be members of medically related professions allied to PGHN. This shall include, but not be limited to nurses, dietitians, researchers and another affiliated profession.</p> <p>Corresponding Members: Corresponding members shall be full members of other FISPUGHAN-related societies or non-European members not fulfilling the criteria of Full Membership, but actively involved in Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.</p>	<p>should apply for full membership. An age limit for applicants of forty years old will be applicable. Special dispensation will be given for applicants who began their training at a later stage. At the time of adoption of this version (June 2021 onwards), existing Trainee Members residing outside of Europe*, including those who relocate, will be converted to Corresponding Membership status, and will benefit from lower registration fees**.</p> <p>AHP Member: Allied Health Professional (AHP) Members shall be members of medically related professions allied to PGHN and must practice/reside within Europe*. This shall include, but not be limited to nurses, dietitians, researchers and another affiliated profession. At the time of adoption of this version (June 2021 onwards), existing AHP Members residing outside of Europe, including those who relocate, will be converted to Corresponding Membership status, and will benefit from lower registration fees**.</p> <p>Corresponding Members: Corresponding members may belong to other FISPUGHAN-related societies and/or have an extensive background in Paediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, or nutrition, and/or related allied health profession. Corresponding Members shall fulfil the criteria of the respective Membership category</p>	<p>A change in the years of experience needed has also been adapted from ten to five years, to avoid a situation where a new Member could have almost fifteen years' experience before converting to Full Member.</p> <p>Changes: Addition of sentences stating that Members must reside/practice within Europe* (please see below for clarification on definition of Europe).</p> <p>Changes: Adaptions made to reflect the rules regarding European residence/practice* (please see below for clarification on definition of Europe). Clarification given on</p>
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<p>Emeritus Members: Emeritus members shall be members in good standing who have retired from active practice. They will be entitled to complimentary membership of the Society but will not have voting rights. Members may apply to become emeritus members in writing to the Secretary.</p> <p>Proposals for all categories of membership should be made in writing to the General Secretary twice a year (exact deadlines are defined in the Rules & Regulations of the Society), supported in writing by a full or emeritus member who is not serving at that time on the Council. Each proposal shall be accompanied by the curriculum vitae and list of publications of the candidate.</p>	<p>but reside/practice outside Europe*. Corresponding members may apply to the respective membership categories highlighted above, if they change residence/practice to a European country*.</p> <p>Emeritus Members: Emeritus membership is optional and available to members in good standing who have retired from active practice. They will be entitled to complimentary membership of the Society but will not have voting rights. Members may apply to become emeritus members in writing to the Secretary.</p> <p>Proposals for all categories of membership should be made in writing to the General Secretary twice a year (exact deadlines are defined in the Rules & Regulations of the Society), supported in writing by a full or emeritus member who is not serving at that time on the Council. Each proposal shall be accompanied by the curriculum vitae and list of publications of the candidate.</p> <p>*Within the structures of ESPGHAN, Europe will be defined as per the European Region list of the World Health Organisation: https://www.who.int/about/regions/euro/en/</p>	<p>opportunity to covert if residency changes to European country.</p> <p>Changes: Addition of “optional” for clarification purposes, as Members can remain Full Members to obtain the corresponding rights, even after clinical retirement.</p> <p>Changes: Addition of definition on Europe. The WHO list was chosen as this is the most comprehensive and inclusive and offers the opportunity for practitioners from a wide variety</p>
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	<p>** This rule will apply for a transition period of one year after the adoption of these changes to ensure an efficient process of conversion for all existing Members residing outside of Europe* to Corresponding Member status.</p>	<p>of countries to be active within ESPGHAN.</p> <p>Changes: Inclusion of clarification on transition period for conversion of all existing Members to Corresponding Member status.</p>
<p>Article 8 The General Assembly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall approve the admission of members; • Approves the members of the Council via electronic, anonymous voting; • Notes the contents of the Presidents report and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption; • Approves the annual budget; • Decides on any modification of statutes (see below); • Decides on the dissolution of the Association (see article 20); • Fixes the annual membership fees. 	<p>Article 8 The General Assembly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall approve the admission of members via electronic, anonymous voting; • Approves the members of the Council via electronic, anonymous voting; • Notes the contents of the Presidents report and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption; • Approves the annual budget; • Decides on any modification of Constitution (see below); • Decides on the dissolution of the Association (see article 20); • Fixes the annual membership fees. 	<p>Changes: Addition of sentence after shall approve the admission of members “via electronic, anonymous voting” to reflect current practices. Statutes changed to Constitution.</p>



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<p>Article 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly • Approval of the President’s annual report • Approval of the report of the Treasurer and of the Auditor • Setting of membership fees (if applicable) • Approval of the budget • Approval of reports and accounts • Ratification/approval of election of Council members • Any other business 	<p>Article 12 AGM will include the following topics for each meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly • Approval of the President’s annual report • Approval of the report of the Treasurer and of the Auditor • Setting of membership fees (if applicable) • Approval of the budget • Approval of reports and accounts • Notification of outcome on electronic election of Council members • Any other business 	<p>Changes: Addition of Introduction sentence to provide clarity on purpose of the article. Ratification/approval of Council of election of Council Members changed to “notification”, as the votes will already have taken place by the Full Members and further voting does not make sense as this would be a double vote.</p>
<p>Article 14 Council positions are for three years with no renewal of office, except in the case of extreme circumstances, whereby Council will vote on the continuation of respective roles.</p>	<p>Article 14 Council positions are for three years with no renewal of office, except in the case of extreme circumstances, whereby Council will vote on the continuation of respective roles.</p> <p>The role of Treasurer will be open to a second term, due to the intricate and strategically important compliance tasks involved and will be voted upon as per the above Council positions by electronic voting of the Membership.</p>	<p>Changes: Addition of clarification on the role of the Treasurer, as in the previous Constitution, that one additional term is possible, given the importance of the role for stability and compliance to the Swiss financial and tax authorities.</p>
<p>Article 16</p>	<p>Article 16</p>	



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<p>The functions of Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to take the appropriate measures to achieve the goals of the Association;• to convene the ordinary and extraordinary General Assemblies;• to take decisions with regard to admission of new members;• to ensure that Statutes are applied, to draft rules and regulations, and to help administer the assets of the Association.	<p>The functions of Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to take the appropriate measures to achieve the goals of the Association;• to convene the ordinary and extraordinary General Assemblies;• to take decisions regarding admission of new members for voting by the membership;• to ensure that the Constitution is applied, to draft rules and regulations, and to help administer the assets of the Association.	<p>Changes: Statutes changed to Constitution. Addition of clarification of admission of members, including the membership voting procedure.</p>
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Corresponding Member benefits:

- Reduce Membership Fee (euro 40.00?)
- Can still access JPGN online
- Can be part of WG/SIG (no travel expenses coverage)
- Can apply for ESPGHAN Awards and Grants if applicable to European centric studies
- Reduced rates for Annual Meeting
- Monthly Newsletter

Major Difference to Full Membership:

- No voting rights
- Cannot be part of Council/Committees