

**Society and Communication Sciences Student Organization Dominus ry**  
Association Registry

**I GENERAL**

**§ 1 Name and Domicile of the Association**

*The name of the association is the Society and Communication Sciences Student Organization Dominus, and its domicile is in Lappeenranta. The association is a subject association, also referred to as a guild.*

**§ 2 Purpose**

*The purpose of the association is:*

- 1) to act as the interest organization and bond for students pursuing higher or lower degree studies in social and communication sciences at LUT University;*
- 2) to safeguard the common intellectual, professional, and study-related interests of its members;*
- 3) to provide cultural services to its members and enhance the recreational opportunities of its members;*
- 4) to collaborate with LUT University Student Union to improve the social and societal status of students and to develop education at LUT University.*

**§ 3 Implementation of the Purpose**

*To achieve its purpose, the association:*

- 1) organizes meetings, celebrations, study trips, and gatherings for its members;*
- 2) organizes study and information sessions related to studies, university, higher education policy, and current societal issues;*
- 3) manages the association's information activities by publishing newsletters and distributing other possible materials to its members;*
- 4) assists its new members in familiarizing themselves with the university and its atmosphere and in coping with the initial challenges of their studies;*
- 5) collaborates with other local and national student associations, LUT University Student Union, and other stakeholders involved in student advocacy, and;*
- 6) operates in other ways comparable to the above.*

**§ 4 Support for Activities**

*To support its activities, the association is entitled to:*

- 1) accept grants, donations, and legacies;*
- 2) with the appropriate permission, organize fundraising events, lotteries, and festive events;*
- 3) engage in publishing and editorial activities;*
- 4) establish funds;*
- 5) own real and personal property necessary for its activities, and;*
- 6) engage in economic activities or gainful employment directly related to the purpose of the association's ideological activities or considered economically insignificant for financing its activities.*

## **II MEMBERSHIP**

### **§ 5 Members**

*The association's members are approved by the board.*

### **§ 6 Regular Members**

*Regular membership in the association may be granted to a student attending the Social and Communication Sciences program at LUT University who accepts the association's purpose and operating principles and agrees to pay the membership fee set by the autumn meeting.*

### **§ 7 External Members**

*An external member of the association may be a basic or advanced degree student at LUT University or another university or any other person interested in the association's activities who cannot be accepted as a regular member. Membership is obtained by paying the annual external membership fee determined by the association. External members have the right to attend and speak at association meetings.*

### **§ 8 Supporting Members**

*Supporting members may be individuals or legal entities approved as supporting members by the board and who pay the annual supporting membership fee determined by the autumn meeting. Supporting members have the right to attend and speak at association meetings but do not have voting rights.*

### **§ 9 Honorary Members**

*The association may appoint as an honorary member a person who has significantly contributed to the association's activities. A person is appointed as an honorary member when at least two-thirds of the attendees of the association's meeting support the appointment. Honorary members have the right to attend and speak at association meetings but do not have voting rights. Honorary members are not required to pay a membership fee.*

### **§ 10 Admission and Membership Fee**

*The amount of the admission fee and annual membership fee payable by members is determined by the annual meeting.*

### **§ 11 Resignation of Membership**

*A member may resign from the association at any time by notifying the association's board or its chairman in writing or by announcing their resignation at an association meeting. The member is free from association membership immediately after submitting a written resignation to the board.*

## *§ 12 Expulsion of Members*

*The association may expel a member from the association at its meeting if the member has failed to fulfill the obligations they undertook by joining the association, or has significantly harmed the association or its members by their actions inside or outside the association, or no longer meets the membership requirements mentioned in the rules. A regular member is expelled from the association unless they present specific reasons to the association's board for continuing their membership. The board may consider a member to have resigned if the member has not paid their membership fee within two months of its due date. The final decision on membership is made by the association's board.*

## **III ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

### *§ 13 Right of Initiative*

*All members of the association have the right of initiative in both association meetings and board meetings. Initiatives must be submitted in writing to association meetings fourteen (28) days before the meeting and to board meetings seven (14) days before the meeting.*

### *§ 14 Attendance and Speaking Rights at Meetings*

*The association meeting may grant attendance and speaking rights in the association meeting to a person not belonging to the association.*

### *§ 15 Decision Making*

*The regular members of the association exercise the decision-making power at the association meeting. Each regular member has one (1) vote.*

*The decision of the association is the opinion supported by more than half of the votes cast unless otherwise provided in the rules. Votes are decided by a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the chairman's vote decides, but in personnel selections, a draw decides.*

*Voting is conducted by secret ballot if requested by any of the voting participants in the meeting. Personnel selections are always conducted by secret ballot.*

### *§ 16 Association Meetings and Meeting Notices*

*The association holds two regular meetings annually. The association's spring meeting is held between March and May, and the autumn meeting is held between October and December on a date determined by the board.*

*Meeting notices for association meetings are sent to members at least seven (7) days before the meeting via the association's official communication channel. If matters mentioned in Section 23 of the Association Act or comparable matters are to be discussed at the meeting, they must be mentioned in the meeting notice. The meeting is quorate when called in accordance with the association's rules.*

*Members may participate in association meetings via telecommunication or other technical means mentioned in the meeting notice during or before the meeting.*

#### *§ 17 Spring Meeting*

*The tasks of the spring meeting are to:*

- 1) discuss and approve the previous year's activity report;*
- 2) discuss the previous year's financial statements;*
- 3) discuss the auditors' statement;*
- 4) approve the financial statements of the previous financial year and decide on granting discharge from liability to the board and other accountable persons;*
- 5) present the board's action plan;*
- 5.5) decide on the membership fees for the following year and membership obligations,*
- 6) discuss other matters mentioned in the meeting notice.*

#### *§ 18 Autumn Meeting*

*The tasks of the autumn meeting are to:*

- 1) elect the chairman of the association's board;*
- 2) decide on the size of the association's board and elect other members;*
- 3) discuss and approve the action plan and budget for the following year;*
- 4) elect auditors and deputy auditors or auditors and deputy auditors to audit the accounts and administration for the following financial year;*
- 5) decide on the association's official communication channel, and;*
- 6) discuss other matters mentioned in the meeting notice.*

#### *§ 19 Extraordinary Meeting*

*The board may call an extraordinary meeting of the association when necessary. An extraordinary meeting must also be held when at least one-tenth (1/10), but no more than fifty (50) of the association's regular members request it in writing from the board for a specific purpose or when the association meeting decides so. In such cases, the meeting must be held within fourteen (14) to twenty-eight (28) days of receiving the request, not including breaks between semesters.*

### **IV FINANCE**

#### *§ 20 General*

*The association's fiscal and operational year is the calendar year.*

*The association's finances are managed by the association's board. Financial management is based on applicable laws, regulations, good association practices, this financial guide, and decisions of the association and board meetings. Based on this financial guide, decisions of the general assembly of the association cannot be overruled or changed.*

#### *§ 21 Financial Statements and Audit*

*The financial statements must be prepared and submitted to the auditors or inspectors no later than twenty-eight (28) days before the spring meeting. The auditors or inspectors must audit the accounts and submit an audit report to the association's board no later than fourteen (14) days before the association's spring meeting.*

## **V ADMINISTRATION**

### *§ 22 Decision-making Authority*

*The decision-making authority of the association is exercised by the association meeting and the executive authority by the board elected at the organizational meeting.*

### *§ 23 Appeal against a Decision of the Board*

*If a member of the association considers a decision of the association's board to violate their rights, the member may, within fourteen (14) days of being informed of the board's decision, in writing, request the board to consider the matter at an association meeting.*

*If this occurs, the association's board is then obliged to organize an association meeting within twenty-eight (28) days of receiving the request.*

### *§ 24 Signing of the Association's Name*

*The association's name is signed by the chairman of the board, vice chairman, secretary, or treasurer, two together.*

## **VI BOARD**

### *§ 25 Board Size and Duties*

*The association's board consists of the chairman and at least four (4) and no more than ten (10) other regular members of the association. The board's term of office is the calendar year.*

*The duties of the board are:*

- 1) to lead the association's activities;*
- 2) to prepare matters for discussion at association meetings and implement decisions made at meetings;*
- 3) to prepare the activity and financial report and financial statements;*
- 4) to prepare the budget and action plan;*
- 5) to represent the association;*
- 6) to elect among themselves a vice chairman, secretary, and treasurer;*
- 7) to maintain a list of the association's members;*
- 8) to enjoy the trust of the association's meeting.*

*The chairman's duties are:*

- 1) to prepare board meetings and chair board meetings;*
- 2) to present the board's proposals to the association meeting;*

- 3) to ensure that the association's activities comply with the association's rules and purpose;
- 4) to oversee and guide the activities of other board members and officials;
- 5) to represent the association outwardly, and;
- 6) to develop the association's activities.

#### *§ 26 Resignation of the Board*

*If the board is released during its term or resigns from its duties for any other reason, the association meeting elects a new board for the remaining term. If a member of the board is released during their term or resigns for any other reason, the association meeting may elect a new member in their place.*

#### *§ 27 Removal of the Board*

*The association meeting may, in a vote of no confidence, by a majority of at least two-thirds (2/3), but no more than fifty (50) of the votes cast, release the board or its member from its duties during the term by deciding that the board or its member no longer enjoys the trust of the association meeting. This must be mentioned in the meeting notice.*

*If the board, its chairman, or a member is found to have been removed, new persons must be elected in their place at the same association meeting.*

#### *§ 28 Committees*

*The association's board may establish committees to assist it, which are responsible to the board for their activities. The members of the committees are elected by the board. Matters in the committees are decided by a simple majority vote. In the event of a tie, the matter is decided by drawing lots.*

*Members of the association's board not belonging to the committees have the right to speak and be present at committee meetings.*

#### *§ 29 Officials*

*The association may have officials elected by the board to assist it, who are responsible to the board for their activities. The officials are elected by the association's board. The appointments are announced at the next association meeting.*

### **VII SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

#### *§ 30 Amendment of the Rules*

*A decision to amend the rules must be made at an association meeting by a majority of three-quarters (3/4) of the votes cast in the vote. The amendment of the rules must be approved at two (2) consecutive association meetings. The amendment of the rules must be mentioned in the meeting notice.*

#### *§ 31 Dissolution of the Association*

*A decision to dissolve the association must be made at an association meeting by a majority of three-quarters (3/4) of the votes cast in the vote. The dissolution of the association must be mentioned in the meeting notice.*

*Upon the dissolution of the association, its assets are transferred for the common benefit of the students of the Social and Communication Sciences program at LUT University in a manner determined by the association's last meeting.*

§ 32

*In all other respects not provided for in these rules, the Association Act shall apply. These rules enter into force when they are registered with the association registry.*

§ 33

*This amendment to the rules does not violate any existing membership rights.*