



FEST Federation for European Storytelling

Translation of the original statutes + changes voted in 2015

is an international non-profit organisation (INPO), following Belgian law, founded in Belgium on February 14, 2012.

The legal seat of FEST is hosted by

[Landcommanderij Alden Biesen](#)

Kasteelstraat 6 B
3740 Bilzen (BE)

an international cultural centre located in a historic castle. Alden Biesen belongs to the Flemish government, Ministry of Culture

Following individuals:

- 1) Guido Tilkin
- 2) Yvonne Rose-Marie Lindfors
- 3) Theresa Amoon
- 4) M^{re} Rosario Pita Villares
- 5) Paola Balbi

have agreed among themselves and with all who will join later, to set up a non-profit organisation under the subject to the following conditions.

STATUTES

I. Name, registered office, purpose

Art. 1: The Federation for European Storytelling (FEST), known henceforth as the “Association”, is an international collaboration between associations and organisations in Europe devoted to the perpetuation and development of live oral storytelling. Storytelling is understood to be the live oral telling of stories, engaging

directly with listeners to create a shared experience of storytelling. While welcoming and affirming technological means of communication, the primary experience is in real time and person to person.



Art 2: The registered office is located in 3740 Bilzen (BE), Kasteelstraat 6. The association falls under the judicial district of Tongeren.

Art. 3: The Association shall be a non-profit-making organisation seeking to create a platform for the promotion of live oral storytelling in Europe. The Association shall strive to become a network through which associations and organisations in Europe will work together to promote:

Traditions: Storytelling practices and bodies of narrative which have been passed down through the generations. The work of FEST is based on respect for such traditions and the desire to both preserve and develop their essential characteristics for future generations.

Languages/Linguistic diversity: is essential to storytelling in both its traditional and contemporary forms. The work of FEST respects and encourages diversity while also encouraging translation and communication between the languages of Europe.

Culture: FEST recognises and seeks to apply UNESCO definitions of culture along with UNESCO'S international agreements on cultural expression, languages, minority cultures, education and the preservation of non-material culture.

Objectives – FEST aims to be:

- a network
- a platform
- an advocate for storytelling

FEST as a federation will thereby be able to:

- Strengthen the expertise of storytelling in Europe
- Elevate storytelling as an art form to increase its status amongst the general public,
- Support development of new generations of storytellers
- Be a continuous hub for cross-European storytelling information, skill sharing, and potential collaborations
- Allow participants to meet, share ideas, and network.
- Act, in the long term, as an advisory structure in the field of storytelling for the European Institutions as well as UNESCO, and other relevant authorities and institutions.

Art. 4: the association has been established for an indefinite duration. It can be dissolved at any time.

II. Members

Art.5: The association is composed solely of members. The fullness of membership,



including voting rights at the general meeting, comes exclusively to the members.

Art 6: Upon meeting [membership criteria](#), membership is open to:

- National or regional organisations with legal status (criteria a charity or similar, has a board of directors, has members, states in their articles of memorandum that the company furthers oral storytelling)
- Storytelling organisations with legal status, minimum 2 years running
- International organisers of festivals which have been three or more years running and in which the programme consist of at least 70% storytelling events and features two or more foreign storytellers
- Educational Institutions: Universities/Colleges offering storytelling as subject and Storytelling schools that have been two or more years running.

Membership of FEST is not open to:

- Individual storytellers
- Organisations whose main aims are to promote an individual storyteller.

An interested party shall ask for membership by sending an application to this effect to the Executive Committee of FEST. [Acceptance as a member shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee](#) during its first meeting after reception of the request for membership and if all membership criteria has been met.

[Art. 7: The members shall be required to pay an annual subscription of max. € 200, the amount of which shall be decided upon on a yearly base at the General Meeting.](#)

Art. 8: members of the association are required a. to comply the statutes and bylaws of the association and the decisions of its bodies b. not to harm to the interests of the association or any of its organs.

Art. 9: Members may [resign](#) from the Association by sending a letter or an email to this effect [to the Executive Committee](#). Termination of the [membership may only take place from the end of the Association's financial year](#).

Members who resign or whose membership has been terminated lose all rights over the Association's assets on receipt of [a written acknowledgement to the letter from the Executive Committee](#), or at the point at which terminated membership is otherwise notified in writing to the member concerned.

Each member of the Association shall have one vote in the General Meeting. [Members who](#)



do not exercise their vote in person or by proxy for two successive meetings thereby cease to be members.

III. Executive Committee

Art. 10: ~~The Association shall be administered by an executive committee composed of a minimum of five members, including a President, Secretary and Treasurer, appointed from their number.~~

///// New Article 10

Appoints as special delegate, with capacity to act: Mr. Guido Tilkin
and offers all necessary powers to represent the undersigned at the special general meeting of the FEST association that will take place in the office of the associated notaries Marc and Cedric Honorez in 3300 Tienen, Nieuwstraat 42.

With the following agenda:

1. The establishment of a new text for article 10 of the statutes which in the future will be:

"Article 10"

1. Board of Governors

The association will be managed by a Board of Governors involving a chair, a secretary and a treasurer, elected by the members of the association for a period of maximum 5 years.

The Board of Governors is responsible for the financial management of the association.

The Board of Governors is not directly involved in the day to day organisation of the FEST conference and other activities.

The members of the Board of Governors are obliged to attend the general meeting and will personally bear the costs to do so.

The term of office of the Board of Governors is 5 years. After 5 years a new Board will be elected.



One representative of the organisation holding the seat of the FEST INPO (presently this is Alden Biesen) must be part of the Board of Governors.

Resolutions adopted by the Board of Governors will be voted by simple majority of the elected members, present at the meeting. In case of a tie the vote of the chair will be the casting vote. All resolutions adopted will be recorded in a register that will be kept in a virtual archive of the association. This archive can be consulted by the members of the association by simple request.

2. Executive Committee

The day to day management of the association and the organisation of the yearly conference – together with the host country representative – is in the hands of the Executive Committee. This committee is composed of minimum six (6) members, elected by the members of the association for a period of maximum 3 years. After this period of 3 years a member should resign and can only be re-elected after a break of 1 year. An elected member is not obliged to stay in office for the full three years but this is advisable since it improves the stability of the Committee. The Executive Committee reports to the Board of Governors. One member of the Board attends the meetings of the Committee.

Resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee will be voted by simple majority of the elected members, present at the meeting. In case of a tie the vote of the chair will be the casting vote. All resolutions adopted will be recorded in a register that will be kept in a virtual archive of the association. This archive can be consulted by the members of the association by simple request.

The members of the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee act as one College. They can be dismissed at all times by a decision of a two third (2/3) majority of the members of the general assembly.

The mandate activities are honorary – unpaid, unless the general assembly decides otherwise.

3. Representation

All legal steps involving the association, be it as plaintiff or as defendant shall be handled by the Board of Governors, represented by its President or by two other members of the Board. For all decisions outside a day to day management practice two signatures are compulsory. This rule applies to all representations of the association in all legal actions. All decisions in the day to day activities of the association must be signed by two members of the Executive Committee “



2. Appointment Governors (as voted on the general assembly 8/06/14)

President: Guido Tilkin

Secretary: Abby Patrix

Treasurer: Regina Sommer

3. Appointment of members of the Executive Committee (as voted on the general assembly 8/06/14)

Marina Granlund (new 2014)

David Ambrose (3rd year)

Giorgios Evgenikos (new 2014, representing MYTHOS, the Greek hosts in 2015)

Jennifer Ramsay (2nd year)

Markus Luukkonen (2nd year)

Davide Bardi (2nd year)

4. Powers.

The delegate can:

Attend each meeting with the same agenda as the one included that would be convoked in case the first meeting cannot decide legally.

Attend all meetings related to the agenda proposed on behalf of undersigned and change, vote or reject each proposal.

For this purpose approve and sign all acts and records and in general do everything that is useful and necessary to execute his instructions.

IV. General Meeting

Art. 11: The General Meeting of FES's members will take place annually with one or more representatives from each member. Regardless of how many representatives attend from one organisation, each organisation is allotted one vote as a member.

Each member of the Association may be represented at the General Meeting by an individual within the same organisation or by another member, provided that the said individual or member **has a written proxy available for scrutiny at the meeting. No member may hold more than one proxy at any given General Meeting.**

The General meeting shall have the exclusive power to do the following: – elect the Executive Committee; – modify the articles of the Association; – dissolve the Association and redistribute its assets; – set and approve long-term policies; – approve the activity



report; – approve the budget for the forthcoming years as well as the accounts for the completed year prior to the General Meeting; – discharge the Executive Committee if necessary.

The Executive Committee shall submit a program of events for the forthcoming year for approval by the General Meeting.

The Association shall have a General Meeting at least once per year. **Items that are not on the agenda of the General Meeting may not be voted upon.**

Urgent matters can be entered into the agenda on the basis of a simple majority vote.

If not held at a FEST conference, the General Meeting shall be called by the Executive Committee by means of a standard letter or an email addressed to each member at least three months prior to the General Meeting. The General Meeting is summoned by the Executive Committee in writing or by email giving **particulars of the agenda at least 28 days in advance of the meeting.**

Resolutions shall be adopted on the basis of a simple majority vote from the members who are present or represented at the General Meeting.

A minimum of a **third of the membership** must participate in person or by proxy for the General Meeting to be **quorate**. If the General Meeting is inquorate, a new meeting shall be called within a 3-month period. This second voting process may take place by email, and shall validly and definitively vote on the proposal regardless of the number of full members – see above – who participate. A simple majority vote of those members who participate is still required in order for the resolution to pass.

All resolutions adopted by the General Meeting shall be noted in a register that shall be approved by the Executive Committee. This register shall be kept within the Association's virtual archives where it shall be available to all members.

In order to amend the statutes and/or the corporate aim of the INPO, the rules hereafter apply:

V. Modifications, dissolution

Art. 12: Without prejudice to the stipulations of section III of the act of 27 June 1921, any proposal aimed at modifying the Articles of the Association or at dissolving the Association must come from the Council or from at least two thirds of the members of the Association. The Executive Committee must notify members of the Association at least two months prior to the General Meeting, clearly identifying any matters that it intends to discuss that may modify the Statutes of the Association or dissolve the Association.

The General Meeting is only authorized to discuss and vote on such a proposal if at least two-thirds of the members of the Association are present or represented at the General Meeting.

Any resolution to modify the Articles of the Association or dissolve the Association must



obtain a two-thirds majority vote from those present or represented in order to pass. However, in the event that the General Meeting fails to obtain the required quorum, a new voting process shall take place within three months of the inquorate General Meeting. This second voting process may take place by email, and shall validly and definitively vote on the proposal regardless of the number of full members – see above – who participate. A two-thirds majority vote of those members who participate is still required in order for the resolution to pass.

A resolution with regard to the dissolution of the Association may only be adopted by the General Meeting subject to the stipulation in this article under 5.1 and 5.2.

If the Association has been inactive for a period of three years, it shall be dissolved.

In the event of dissolution, the net assets of the Association shall be distributed to one or more artistic or cultural institutions with similar objectives, agreed by a two-thirds majority of those members present or represented at the General Meeting.

The executive committee members are not personally bound by the commitments of the international non-profit. They are solely responsible for the fulfillment of their assigned task and liable for the shortcomings in their governance. The members in that capacity have no personal obligation on the commitments of the international non-profit organization.

Any modifications made to the Statutes of Association shall only go into effect after they have been approved if such is necessary by Royal Decree and after the conditions for announcements described in section III of the act of 27 June 1921.

VI. General provisions

Art. 13: Any matters that have not been provided for the present Articles of the Association, namely the publications to be made in the appendices of the Belgian Gazette, shall be handled in accordance with legal provisions.

VII. Budgets, accounts

Art. 14: The financial year shall end on 31 December of each year. The Executive Committee shall be required to submit the accounts of the previous financial year and the budget for the following financial year to the General Meeting for approval. But new Article 10 ???

In case of a disagreement on the budget, the General Meeting may appoint an auditor to verify the accounts of the previous financial year.

Transitional measures

Closure of the first financial year The first financial year runs from today until December 31, 2013, under the condition the INPO is officially recognised as a legal entity.



First extraordinary general meeting

All parties meet in a first extraordinary general meeting and unanimously adopt the following resolutions: a) is appointed to the function of board member: the above mentioned founders b) the assignment of the board shall end immediately after the annual meeting of 2015 c) **the function of board member is unpaid.**

Executive Committee The Executive Committee above mentioned convened in a meeting and decided unanimously to appoint the following functions: President: Guido Tilkin, above named. Secretary: Theresa Amoon, above

Contacts

FEST Federation for European Storytelling Landcommandij Alden Biesen Karteelstraat 6 B - 3740 Bilzen (BE)

Please write to us at: festeurope@gmail.com

Copyright © 2015 FEST All Rights Reserved.

Credits: Social Factor

AUTHORISATION

Undersigned:

In his/her capacity as board member of the International Non-profit Organisation “**FEDERATION FOR EUROPEAN STORYTELLING**”, in short “**FEST**”, with seat in 3740 Bilzen, Kasteelstraat 6, created by deed, presented before the associated notary Cedric Honorez in Tienen on the fourteenth of February two thousand and twelve (14/02/2012), published in the Annex of the Belgian Moniteur of date-number 2012-10-03/0164031 and of which the statutes haven't been changed till today.

Corporate registration number: 0848.966.863.

Appoints as special delegate, with capacity to act: Mr. Guido Tilkin

and offers all necessary powers to represent the undersigned at the special general meeting of the FEST association that will take place in the office of the associated notaries Marc and Cedric Honorez in 3300 Tienen, Nieuwstraat 42.

With the following agenda:

1. The establishment of a new text for article 10 of the statutes which in the future will be:



"Article 10

4. Board of Governors

The association will be managed by a Board of Governors involving a chair, a secretary and a treasurer, elected by the members of the association for a period of maximum 5 years.

The Board of Governors is responsible for the financial management of the association.

The Board of Governors is not directly involved in the day to day organisation of the FEST conference and other activities.

The members of the Board of Governors are obliged to attend the general meeting and will personally bear the costs to do so.

The term of office of the Board of Governors is 5 years. After 5 years a new Board will be elected.

One representative of the organisation holding the seat of the FEST INPO (presently this is Alden Biesen) must be part of the Board of Governors.

Resolutions adopted by the Board of Governors will be voted by simple majority of the elected members, present at the meeting. In case of a tie the vote of the chair will be the casting vote. All resolutions adopted will be recorded in a register that will be kept in a virtual archive of the association. This archive can be consulted by the members of the association by simple request.

5. Executive Committee

The day to day management of the association and the organisation of the yearly conference – together with the host country representative – is in the hands of the Executive Committee.

*This committee is composed of **minimum six (6) members**, elected by the members of the association for a period of maximum 3 years. After this period of 3 years a member should resign and can only be re-elected after a break of 1 year. An elected member is not obliged to stay in office for the full three years but this is advisable since it improves the stability of the Committee. The Executive Committee reports to the Board of Governors. One member of the Board attends the meetings of the Committee.*

Resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee will be voted by simple majority of the elected members, present at the meeting. In case of a tie the vote of the chair will be the casting vote. All resolutions adopted will be recorded in a register that will be kept in a virtual archive of the association. This archive can be consulted by the members of the association by simple request.

The members of the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee act as one College. They can be dismissed at all times by a decision of a two third (2/3) majority of the members of the general assembly.



The mandate activities are honorary – unpaid, unless the general assembly decides otherwise.

6. Representation

All legal steps involving the association, be it as plaintiff or as defendant shall be handled by the Board of Governors, represented by its President or by two other members of the Board. For all decisions outside a day to day management practice two signatures are compulsory. This rule applies to all representations of the association in all legal actions. All decisions in the day to day activities of the association must be signed by two members of the Executive Committee“

2. Appointment Governors (as voted on the general assembly 8/06/14)

President: Guido Tilkin

Secretary: Abby Patrix

Treasurer: Regina Sommer

3. Appointment of members of the Executive Committee (as voted on the general assembly 8/06/14)

Marina Granlund (new 2014)

David Ambrose (3rd year)

Giorgios Evgenikos (new 2014, representing MYTHOS, the Greek hosts in 2015)

Jennifer Ramsay (2nd year)

Markus Luukkonen (2nd year)

Davide Bardi (2nd year)

4. Powers.

The delegate can:

Attend each meeting with the same agenda as the one included that would be convoked in case the first meeting cannot decide legally.

Attend all meetings related to the agenda proposed on behalf of undersigned and change, vote or reject each proposal.

For this purpose approve and sign all acts and records and in general do everything that is useful and necessary to execute his instructions.

