EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF THE SEAS

SEA-EU STUDENT COUNCIL BYLAWS

AS APPROVED DURING GOVERNING WEEK JUNE 2026, BREST

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1. Identity

1.1. Name and Description

1.1.1. This statute is established by the SEA-EU Student Council.

1.1.2. This body shall be officially referred to as the “SEA-EU Student Council”.

1.1.3. The SEA-EU Student Council may also be referred to as the ‘SC’.

1.1.4. The SEA-EU Student Council serves as a forum for debate and analysis, enabling students to actively engage with the broader SEA- EU alliance. It provides a platform for bottom-up input, allowing students to contribute to the development of SEA-EU through representation in its joint structure under SEA-EU 2.0.

1.1.5. This aim of the SC is to represent organised student groups, foster collaboration and ensure that the student perspective is integrated into SEA-EU Alliance initiatives. The SC aims to strengthen student commitment and participation by creating opportunities for collaboration and networking. It shall actively promote interdisciplinary projects and Initiatives and encourage the engagement of student councils across the alliance. Outreach to students is achieved through direct marketing, social media, and the support of student volunteers and Council members. By amplifying student voices and fostering collaboration, the SEA-EU Student Council plays a crucial role in shaping a dynamic and inclusive European University.

1.2. Administration

1.2.1. The Official Language to be used by the SEA-EU Student Council is English.

1.2.2. The official version of this statute is written in English.

1.2.3. The branding identity of the SEA-EU Student Council is outlined by the SEA-EU Branding Guidelines established in June 2023.

1.3. Members

a. The term "Founding Members" refers to the following universities, which initiated this phase of collaboration and progressive integration toward

the establishment of a European University aligned with the expectations of the European Commission:

a) University of Cadiz (Spain) [UCA];
b) University of Western Brittany (Brest, France) [UBO];
c) Kiel University (Germany) [CAU];
d) University of Gdansk (Poland) [UG];
e) University of Split (Croatia) [UNIST];
f) University of Malta (Malta) [UM].

1.3.2. Current Full Members - The current SEA-EU Student Council full members are as follows:

a) University of Cadiz (Spain) [UCA];
b) University of Western Brittany (Brest, France) [UBO];
c) Kiel University (Germany) [CAU];
d) University of Gdansk (Poland) [UG];
e) University of Split (Croatia) [UNIST];
f) University of Malta (Malta) [UM];
g) Parthenope University of Naples (Italy) [UPN];
h) University of Algarve (Portugal) [UAlg];
i) Nord University (Norway) [NORD].

1.3.3. Current Associate Members:

a) Odesa I.I. Mechnikov National University (Ukraine) [ONU];
b) World Maritime University (Malmö) [WMD].

2. Purposes, Functions and Goals

2.1. Purpose

2.1.1. The Student Council (SC) of the SEA-EU Alliance is established to represent the interests of students across the alliance's institutions. The SC is an expert council for the alliance within the field of students and matters relating, serving as the official voice of students, advocating for their needs and ensuring their concerns are considered in the governance and decision-making processes of the alliance. The SC

aims to promote a collaborative and supportive environment that enhances the academic and social experience of students. It works to improve the quality of education, foster a sense of community among students from diverse backgrounds, and ensure active student participation in the activities and development of the SEA-EU Alliance.

2.2. Functions

2.2.1. The primary functions of the Student Council are as follows:

a) Representation:

i. Represent the interests of students across the SEA-EU alliance and participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the alliance.

ii. If representation is not facilitated by the alliance, the student council will engage proactively to represent the interests of the students.

b) Communication:

i. Facilitate communication between students and the governing bodies of the SEA-EU alliance to ensure that student perspectives, interdisciplinary projects and initiatives are included and considered in discussions.

c) Advocacy:

i. Advocate for the academic, social, and institutional needs of students within the SEA-EU alliance.

2.3. Goals

2.3.1. The goals, what we wish to achieve, is to be the foundation of our actions. These goals all share the common intention of strengthening and promoting the interests of the students.

2.3.2. To foster a collaborative and supportive environment that enhances the educational experience for all students across the alliance.

2.3.3. To ensure that students are actively engaged in the alliance's activities and decision-making processes.

2.3.4. Creating links between SEA-EU universities and connecting with other university alliances, and other student councils as well.

2.4. Action plan

2.4.1. The pathway to achieving our goals is written and explained in the supporting document shown in Annex 1. The action plan shall be renewed at the discretion of the SC, generally with each new phase of the project, or at minimum every second year.

3. Membership

3.1. Composition

3.1.1. The SC consists of representatives from each member institution of the SEA-EU alliance whereby each university presents two (2) student representatives to the Council. Furthermore each SEA-EU Joint Programme is represented by two (2) student representatives currently studying in the respective degree.

3.2. Participation

3.2.1. Participation in the SEA-EU Student Council can either be by way of full or associate membership.

3.3. Eligibility Clause

3.3.1. Students attending any of the full or associate member universities are eligible to join and represent their university within the Council. In the case of the SEA-EU Student Council, the term ‘student’ refers to students reading for a bachelor's degree, master's degree, and/or PhD during their term in the Council. A student stays eligible until the end of the semester during which they graduated.

3.3.2 The SC may grant visiting and speaking rights to external individuals where they deem fit.

3.4. Full Membership

3.4.1. A Full Membership in the SC is granted to the representatives of the universities that are Current Full Members and the representatives of the SEA-EU Joint Programmes.

3.4.2. A full member's rights include:

a. Proposing, commenting and voting on motions and other matters;

3.4.3. A full member's duties include:

a. Attending monthly online Student Council meetings;
b. Attending biannual in-person Governing Weeks;
c. Being present for and participating in any and all voting matters presented by the Council;
d. Representing the whole of the SC, in external meetings where they are acting on its behalf. There is to be sufficient consultation with the rest of the SC in these circumstances.

3.5. Associate Membership

3.5.1. An Associate Membership is granted to the representatives of the universities that are Current Associate Members.

3.5.2. An associate member's rights include:

a. Proposing and commenting on motions and other matters;
b. Attending monthly online Student Council meetings;
c. Attending monthly online Student Council meetings;

3.6. Duties of All Members

3.6.1. All members of the Council must:

a. Have objectives that align with the SEA-EU mission statement; and
b. Ensure that the student perspective is integrated into alliance initiatives.

3.7. Nomination of Member

3.7.1. Each university institution and each SEA-EU Joint Programme shall nominate two (2) representatives in accordance with their internal procedures to represent them on the Student Council. Kindly refer to

Annex 2 for the suggested way of election and further clarification on each university's selection procedure.

3.8. Increasing the Number of Members:

3.8.1. The increase in the number of member partner universities and SEA-EU Joint Programmes shall also be reflected within the Council.

4. Officers and Duties

4.1. The Steering Committee

4.1.1. The Steering Committee is comprised of the Moderator(s), Deputy Moderator(s), Internal Communications Officer and External Communications Officer.

4.1.2. The Steering Committee is to be comprised of representatives from a minimum of three (3) partner universities.

4.1.3. The role of the Steering Committee is to coordinate the direction of the SC, it does not hold any voting power outside of that in the SC meetings.

4.1.4. The term of the Steering Committee is from one Governing Week to the following one.

4.1.5. Where a respective university representative is not adhering to their duties, the Steering Committee oversees engaging with the SEA-EU Office in that university to resolve the situation.

4.2. Moderator of the SC

4.2.1. The moderator is responsible for preparing the agenda, leading discussions, ensuring adherence to time limits and maintaining the meetings' focus, and maintaining constant communication with the rest of the Steering Committee.

4.2.2. This role is a rotational role. It follows the schedule of the Governing Weeks. The handover to the next Moderator(s) should happen at the end of each Governing Week to the students from the next hosting university.

4.2.3. If the representatives of the respective university are not able to take on this role/abandon their role at any point throughout their mandate, the SC nominates the deputy moderator to take on the moderator role.

4.3. Deputy Moderator of the SC

4.3.1. The Deputy Moderator(s) assists the Moderator(s) and assumes their duties in their absence, holds a monthly meeting within the Steering Committee and ensures there is constant communication with the rest of the Steering Committee.

4.3.2. This role is a rotational role. It follows the schedule of the Governing Weeks. The handover to the next Deputy Moderator(s) should happen at the end of each Governing Week to the students from the after next hosting university.

4.3.3. If the representatives of the respective university are not able to take on this role/abandon their role at any point throughout their mandate, the SC nominates the next scheduled university representatives to take on the deputy moderator role.

4.4. External Communications Officer

4.4.1. The External Communications Officer and their deputy maintain the SC's website and any further external communication.

4.4.2. The SC needs to elect, through a secret vote if there are more candidates than vacant positions, an External Communications Officer and their deputy at every Governing Week.

4.4.3. The Deputy steps in if the External Communication Office is hindered.

4.5. Internal Communications Officer

4.5.1. The Internal Communications Officer and their deputy handle all communications and ensure information dissemination. They have access to the SC Mail Address: student.council@sea-eu.org.

4.5.2. The SC needs to elect, through a secret vote if there are more candidates than vacant positions, an Internal Communications Officer and their deputy at every Governing Week.

4.5.3. The Deputy steps in if the Internal Communication Officer is hindered.

4.6. ESU Representatives

4.6.1. The SC elects two (2) of its members to represent the SC in the ESU for the period of one (1) year.

4.6.2. The two (2) members need to be from two (2) distinct universities. They need to be democratically elected or appointed by the student body at their home university to the SC.

5. Meetings and Voting Systems

5.1. Regular Meetings

5.1.1. The SC shall meet once a month during the academic year. The specific date and time shall be determined at the beginning of each term.

5.2. Special Meetings

5.2.1. Special meetings may be called by the moderator or upon request by SC member from at least five (5) different universities.

5.3. Voting system

5.3.1. A quorum shall be deemed constituted with at least five (5) representatives from distinct universities in attendance. Decisions shall be determined by a simple majority vote of those present, if there is a quorum, each university and each SEA-EU Joint Programme is entitled to cast a single vote, irrespective of the number of representatives from that university or SEA-EU Joint Programme in attendance. A quorum can be called upon by at least three representatives from distinct universities and/or SEA-EU Joint Programmes.

a) In case the quorum has not been reached during the scheduled meeting, the voting shall be held in another manner (another scheduled meeting or remotely) with all universities being obligated to cast a vote.

b) In case the voting reaches a tie, the moderator of the meeting shall cast an additional vote to resolve the tie.

c) A university can proxy their vote to another eligible university to vote on their behalf. Same applies for the SEA-EU Joint Programmes.

5.4. Secret voting

5.4.1. A secret voting system can be implemented in case at least one member of the SC requests it. This matter is taken care of by the moderator.

5.4.2. Virtual secret voting is to be cast through a relevant secret voting platform.

5.4.3. In person secret voting is to be cast through a ballot.

5.4.4. In the case that the result of the secret vote present a tie, the moderator is at the discretion to repeat the vote once more, if not resolved, postpone it to the next scheduled meeting, or resolve the tie through casting an additional vote – the original vote of the moderator would be doubled to resolve the issue.

5.5. Hosting of meetings

5.5.1. Meetings will be held by the Moderator at least once a month for the months between the GW's.

6. Notices and Invitations

6.1. Notice of Meetings

6.1.1. The Moderator for the meeting shall send a notice of the meeting, including the agenda, at least seven days prior to the meeting date.

6.2. Notice of Hindrance

6.2.1. Members unable to attend a meeting must notify the SC at least 24 hours in advance, providing a valid reason for their absence.

6.3. Repeated Absence

6.3.1. If a Member is absent for two meetings in a row without a notice of hindrance the respective university must be informed by the internal communication officer on the notice of the Moderator.

7. Agenda and Minutes

7.1. Agenda

7.1.1. The agenda for each meeting shall be prepared by the hosting university and Moderator and distributed to members in advance.

7.2. Appointment of Minute Aid

7.2.1. At the beginning of the meeting the Moderator appoints a person to take the minutes. For the minutes the official template must be used.

7.3. Distribution of Minutes

7.3.1. Minutes of all meetings shall be taken and distributed to members within fourteen days after the meeting.

8. Formation and Operation of Sub-Committees

8.1. Formation of Sub-Committees

8.1.1. The SC may establish sub-committees as necessary to address specific issues, projects, or initiatives. The formation of a sub-committee shall be approved by a majority vote of the SC, and its scope, objectives, and duration shall be clearly defined at the time of its establishment.

8.2. Composition

8.2.1. Each sub-committee shall consist of at least three members, including a designated Chairperson responsible for coordinating the sub-committee's work and serving as the primary liaison with the SC.

Membership may be drawn from SC members and other individuals with relevant expertise or interest, as deemed appropriate by the SC.

8.3. Reporting and Accountability

8.3.1. Sub-committees shall provide regular updates on their progress to the SC. Reports shall be presented at least once per month during SC meetings or at other intervals as determined by the SC. The Chairperson of each sub-committee shall be responsible for compiling and delivering these reports.

8.3.2. All decisions or recommendations made by a sub-committee remain subject to SC approval before implementation.

8.4. Dissolution

8.4.1. A sub-committee shall be dissolved upon the completion of its assigned task, by decision of the SC, or if it is deemed no longer necessary.

9. Proposal of Amendments to the Bylaws

9.1. Proposals

9.1.1. Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by any SC member (full or associate).

9.2. Approval of Amendments

9.2.1. Amendments require a two-thirds majority vote of the SC members at a Governing Week Meeting.

10. Dissolution

10.1. The SC may be dissolved by two unanimous votes of all members across two consecutive Governing Weeks, subject to approval by the SEA-EU alliance’s governing body.