



JURIDISKA  
FÖRENINGEN

**Statute**

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*This translation is for information purposes only. The original Swedish version has interpretative prerogative.*

**Statute for the Law Students' Union in Lund**  
**Valid from 18 September 2001**  
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## **Chapter 1 Purpose and activities**

### Section 1 PURPOSE

The Law Students' Union is a not-for-profit organisation with no political or religious affiliations. It is a Union for first and second cycle students at the Faculty of Law pursuant to Chapter 4 Sections 8–14 of the Higher Education Act.

The main purpose of the Union is to monitor and contribute to education and the conditions for education at the Faculty of Law at Lund University.

### Section 2 ACTIVITIES

The Union is to provide members with the opportunity to broaden and enhance their expertise in law. It shall also provide rich opportunities for social activities. The Union is to promote cooperation with the Faculty of Law and its affiliated associations. Furthermore, it is to promote cooperation with JURO, LUS, AF, TRF, ELSA, Domvilleorden, the Law Society of Lund and sister Unions in the Nordic countries.

The Union's financial objective is to reinvest all funds into the Union to the benefit of its members.

## **Chapter 2 Members**

### Section 1 UNION MEMBERS

The Union consists of ordinary members, supporting members and honorary members.

### Section 2 ORDINARY MEMBERS

Students conducting studies at the Lund University Faculty of Law are entitled to be ordinary members of the Law Students' Union.

The Law Students' Union is to keep a register of its members. The Union shall make the register available to Lund University on request.

### Section 3 SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Persons who are not entitled to be ordinary members and to whom Section 2 does not apply may be granted the right to be supporting members for one financial year or longer by the board or by delegation of the board. Decisions on rules and fees for supporting memberships are taken by the governing assembly.

The inspector, assistant inspector, senior members committee and staff at the Faculty of Law are supporting members of the Union.

### Section 4 HONORARY MEMBERS

The Union may appoint as honorary members lawyers whose personal traits and professional achievements are an asset to the Union and for whom the Union wishes to express its respect.

Other persons who have assisted the Union and its members in exceptional ways can also be appointed honorary members.

Honorary members are automatically co-opted to governing assembly meetings and have the right to speak.

Honorary members are elected by the governing assembly by a majority of three fourths. Nominations of honorary members can be made by the senior members committee, the board or a minimum of 30 members.

If a decision is taken not to appoint a proposed honorary member, the proposal and decision are not to be entered into the minutes.

If an honorary member has behaved offensively or disgraced the Union, the honorary member can be dismissed by the governing assembly by a majority of three fourths.

#### Section 5 MEMBERSHIP FEE

Ordinary members are liable to pay a membership fee set by the governing assembly. A membership fee for the spring semester entitles to membership for the period 1 January to 31 August. A membership fee for the autumn semester entitles to membership for the period 20 June to 19 January.

#### Section 6 RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

Ordinary members pursuant to Chapter 2 Section 5 have the right to

1. participate in governing assembly elections with one (1) vote,
2. stand for election to the governing assembly,
3. stand for elections to posts appointed by the governing assembly, and
4. attend governing assembly meetings, unless the governing assembly has decided that the meeting is to take place behind closed doors pursuant to Chapter 5 Section 23.

#### Section 7 RIGHTS OF SUPPORTING MEMBERS

If nothing to the contrary is stipulated in these statutes, supporting members

1. are not entitled to vote in governing assembly elections, stand for elections to the governing assembly or make proposals to the governing assembly,
2. are not entitled to stand for elections to posts appointed by the governing assembly,
3. are not entitled to attend governing assembly meetings,
4. can be expelled through a board decision if there are exceptional reasons. A decision on expulsion is to be submitted to the governing assembly as soon as possible.

#### Section 8 EXIT

The exit of a member is to take place at the start of the semester immediately following the semester in which the application for exit was made. However, the board may approve exit at

other times, if there are exceptional reasons. Members granted early exit are not entitled to have their membership fee refunded.

#### Section 9 REFUSAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Persons as defined in Chapter 2 Section 2 may be refused membership if they have behaved offensively or in conflict with the Union's purpose. The board is to propose a refusal of membership to the next ordinary meeting of the governing assembly. A decision on refusal of membership requires a three-fourths majority in the governing assembly. The person proposed for refusal of membership is entitled to speak before the governing assembly.

The present provision is to be applied restrictively and a decision to refuse membership is to be justified in writing.

#### Section 10 EXPULSION OF A MEMBER

A member may be expelled from the Union if he or she has behaved offensively or in conflict with the Union's purpose. The board is to propose the expulsion of a member to the next ordinary meeting of the governing assembly. A decision on expulsion requires a three-fourths majority in the governing assembly.

The present provision is to be applied restrictively and a decision to expel a member is to be justified in writing.

### **Chapter 3 Inspector and assistant inspector**

#### Section 1 INSPECTOR

The inspector is to safeguard the interests of the Union and in general to promote its activities.

The inspector is to be an informed, experienced, trustworthy and respected person associated with the Faculty of Law at Lund University.

The inspector is appointed for a period of three years. If he or she is to retire or take up duties in conflict with the purpose of the Union, the governing assembly can discontinue the appointment before the end of the term of office. Decisions on appointment and discontinuation are taken in accordance with the relevant provisions in Chapter 2 Section 4 fourth paragraph.

The inspector is automatically co-opted to governing assembly meetings and has the right to speak and make proposals.

#### Section 2 ASSISTANT INSPECTOR

The Union may appoint a person meeting the requirements in Chapter 3 Section 1 as assistant inspector. The assistant inspector is to assist the inspector in his or her duties. The assistant inspector is appointed for a period of no more than three years at a time.

Decisions on appointment and dismissal of an assistant inspector are taken in accordance with the relevant provisions in Chapter 2 Section 4 fourth paragraph.

## **Chapter 4 Organisation and financial year**

### Section 1 ORGANISATION OF THE LAW STUDENTS' UNION

The Union consists of

- a governing assembly
- a board
- a presiding committee
- a drafting committee for education issues
- a nominating committee
- an election board
- permanent working committees
- a senior members committee
- auditors.

### Section 2 FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of the Union runs from 1 July to 30 June.

## **Chapter 5 Governing assembly**

### Section 1 POWERS

The governing assembly is the Union's highest decision-making body.

### Section 2 TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office of the governing assembly is identical with the Union's financial year.

### Section 3 COMPOSITION

The governing assembly consists of 21 members.

If an elected member resigns during the term of office, he or she is to be replaced by the non-appointed candidate with the highest number of votes according to the approved minutes from the most recent governing assembly election.

### Section 4 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

A governing assembly member must be

1. a member of the Union during the term of office.

## Section 5 GOVERNING ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

The meetings of the governing assembly are ordinary meetings, extraordinary meetings and election meetings.

## Section 6 ORDINARY MEETINGS

The governing assembly shall hold at least three ordinary meetings each semester. In addition to ordinary meetings, an election meeting is to be held each spring semester.

No meetings may be held in the periods 15 June to 31 August and 15 December to 15 January.

## Section 7 EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS

The board or governing assembly can decide to call an extraordinary meeting. An extraordinary meeting can also be called if

1. one third of the governing assembly members request such a meeting in writing to the board and state the matters requiring a meeting,
2. the Union's auditors demand such a meeting, or
3. 50 members request such a meeting in an application to the board and state the matters requiring a meeting.

An extraordinary meeting is to be held within fifteen weekdays of an application for such a meeting being received by the board. An extraordinary meeting of the governing assembly may only deal with matters for which the meeting was requested or decided.

## Section 8 ELECTION MEETINGS

The election meeting is the first meeting of the newly appointed governing assembly. It shall be held within fifteen weekdays of the election to the governing assembly but no later than the third week of May. Positions which, pursuant to the regulations, are to be appointed per calendar year, are to be decided at the last governing assembly meeting of the autumn semester. At election meetings, it is the responsibility of the governing assembly to

1. appoint the chair, vice-chair, secretary and deputy secretary, pursuant to Chapter 5 Section 30,
2. appoint the Law Students' Union's president, vice-president and other board members,
3. appoint the chair and deputy chair of the working committees and the Union officers,
4. appoint the Union auditors, and
5. appoint the Union representatives to the bodies in which the Law Students' Union is to be represented.

Only elections in accordance with this section may take place at election meetings. No other matters may be addressed at election meetings.

Election meetings can be divided into several meetings, when necessary, provided that they take place within the timeframe stipulated by these statutes.

## Section 9 CHAIRMANSHIP

Governing assembly meetings are led by the chair or, in the absence of the chair, the vice-chair.

Election meetings are initially chaired by the inspector who is also to approve the register of voters and to arrange the election of chair, vice-chair, secretary and deputy secretary for the new financial year. As soon as the chair has been appointed, he or she will lead the meeting.

## Section 10 PROCEDURE

Sections 10–21 regulate the procedure of governing assembly meetings. If nothing to the contrary is stipulated in these statutes or in governing assembly instructions, the provisions of the following sections apply also to the other bodies of the Union.

## Section 11 AGENDA

Meetings may only address matters included on the agenda or matters that are unanimously deemed to be applicable to matters on the agenda.

The item Any Other Business may only involve discussion.

## Section 12 POINTS OF ORDER

Decisions on requests for adjournment, postponement, referral or other points of order are allowed to interrupt discussions of the matter concerned.

## Section 13 POSTPONEMENT

A postponed matter is to be included on the agenda of the following meeting or a meeting indicated in the decision on postponement.

## Section 14 MINUTES

Minutes shall be taken of the decisions made at meetings. If so decided at a meeting, minutes may also be taken of discussions.

The minutes are to be approved by the chair and two persons appointed for the purpose by the governing assembly.

The minutes shall be made available at the Union office and on the website no later than five weekdays after approval and no more than fifteen weekdays after the meeting.

## Section 15 DISSENTING OPINION

A member who wishes to report a dissenting opinion must state this when the matter concerned is discussed at the meeting. The dissenting opinion must be reported to the secretary within three weekdays of the meeting.

## Section 16 ADDITION TO MINUTES

A member who wishes to make an addition to the minutes detailing his or her view on the matter must state this when the matter concerned is discussed at the meeting. The addition must be reported to the secretary within three weekdays of the meeting.

## Section 17 VOTING

Votes shall be open. If requested, minutes shall be taken of how individual members voted.

## Section 18 ELECTIONS

After a possible presentation and question and answer session, the candidate should leave the room to make it possible for the governing assembly to freely discuss the matter prior to the decision.

Elections take place with closed ballots if more than one candidate is involved or if it is requested by an eligible voter.

For elections with closed ballots, the person who receives at least half of the votes is elected. If the seat cannot be filled in this manner, a new election takes place.

In the event of a tie, the nominating committee's proposal takes precedence. In other cases, a further round of voting shall be held between the candidates.

The governing assembly may decide on free nominations to elections not preceded by nominations from the nominating committee. For elections preceded by nominations from the nominating committee, the governing assembly may decide on free nominations by a majority of two thirds.

## Section 19 DECISIONS

Decisions are taken by simple majority, if nothing else is stipulated in these statutes. The board's proposal is the primary proposal. In the event of a tie, the board's proposal wins.

## Section 20 REGULATIONS

The governing assembly approves the Union's regulations. The regulations regulate the activities and organisation of the Union. The statutes take precedence over the regulations. The regulations are adopted and amended by the governing assembly with a majority of two thirds.

## Section 21 NO-CONFIDENCE VOTES

A representative elected by the governing assembly can be removed from his or her position immediately through a declaration of no-confidence supported by at least half of the governing assembly members. If there are extraordinary reasons, the board can decide to strip the representative of the powers involved in the position until the matter is decided. Before the

person concerned is stripped of the powers involved in the position, he or she has the right to make a statement.

If a declaration of no-confidence is made, a new representative may be appointed at the meeting.

#### Section 22 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Members may not participate in votes concerning discharge of responsibility for the member or for decisions in which the member has been involved. Neither may members participate in decisions that could be expected to bring extraordinary financial advantage to the member or someone closely related to him or her.

#### Section 23 MEETING BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Questions concerning the personal or financial circumstances of an individual can be dealt with behind closed doors if the governing assembly decides that disclosure of the information could harm the person concerned or someone closely related to him or her.

#### Section 24 QUORUM

The governing assembly is quorate when at least half of the members are present for the vote.

#### Section 25 CO-OPTION

The following are permanently co-opted with the right speak at governing assembly meetings:

1. the board,
2. the inspector,
3. the assistant inspector,
4. committee chairs and Union officers,
5. honorary members,
6. the Union's auditors,
7. members who have made a motion at a governing assembly meeting in accordance with Chapter 5 Section 28 or Chapter 5 Section 30 point 13,
8. the chair of the nominating committee, and
9. the chair of the election board.

The governing assembly may co-opt others to attend and also to speak at meetings. Co-opted members are entitled to speak and make nominations in election matters.

#### Section 26 SUMMONS TO MEETINGS

The board is to ensure that summons to meetings reach the governing assembly members and permanently co-opted members at the latest seven weekdays before the meeting. The summons shall also be posted on the Union's noticeboard. However, the board is not obliged to send the summons to honorary members unless they have explicitly requested this.

## Section 27 AGENDA AND DOCUMENTS

The meeting agenda shall be posted on the Union's noticeboard and be made available together with necessary documents to governing assembly members and permanently co-opted members at a place indicated by the board at the latest three weekdays prior to the meeting.

## Section 28 MOTIONS

Motions for ordinary governing assembly meetings may be submitted by governing assembly members, board members or a group of at least ten members of the Union.

Motions intended to be considered at an ordinary governing assembly meeting shall be submitted in writing to the board at the latest ten weekdays prior to the meeting.

## Section 29 FORMAL QUESTIONS

A governing assembly member who wants the meeting to deal with the activities of an individual representative and wishes an explanation should submit a formal question. Formal questions shall be submitted in writing at the latest three weekdays prior to the meeting. If the member posing the question so requests, the person asked shall respond to the question in writing. Furthermore, the member posing the question is entitled to pose further questions when the answer to the formal question is presented.

A member who, as a result of the answer to the formal question, requests that a statement be made or a measure be taken must ask to have the matter included on the meeting agenda.

## Section 30 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

It is the responsibility of the governing assembly to:

1. appoint a president, vice-president and board of the Law Students' Union,
2. appoint a Union nominating committee,
3. appoint a Union election board,
4. appoint Union representatives for external bodies,
5. hold other elections stipulated in these statutes or in instructions approved by the governing assembly,
6. annually set the membership fee pursuant to Chapter 2 Section 5,
7. annually set the budget for the Union's activities and, when necessary, decide on an audit,
8. annually approve the Union's plan of activities,
9. annually approve the Union's policy document,
10. decide on the issue of discharge from liability for the board and for members having been in charge of Union assets, and in this context approve the Union's annual report,
11. issue regulations for the Union,
12. deal with proposals from the board and motions from members of the governing assembly,
13. deal with questions and matters submitted by at least ten members of the Union,
14. deal with appeals as defined in Chapter 9 Section 24, and

15. decide on Union matters which, pursuant to these statutes or regulations approved by the governing assembly, are not within the mandate of other Union bodies.

## Section 31 DISSOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

The governing assembly can be dissolved through a decision supported by a majority of three fourths and call a new election which must take place within six weeks of the decision, with the exception of cases covered by Chapter 12 Section 4.

The resigning governing assembly members serve as interim governing assembly members until a new governing assembly has been appointed. Interim governing assembly members may not initiate any new commitments for the Union.

## **Chapter 6 Board**

### Section 1 ACCOUNTABILITY

The board answers to the governing assembly for its activities.

### Section 2 COMPOSITION

The board consists of eight members including the Union's presiding committee.

The chair or, in his or her absence, the vice-chair of the Union's permanent working committee and Union officers are permanently co-opted to board meetings with the right to speak and make proposals. The board may co-opt others when necessary.

### Section 3 TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office is identical with the financial year.

### Section 4 QUORUM

The board is quorate when at least four members are present, including the president or the vice-president.

### Section 5 RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the board to:

1. implement decisions made by the governing assembly ,
2. lead the ongoing activities of the Union,
3. make proposals for decisions by the governing assembly based on processed matters,
4. appoint authorised signatories for the various bodies of the Union,

5. appoint an interim president and vice-president in consultation with the nominating committee at the resignation of the president and vice-president. The appointment is valid only until the next governing assembly meeting,
6. in the case of long absences of the president or vice-president, ensure that the duties of the presiding committee are taken care of,
7. decide on urgent governing assembly matters during the periods in which meetings may not be held pursuant to Chapter 5 Section 6. However, such decisions must be approved by the governing assembly as soon as it is permitted by these statutes,
8. make statements on submitted motions,
9. annually report to Lund University the activities of the Union and the number of current members, and
10. conduct activities in such a way that the Law Students' Union maintains its status as a student Union.

#### Section 6 MEETINGS

The board shall hold meetings at least once a month, with the exception of July and August when no meetings should be held.

#### Section 7 SUMMONS TO MEETINGS

Meetings are called by the president.

The president is also obliged to call a meeting at the request of a board member or the auditors. Such a meeting is to take place within ten weekdays of a valid application to the president for such a meeting to be called.

Summons to meetings shall be sent to the board members at the latest five weekdays before the meeting.

#### Section 8 AGENDA AND DOCUMENTS

The meeting agenda shall be made available together with necessary documents at a place indicated by the board at the latest one working day prior to the meeting.

### **Chapter 7 Presiding committee**

#### Section 1 COMPOSITION

The presiding committee is made up of the president and vice-president of the Law Student's Union.

#### Section 2 RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the presiding committee to

1. present a draft plan of activities to the governing assembly at the latest in October,
2. manage the Law Students' Union in consultation with the board, and
3. decide on urgent board matters and inform the board of such decisions at the next board meeting.

### Section 3 PRESIDENT

It is the particular responsibility of the president to

1. call and chair board meetings,
2. represent the Union in official contexts, and
3. call meetings of the drafting committee for education issues.

### Section 4 VICE-PRESIDENT

It is the responsibility of the vice-president to assist the president and to perform the duties of the president in his or her absence.

The vice-president is responsible for the Union finances and is obliged to continually report on the finances to the governing assembly and board.

## **Chapter 8     Drafting committee on education issues**

### Section 1

The drafting committee on education issues answers to the governing assembly for its activities.

### Section 2

The drafting committee on education issues deals with the general issues of monitoring education within the Union.

### Section 3

The drafting committee on education issues consists of the Union's president, the education committee chair and vice-chairs, one board member and the most recently retired president.

The president calls the meetings of the drafting committee.

## **Chapter 9     Working committees and Union officers**

### Section 1 UNION WORKING COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

The permanent working committees of the Union are: the education committee, the social functions committee, the lecture committee, the international student committee, the communications committee, the business and industry committee, the spex committee (Doluşpexarna), Dissidenten, the novice committee, JIPPO, the culture committee, the JiA

committee, the international committee, the SJM committee, the Culpa choir, the house band and the sports committee. In addition to the working committees, the Union has a number of officers. The independent Union officers are the archivist and the buildings supervisor.

When necessary, the governing assembly may establish temporary working committees or officers, but for no longer than a financial year.

## COMMITTEES

### Section 2 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The education committee deals with student welfare and education issues not handled by the drafting committee on education issues.

### Section 3 SOCIAL FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

The social functions committee deals with the larger festivities of the Union.

### Section 4 THE LECTURE COMMITTEE

The lecture committee deals with the events of the Union.

### Section 5 THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMITTEE

The international student committee is responsible for arranging activities for the Union's exchange students and for promoting interaction between them and the Union's other members.

### Section 6 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The communications committee is responsible for the Union's external communication with its members about the events and activities of the Union.

### Section 7 BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

The business and industry committee is responsible for the Union's contacts with business and industry, and employers.

### Section 8 SPEX COMMITTEE (DOLUŞPEXARNA)

The spex committee is responsible for staging spex performances.

#### Section 9 DISSIDENTEN

Dissidenten is responsible for producing the Union newspaper.

#### Section 10 NOVICE COMMITTEE

The novice committee is responsible for welcoming first-year students to the Union.

#### Section 11 JIPPO

The committee is responsible for the internal amusements of the Union.

#### Section 12 THE CULTURE COMMITTEE

The culture committee is responsible for the cultural activities of the Union.

#### Section 13 JiA COMMITTEE

The JiA committee is responsible for the Union's careers fair.

#### Section 14 INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The international committee is responsible for the international exchanges of the Union.

#### Section 15 SJM COMMITTEE

The SJM committee is responsible for the Union's participation in the Swedish law tournament.

#### Section 16 CULPA CHOIR

The Culpa choir is responsible for the Union's choir activities.

#### Section 17 SPORTS COMMITTEE

The sports committee is responsible for the Union's sports activities including the Union's participation in the Tandem relay race.

#### Section 18 CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

The carnival committee is appointed during carnival years.

#### Section 19 THE HOUSE BAND (CASUSKAPELLET)

The house band is responsible for the Union's orchestral activities.

## Section 20 COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

The composition of committees and names of committee members are regulated in separate regulations. The same regulations also define the positions of Union officers.

## UNION OFFICERS

### Section 21 ARCHIVIST

The archivist manages the Union archives.

### Section 22 BUILDINGS SUPERVISOR

The buildings supervisor is responsible for the Union's premises.

## SUPERVISION BY THE GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

### Section 23 REFERRAL TO THE GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

A working committee matter can be referred to the governing assembly for decision at the request of the board, a Union officer or the working committee concerned.

### Section 24 APPEALS

If so requested by a Union officer or at least 30 members, the governing assembly shall review, pursuant to Section 23 of this chapter, whether a decision taken by a working committee or Union officer is in agreement with these statutes or regulations approved by the governing assembly.

### Section 25 RESPONSIBILITIES OF WORKING COMMITTEES AND UNION OFFICERS

The responsibilities of working committees and Union officers are regulated in regulations approved by the governing assembly. They are responsible for suggesting amendments to the regulations of the relevant working committee or officer.

### Section 26 ACCOUNTABILITY

The working committees and Union officers answer to the governing assembly for their activities.

## **Chapter 10 Senior members committee**

### Section 1 COMPOSITION

The senior members committee consists of the Union's inspector, assistant inspector, the two previous years' presiding committees, the Union's current presiding committee, the Union's archivist, and eight so-called "senior members", which are appointed in accordance with the second paragraph below.

Four senior members are to be appointed by the governing assembly for two years at a time. The remaining four senior members are to be appointed through a special procedure by an election of the presiding members committee, which consists of the Union's former presiding committees from 1996 and onwards, as well as its creators.

### Section 2 DUTIES

The senior members committee shall serve as an advisory body to the governing assembly, board and working committees. Issues concerning major investments, organisational changes, election of the inspector and assistant inspector as well as other important matters are to be dealt with by the senior members committee. Questions concerning amendments to the statute shall be processed by the senior members committee. The senior members committee shall also, as far as possible, work to promote continuity within the Union's activities and otherwise solve the problems referred to it by the board and governing assembly.

### Section 3 MEETINGS

The senior members committee shall hold meetings at least twice each semester. The Union's president or archivist shall call the meetings, which are chaired by the president. The Law Students' Union's board shall be co-opted at the senior members committee meetings.

## **Chapter 11 Nominating committee**

### Section 1 COMPOSITION

The nominating committee consists of a chair and four other members. The members of the committee appoint a vice-chair from among its members.

The term of office is 1 November to 30 October.

### Section 2 DUTIES

Unless anything to the contrary is stated in these statutes or a governing assembly decision, it is the duty of the nominating committee to prepare governing assembly elections.

### Section 3 RIGHT OF NOMINATION

All members of the Law Students' Union have the right to nominate candidates to elections.

#### Section 4 PROPOSALS TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Proposals of candidates for election must reach the nominating committee at least ten weekdays prior to the relevant election meeting.

After this date, only candidates unanimously proposed by the nominating committee can be nominated for election.

#### Section 5 THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL

The nominating committee's proposal for an election decision is to be posted on the Union's noticeboard and made available at a place indicated by the nominating committee no later than seven weekdays prior to the relevant election meeting.

Counter-nominations must reach the nominating committee by a date decided by the nominating committee, though no later than four weekdays prior to the relevant election meeting.

### **Chapter 12 Governing assembly elections**

#### GENERAL RULES

##### Section 1 METHOD

The Law Students' Union governing assembly is appointed through secret and direct elections.

##### Section 2 RIGHT TO VOTE AND ELIGIBILITY

All members of the Law Students' Union who have paid their membership fee have the right to vote pursuant to Chapter 2 Section 5.

Only members who have the right to vote and have been registered and accepted the nomination are eligible for election pursuant to Sections 11 and 14 of this chapter.

##### Section 3 ELECTION DATE

Ordinary governing assembly elections are to be held on three consecutive weekdays during March or April. The exact election date is decided by the board at the latest six weeks prior to the election. The election meeting is to be held at the earliest fifteen weekdays after an ordinary election, though no later than the third week of May.

If it is deemed necessary by the governing assembly it may decide to allow early voting the week before the ordinary governing assembly elections are to be held. This decision shall be made at the latest six weeks prior to the ordinary election date.

#### Section 4 NEW ELECTION AS A RESULT OF A CONTESTED ELECTION

If an election is contested, a new election is to be held at a date decided by the governing assembly but at the earliest ten weekdays after the previous election and no later than 31 May. Only candidates from the previous election are eligible in the new election.

#### Section 5 BY-ELECTIONS

By-elections shall be held if at least three seats in the governing assembly are vacant or at least ten governing assembly members submit a request for a by-election in writing to the President.

#### Section 6 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTIONS

Elections pursuant to Sections 4 and 5 of this chapter or Chapter 5 Section 31 are to be announced immediately. The announcement shall be posted on the Union noticeboard.

#### ELECTION BOARD

##### Section 7 RESPONSIBILITIES

The election board is responsible for the management of elections.

##### Section 8 COMPOSITION

The election board consists of a chair and four other members. They are appointed by the governing assembly and the term of office is 1 October to 30 September.

##### Section 9 DUTIES

The duties of the election board are to

1. establish a register of voters and post it at a place indicated by the governing assembly at the latest three weeks prior to an election,
2. establish a register of candidates,
3. establish the eligibility of candidates,
4. distribute ballots to voters,
5. distribute a presentation of the candidates to voters,
6. supervise the voting and counting of votes,
7. ensure that votes cast are stored in a secure way,
8. assess if an election in whole or in part is to be contested due to reasonable suspicions that the election result has been affected or could have been affected by irregularities and, in the case of a contested election, refer the matter to the decision of the current governing assembly,

9. submit approved minutes of the election to the governing assembly secretary no later than three days after the election, and
10. in general promote that elections can be held in an appropriate manner and without risk of irregularities.

## REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

### Section 10 REGISTRATION OF A CANDIDATE

An application for registration is to be submitted to the election board. The application is to be approved if it meets the requirements stated in Chapter 12 Section 2.

### Section 11 MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 12 SECTION 2

The application for registration of a candidate must be approved by the candidate concerned. The application must document that the candidate has paid the membership fee pursuant to Chapter 2 Section 5 by a date determined by the election board. The date must not be earlier than two weeks into the current semester. If the member is not entered in the Union payment register by the date determined, the member must document that payment has been made at the latest on the date of the application for registration.

### Section 12 APPLICATION CONTENTS

The application for registration of a candidate must include the name, personal identity number, home address, email address and telephone number of the candidate.

### Section 13 INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS

If the application for registration is found to be incomplete pursuant to Chapter 12 Sections 11 or 12, the candidate is entitled to rectify this within three weekdays.

### Section 14 DATE FOR REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

The application for registration of a candidate must reach the election board at a date determined by **the board of the Union** when the dates for the election are being decided. The date for registration must not precede the date of the election by more than ten weekdays for ordinary elections.

### Section 15 ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES

The election board is responsible for posting the names of the registered candidates on the Union noticeboard immediately after the deadline for applications.

## Section 16 RIGHT TO CLARIFICATION

A candidate is entitled to clarify or rectify shortcomings in his or her application within three weekdays before the election board takes a decision to reject the application, determine the candidate to be ineligible or another decision that is to the disadvantage of the candidate. It is the responsibility of candidates to keep themselves informed of the decisions of the election board.

## OTHER MATTERS

### Section 17 BALLOTS

Pursuant to Chapter 12 Section 10, a ballot may only include approved candidates.

### Section 18 VOTING

A ballot may include a maximum of ten candidates in accordance with the instructions issued by the election board. A candidate may only be included once on each ballot.

### Section 19 APPROVED VOTES

Only ballots pursuant to Section 18 of this chapter shall be approved at the counting of votes. A ballot including non-registered candidates shall be counted, but the non-registered candidates will be removed from the count.

### Section 20 COUNTING OF VOTES

A candidate will earn one vote for each ballot that includes the name of the candidate indicated by a voter. The candidates will be ranked in descending order according to the number of votes.

### Section 21 ELECTION RESULT

When a candidate ends up among the top 21 candidates pursuant to Section 20 of this chapter, he or she will be declared elected to the governing assembly. In the event of a tie, the election board will determine the ranking through the drawing of lots.

## **Chapter 13    Audit**

### Section 1 AUDITORS

For each financial year, the governing assembly shall appoint two auditors, one of whom is to be a qualified economist and well acquainted with accounts, and two substitutes.

It is the responsibility of the auditors to

1. review the accounts and administration of the Union

2. inventory the assets and review the archives of the Union, and
3. complete their assignment and submit an auditor's report to the governing assembly before the end of December and after the end of the financial year.

The auditors are entitled to access the accounts, minutes and other documents of the Union at any time they wish. Whenever it is called for, a report of the findings of such a review should be submitted to the governing assembly as soon as possible.

## **Chapter 14 Consolidation and deposition fund**

### Section 1 CONSOLIDATION

An amount exceeding 50 per cent of a basic amount of the Law Student Union's annual financial result will be consolidated until the account has a capital corresponding to 13 basic amounts. The account will then be separated from the Union's regular financial activities. Only the Union's governing assembly is entitled to manage the account.

### Section 2 DEPOSITION FUND

After consolidation pursuant to Section 1 of this chapter is done, or found unnecessary, shall at least 10 % of remaining profit be transferred to the Union's deposition fund, as decided by the governing assembly. Administration of the deposition fund shall be made separate from the Union's other funds and in a way that guarantees reasonable return with limited risk taking. The purpose of the deposition fund is to enable greater investments to the benefit of the Union and its members in the long term.

The governing assembly has the exclusive right to control the deposition fund after two identical governing assembly decisions in two different financial years.

## **Chapter 15 Companies owned by the Law Students' Union**

### Section 1 VOTING AT SHAREHOLDERS' MEETINGS

The governing assembly shall decide how the Union is to vote in shareholders' meetings at companies in which the Union owns shares.

### Section 2 APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS

Appointment of board members in companies in which the Union owns shares shall be decided through an ordinary election procedure.

### Section 3 DECISIONS OF ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Decisions on the articles of association of companies in which the Union owns shares must be supported by more than nine tenths and at least 15 of the members present at the meeting.

#### Section 4 PROFITS

Decisions on the profits from companies in which the Union owns shares must be supported by more than four fifths and at least 14 of the members of the governing assembly.

#### Section 5 REDUCTION OF SHARES

Decisions on reduction of the number of shares in companies in which the Union owns shares must be supported by more than two thirds and at least 11 of the members of the governing assembly.

#### Section 6 LIQUIDATION

A decision on liquidation of a company in which the Union owns shares must be supported by more than four fifths and at least 14 of the members of the governing assembly.

#### Section 7 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

A governing assembly member may not participate in a decision concerning

- actions against him- or herself
- discharge of him or her from liability or other obligations to the company
- actions or discharge as specified above concerning someone else in which the member may have an interest that may be in conflict with the interests of the company.

### **Chapter 16 Associations affiliated with the Law Students' Union**

#### Section 1 ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE LAW STUDENTS' UNION

An association can be designated an *association affiliated with the Law Students' Union* through regulations approved by the governing assembly. The same regulations shall determine the rights and obligations of the association in relation to the Law Students' Union.

### **Chapter 17 Interpretation and amendment to these statutes**

#### Section 1 INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES

The right to interpret statutes, regulations and other general instructions of the Law Students' Union rests with the President.

In conflicts of interpretation between the President and any of the Union's bodies, the conflict is to be decided by a board comprising the Inspector, the President and the chair of the governing assembly.

## Section 2 AMENDMENTS TO STATUTES

Decisions on amendments to the statutes are to be taken by two identical governing assembly decisions in two different financial years.

Decisions on amendments to Chapter 1 Section 1 Purpose and Chapter 10 must be referred to the senior members committee. An individual senior members committee member may request that a vote be taken within two weeks of having received the decision. If a majority opposes the amendment the proposed change is rejected. The President and a representative appointed by the senior members committee organise the vote. Votes are to be submitted in writing at the latest two weeks after the vote was announced.

## Section 3 AMENDMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

In the event of changes to the Higher Education Act that affect the Union, an amendment to the statutes can be adopted and become valid at one governing assembly meeting with a majority of three fourths.

## Section 4 DISSOLUTION

The Law Students' Union can be dissolved through two identical governing assembly decisions in two consecutive financial years. The decision shall be supported by a majority of four fifths. In the event of dissolution, the Union's assets are to be transferred to a foundation, the board and statutes of which shall be decided at the last governing assembly meeting. The assets shall be administered in such a way that they serve the purpose of the Union stated in Chapter 1 of these statutes.