



**European Society of
Gastrointestinal Endoscopy**

Statutes

Revised October 2006

Article I – Name and Purpose

Section 1.

The European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) shall be an association of national societies and study groups of gastrointestinal endoscopy in countries of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. It shall represent the European Zone in OMED.

Section 2.

The official name shall be "European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy".

Section 3.

The purposes of the Society are:

1. to promote interest, teaching and research in gastrointestinal endoscopy and related fields.
2. to stimulate international exchange of endoscopy data and technical advances and to promote large-scale studies.
3. to organise a European congress of gastrointestinal endoscopy as part of the United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW).

These purposes shall be pursued in close co-operation with the American and Asian-Pacific societies and with such other similar associations which may be created.

Article II – Membership

Section 1.

Active membership: A society of gastrointestinal endoscopy or an organised group of gastrointestinal endoscopists which are part of or even independent from a national society of gastroenterology, shall be eligible for active membership. Only one society per country can be admitted.

Section 2.

Associated membership: International groups working in countries represented in the ASNEMGE and organised for the study of specific subjects in the field of gastrointestinal endoscopy may be eligible for associate membership within the ESGE.

Section 3.

The privileges of voting and holding office shall be limited to one delegate nominated by the society who holds active membership within the ESGE.

Section 4.

Applications for active or associate membership shall be made to the secretariat of the Society at least 3 months prior to the next meeting of the governing body of the Society.

Section 5.

Applications shall include the following information: statutes of the organisation, composition of the Governing Board and names and addresses of members. Applications will be scrutinised by the Governing Board of the ESGE and submitted for consideration to the next meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 6.

Individual membership: Physicians with formal training (or trainee) in gastroenterology and / or surgery and /or internal medicine shall be eligible for membership. Verification of employment in a clinical unit with formal activity of digestive endoscopy is required.

Individual members do not hold voting power. Application shall be made to the secretariat of the society.

Article III – Dues, Contributions and Funds

Section 1.

The ESGE is a non-profit scientific association. At the discretion of the Governing Board and after due approval by the Assembly of Delegates, member societies have to pay annual dues, the amount of which is specified by the Assembly after proposal by the Governing Council.

The member societies which have not paid the annual dues cannot vote at the General Assembly.

Section 2.

The ESGE may accept funds such as contributions, grants or bequests from institutions, foundations or other sources, allocated for the purpose of promoting the aims of the society. The ESGE will also receive a share from the organisation of the United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW).

Section 3.

The finances of the Society shall be used exclusively to promote the purposes set out in Article 1, Section 3, and for the proper management of the administrative expenses of the Society.

In the event of dissolution of the Society, all funds remaining after due payment of outstanding obligations shall be donated for the promotion of research and education in the field of gastrointestinal endoscopy.

Section 4.

The Society shall not assume any financial responsibility in the organisation of national or international congresses or courses.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1.

The Officers of the Society shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Past-President, one Vice-President, a Secretary General, a Treasurer, the Chairman of the Education Committee and six Councillors. Together they shall constitute the Governing Board of the Society.

Section 2.

The Officers shall serve for a period of four years, except for the President, the Past-President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President and the Councillors who shall serve for a period of two years each.

The Past-President shall not have voting power.

The officers shall be eligible for re-election for the same office with the exception of the President and the Vice-President . The Councillors shall be eligible for re-election after two years at the discretion of the Assembly.

The maximum length of time that a voting member may remain on the Board shall be twelve years unless appointed President-Elect.

Section 3.

Honorary members shall be elected from individuals who are recognised for their important contributions to digestive endoscopy, to the foundation and function of the ESGE and to the organisation of its congresses.

Article V – Governing Board

Section 1.

There shall be a Governing Board whose members shall consist of the Officers of the Society.

Section 2.

The Governing Board shall make the necessary decisions and shall be responsible for the affairs of the Society subject to ratification by a majority vote of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 3.

The Governing Board shall have the power to fill vacancies on the Board due to death, resignation or incapacity of any Board member for the remaining portion of his term.

Section 4.

The Governing Board shall assist the national societies in the organisation of congresses and courses sponsored by the Society.

Section 5.

Officers and Honorary Officers shall be elected by the Assembly of Delegates. Nominations may come from:

1. the Governing Board after consultation with the member societies
2. member societies

Nomination is by written proposal at least three months prior to the General Assembly.

Section 6.

At the President's discretion, Honorary Members may be invited to attend meetings of the Governing Board in an advisory capacity.

Section 7.

Two delegates shall be nominated by the Board to represent ESGE on the Governing Council of the UEGF. They will have full voting powers on behalf of the Society. At the discretion of the Board one of these representatives may be co-opted to the Board (non voting) if neither are currently officers of the Society and eligible to attend in their own right.

Section 8.

The Editor of Endoscopy or a representative shall be co-opted to the Governing Board (non voting).

Article VI – Assembly of Delegates

Section 1.

The Assembly of Delegates shall consist of:

1. members of the Governing Board with the right to vote
2. one delegate representing each active member society appointed or elected for this occasion by the respective Governing Board. One vote is accepted for each member society.

Section 2.

The Assembly of Delegates shall meet at each UEGW Congress. If necessary, the Governing Board may call other meetings of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 3.

Meetings of the Assembly of Delegates shall be chaired by the President of the Society.

Section 4.

The agendas for meetings of the Assembly shall be prepared by the President together with the Secretary General. Any active member may submit items for the agenda. These must be sent at least two months before the next meeting of the Assembly to the Secretary General.

The definitive agenda will be sent to the secretariat of each active member 30 days before the date of the next meeting of the Assembly.

Section 5.

The Assembly of Delegates shall be informed of all decisions taken by the Governing Board during the previous term and shall approve or reject the actions of the Governing Board.

It shall elect the Officers of the Society and, after due consideration of the proposals made by OMED or the UEGF Co-ordination Committee, shall designate the member society which will take care of the scientific and organisational matters arising from the endoscopic part of the UEGW Congress.

Section 6.

Decisions at meetings of the Assembly of Delegates shall be taken by a simple majority of those present except in case of:

1. change of statutes
2. dissolution
3. exclusion of members

when a two-thirds majority of those present will be required.

Section 7.

A quorum shall be deemed to exist when 50 % or more of the maximum number of delegates, including members of the Governing Board, are present at a meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 8.

Voting by registered mail may be permitted in exceptional cases at the President's discretion only. In case of a draw, the casting vote of the President shall be decisive.

Voting for members of the Governing Board shall be by the single transferable vote system.

Article VII – Duties and Powers of Officers

Section 1.

The President shall preside over all sessions of the Governing Board and of the Assembly of Delegates. He shall represent the Society in all public and official activities. He shall report on the activities of the Society and the actions of the Governing Board at each meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 2.

The President-Elect and the Vice President shall assist the President in the organisation and co-ordination of the activities promoted by the Society. At the President's request, they

may represent the ESGE in public and official activities. In the event of death or incapacity of the President, the President-Elect will assume his duties until the next meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 3.

The Secretary General shall keep up-to-date membership lists and records of the activities of the Society. He shall organise the archives of the Society. He shall gather information about meetings, courses, and other activities organised by active members and shall send this information to all other members. Together with the delegates of the organising committee of each UEGW and the co-opted member of the organising committee of the World Congress he shall be the Liaison Officer between the ESGE Governing Board and the Organising Committee of the Congress. He shall assist the President in the preparation of the agenda for the meetings of the Assembly of Delegates.

Section 4.

The Treasurer shall devote himself to the raising and administration of the Society's funds and shall present a financial report for each meeting of the Governing Board and Assembly of Delegates. He shall assist the President and the Secretary General in the preparation of the agenda for meetings of the Assembly of Delegates.

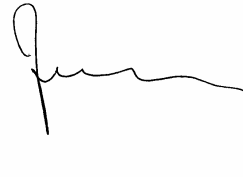
Section 5.

All Officers of the Society shall be actively engaged in gastroenterology, gastrointestinal endoscopy and digestive surgery.

Agreed in Munich on 13 June 1991 by the ESGE Governing Council.
Modified in Athens on 29 September 1992.
Modified in Los Angeles on 3 October 1994.
Reprinted in Munich on 17 August 1998
Modified in Amsterdam 2001
Modified in Berlin, October, 2006



Secretary General
P. Fockens.MD



President
J. Devière MD