

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**  
**Of the Alumni Association, USI**

**Chapter I . Generalities**

<b>Art. 1</b> <b>Name</b>	The name of this Association is ALUMNI USI. The Association was constituted as a legal entity in accordance with Art. 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code (SCC) and with the following statutory provisions.
<b>Art. 2</b> <b>Registered office. Official language</b>	<sup>1</sup> The registered office of the Association is care of Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano. <sup>2</sup> Italian and English are the official languages of the Association. Members may communicate with any organs of ALUMNI USI in either of these two languages. An English translation of the present Articles of Association will be made available to any member requesting it; in the event of any discrepancy between the two texts, the Italian original applies.
<b>Art. 3</b> <b>Purpose</b>	<sup>1</sup> ALUMNI USI intends to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish and consolidate a network of contacts through which graduates of Università della Svizzera italiana can always keep in touch with each other, as well as with the academic body and current students;</li><li>• Initiate and promote contacts between Association members and the world of business;</li><li>• Develop career opportunities among and on behalf of its members;</li><li>• Make a contribution to the growth of Università della Svizzera italiana.</li></ul> <sup>2</sup> ALUMNI USI may engage in cooperation with other organisations, wherever there are found to be common interests and objectives.

<p><b>Art. 4</b> <b>Assets</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> ALUMNI USI's financial resources consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) annual membership fees;</li> <li>b) donations (endowments, gifts, legacies);</li> <li>c) contributions and grants from public institutions;</li> <li>d) interests accrued on corporate assets;</li> <li>e) income from events and fund raising;</li> <li>f) income from small self-financing activities, such as merchandising.</li> </ul> <p><sup>2</sup> The funds of ALUMNI USI are used to cover the costs of social administration.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> The accounts of the Association are kept according to commercial criteria. The accounting year ends on 31 December of each year.</p>
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## Chapter II . Members

<p><b>Art. 5</b> <b>Members and membership fee</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> The Association comprises active members, supporting members and honorary members.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> In accordance with Art. 6, payment of the annual membership fee is a prerequisite for becoming a member.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Honorary members are exempted from paying any membership fee.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> The amount of the membership fee is determined each year by the Committee, and then ratified by the Annual General Meeting.</p>
<p><b>Art. 6</b> <b>Eligibility</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> The following shall be eligible for membership of the Association: -all former students who have completed a course of degree studies in one of the Faculties of USI; -members of the teaching body: -anyone who, having graduated in another university, has spent at least a full semester studying at USI, on condition that semester counted towards the degree.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> New members may join at any time.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Anyone wishing to join ALUMNI USI must make formal application to the Committee and pay the annual subscription.</p>

<b>Art. 7</b> <b>Termination of membership</b>	<sup>1</sup> Members deciding to resign from the Association may do so at any time, by communicating their decision to the Committee in writing. <sup>2</sup> Failure to settle the subscription fee automatically entails termination of the membership. <sup>3</sup> The Annual General Meeting may resolve to expel a member on serious and/or justified grounds. <sup>4</sup> Cancellation of membership, either through resignation or expulsion, entails loss of whatever claim may have existed till then over the Association's assets, in accordance with Art. 73 of CCS. <sup>5</sup> A resigning member is nonetheless obliged to pay the outstanding subscription for the current year.
<b>Art. 9</b> <b>Liability</b>	Any corporate liabilities incurred shall be met exclusively from corporate assets. No member of ALUMNI USI shall be held liable in this respect.

### Chapter III . Structure

<b>Art. 10</b> <b>Organisation</b>	ALUMNI USI comprises the following organs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Annual General Meeting</li> <li>• the Committee;</li> <li>• 2 Auditors.</li> </ul>
<b>Art. 11</b> <b>Minutes</b>	<sup>1</sup> A record must be kept of every meeting of the organs of ALUMNI USI. Minutes must be signed by the Secretary and the Chairman. <sup>2</sup> The Minutes of the AGM are public, while the Minutes of the Committee may be made available to members on request.
<b>Art. 12</b> <b>Annual General Meeting</b>	<sup>1</sup> As the highest organ of the Association, the Annual General Meeting is composed of all members attending it. <sup>2</sup> Ordinary meetings are scheduled at least once a year.
<b>Art. 13</b> <b>Notice</b>	<sup>1</sup> Ordinary meetings are convened by the Committee. <sup>2</sup> An extraordinary meeting may be convened at the request of the Committee or at least one-fifth of members. The notice will enclose the meeting's agenda. <sup>3</sup> To convene the Meeting, the Committee sends a written notice to all members, specifying place, time, and agenda for the Meeting, at least three weeks in advance. <sup>4</sup> Members may put forward further items for the Agenda, in writing, at least ten days before the Meeting. The Committee makes sure that a new agenda is circulated at least five days before the Meeting.

<p><b>Art. 14</b> <b>Powers and obligations</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup>The AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• approves the Chairman's Annual Report;</li> <li>• approves the Annual Accounts and the Auditors' report;</li> <li>• approves the proposals made by members on the agenda;</li> <li>• approves any extraordinary outgoings;</li> <li>• approves the amount of the annual membership fee;</li> <li>• appoints, every three years, the Chairman, the Committee, and the Auditors;</li> <li>• decides on the expulsion of members;</li> <li>• appoints any honorary members nominated by the Committee;</li> <li>• amends the Statutes;</li> <li>• ratifies the creation of internal or local chapters.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Art. 15 .</b> <b>Assembly resolutions, voting rights and majority</b></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> The General Meeting is empowered to decide solely on agenda items.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> All members attending the General Meeting have equal voting rights. Any one of them may put forward an issue for discussion.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> In the event of a tie, the issue is settled by the Chairman's vote.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> The AGM reaches a decision on the basis of a relative majority of members attending and by a show of hands, except for cases where a qualified majority is mandatory.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> An absolute majority is required in the case of an election. The ballot procedure will be repeated until a candidate receives the majority of votes.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> A ballot shall be secret if requested by two-fifths of members.</p>

**Art. 16 .  
Executive  
Committee: –  
Composition  
and  
appointment**

<sup>1</sup> The Committee is made up of:

- a Chairman;
- an Honorary Chairman;
- two Vice Chairmen;
- a Secretary;
- a Treasurer;
- a minimum of four (maximum six) Members;
- The Head of Service and the Coordinator of USI's Alumni Service

<sup>2</sup> Within reason, the plurality of Faculties, languages and cultures shall be fairly represented on the Committee.

<sup>3</sup> The Honorary Chairman, the Head of Service and the Coordinator of the Alumni Service, USI, are invited to attend Committee meetings, but have no voting rights.

<sup>3</sup> The Chairman's mandate may be renewed once only; Committee members may be re-elected a maximum of three times.

<sup>4</sup> The President of the University is Honorary Chairman of the Association. He keeps the Committee and the Association up to date with the strategic objectives of the University, with a view to developing activities and synergies.

<sup>5</sup> Only candidates attending the meeting may be elected to sit on the Committee. Absent members may be elected on condition that a written notice of potential acceptance has been received from them. Auditors and honorary members are not eligible to sit on the Committee.

<sup>6</sup> A Committee member may decide to step down, at any time. The resigning member shall communicate his decision by letter to the Chairman, with immediate effect from that moment. The vacant seat on the Committee shall be filled at the AGM following such resignation.

<b>Art. 17 . Powers and obligations</b>	<sup>1</sup> The Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepares and convenes the Annual General Meeting;</li> <li>• Enforces the decisions of the Assembly;</li> <li>• Presents the annual schedule of activities of the Association and its related budget;</li> <li>• Runs the day-do-day business;</li> <li>• Sets the amount of the annual membership fee;</li> <li>• Assesses each membership application;</li> <li>• Reports to the Assembly on its activities;</li> <li>• Designates working groups (permanent or ad hoc) and defines their terms of reference;</li> <li>• Manages and develops cooperative links with kindred organisations;</li> <li>• Manages and keeps up to date the Association's membership database and its records with due regard to confidentiality.</li> </ul> <sup>2</sup> The Association's commitments are vouchsafed by the collective signature of its Chairman and its Treasurer. <sup>3</sup> The Committee calls its meetings and generally runs its business autonomously.
<b>Art. 18 . Decisions</b>	<sup>1</sup> The Committee's decisions are taken by an absolute-majority vote. <sup>2</sup> Resolutions may also be taken by circular letter or by video-conference.
<b>Art. 19 Transitional rules</b>	The constituent Committee is appointed to oversee the initial operations of the Association. It deals with the more pressing matters of the initial phase and its mandate expires when the executive Committee take up office.
<b>Art. 20 . Auditors</b>	Auditors are responsible for auditing the annual accounts and presenting the auditors' report to the Committee. The financial year runs from 1 January to 31 December.
<b>Art. 21 . Internal and regional chapters</b>	Internal and regional groups, or chapters, of ALUMNI USI may be set up, strictly on the basis of academic criteria (Faculty chapters) or territorial criteria (Regional chapters).

## Chapter IV . Final provisions

<b>Art. 22 Dissolution of the Association and Amendment of Statutes</b>	<p><sup>1</sup> ALUMNI USI may be dissolved solely by a decision ratified by an extraordinary meeting convened for the purpose. The extraordinary meeting must be attended by at least two-fifths of its members.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> The dissolution of the Association or changes to its Statutes shall be approved by a two-third majority of members attending.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> The proposal to dissolve the Association or to alter the Articles of Association shall be notified in writing to the members at least three weeks before the ordinary meeting, or five days before if a member requests changes to the Agenda, in accordance with Art. 13.4 herein.</p>
<b>Art. 23 . Access to archives and assets</b>	<p><sup>1</sup> In the event of dissolution, all records of the Association shall be handed over to Università della Svizzera italiana, where they shall be stored until such time another association is reconstituted or founded.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> After the Association has been dissolved, any outstanding assets shall be donated to charitable organisations or projects.</p>
<b>Art. 25 . Effective date</b>	These Articles of Association were adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 17 July 2010 and came into force immediately.

For the sake of simplicity, masculine pronouns are used indiscriminately throughout the document to refer to both genders.

Lugano, on the 17th day of July 2010

ALUMNI Association, USI

The Constituent Chairman

The Constituent Members