**Note on membership and on how to become a member**

This note is a translation of part of the official statutes of Europa Uomo, published in the Belgian Gazette on 15th December 2021. A translation can be found on our website ([www.europa-uomo.org](http://www.europa-uomo.org)) under Resources, Organisational Papers, Statutes in English and Byelaws.

**Article 5 – Members**

The association consists of two types of members: full members and other members. Within other members, a distinction is also made between the associate members, the supporting members and the honorary members. The other members as stated in these statutes are as follows: “associate members”, “supporting members” and “honorary members”. There must be at least three full members with all rights as described for the “members” in the Belgian Code of Companies and Associations. Full members have all rights and obligations described in the Belgian Code of Companies and Associations and in these statutes. Other members only have the rights and obligations described in these statutes. Other members have no voting rights.

In general, patient associations that wish to become a member of Europa Uomo cannot use this name unless it is followed by a designation of a location such as a country and such naming must be approved by the Board, subject to a right of appeal to the General Assembly.

Freely-established patient-led associations supporting prostate cancer patients (having a governing body with a majority of patients) subscribing to the objectives of Europa Uomo while enjoying full administrative and organisational liberty and autonomy, may apply for full membership. Member organisations are completely free to organise their association in accordance with the legal and practical framework of their country.

As mentioned above, in addition to full members, there are also other members who are subdivided into associate members, supporting members and honorary members.

Associate members are freely established patient-led patient organisations (having a governing body with a majority of patients) that deal with patient support in general and issues in cancer in particular and subscribing to the objectives of Europa Uomo. While enjoying full administrative and organisational liberty and autonomy, they may apply for associate membership. Associate member organisations are completely free to organise their association in accordance with the legal and practical possibilities of their country.

Supporting members are organisations that subscribe to the objectives of Europa Uomo and have administrative and organisational liberty and autonomy. If the organisations meet the aforementioned requirements, they may apply for membership as supporting members. Supportive membership may also be offered to organisations that can help Europa Uomo to realise its objectives.

Individuals may be offered honorary membership of Europa Uomo as a reward for services rendered to Europa Uomo. Such persons are called honorary members.

**Article 6 – Membership: acceptance, exclusion, resignation**

Any organisation that wishes to apply for membership, as described under article 5, must file an application for membership with the Secretariat of Europa Uomo. In this application, the candidate member must submit all necessary information (statutes, composition of governing body, budget, working report of the previous year and funding sources) in order for the Board of Europa Uomo to judge the eligibility of the applicant. Based on the consideration of the application, the Board shall make a proposal to the next General Assembly where a majority vote shall decide on the application.

Where an applicant for full membership is not accepted, the applicant may be offered associate membership provided that the General Assembly agrees to grant the associate membership to the candidate member.

At the General Assembly of Europa Uomo only full members may vote under the following conditions:

* For each country with at least one full member there will be one vote.
* If there is more than one full member in a country, it shall be a matter for these full members to decide who will have their national vote.
* If there is more than one full member in a country, and if the full members of a country cannot agreewho shall exercise the national vote, they shall forfeit the national vote at the upcoming General Assembly.

Candidates for the status of supporting members and honorary members may be proposed by the Board to the General Assembly, which shall decide by simple majority on the candidature of these members.

Membership shall become effective only after a positive decision of the General Assembly, subject to provisions of article 6 of these statutes.

At general assemblies, all members may participate but only full members can vote. Only onedelegate (the voting delegate as defined in this article) per country may vote and all others may be present as observers and may give opinions and advice.

Any member organisation may submit its resignation from Europa Uomoby a registered letter to the secretariat of Europa Uomo together with a copy of their organisation’s motion to that effect signed by both its Chairman/President and its Secretary. Any resignation shall be reported at the next General Assembly.

Full, associate and supporting membership may be terminated by decision of the General Assembly if the member no longer meets the conditions stated in these statutes to become a member of Europa Uomo in the relevant category of membership. If a full or an associate member has not paid the annual membership fee on 31st March of the relevant calendar year, the Secretariat of Europa Uomo will request the member concerned in writing (letter or email), during the month of April, to pay the membership fee before the General Assembly.

If the General Assembly determines that the member concerned, reminded by the Secretariat of Europa Uomo during the month of April, has not yet paid the membership fee, the member concerned will be heard and the General Assembly will then decide whether membership as a full member (or whether as an associate member) will be revoked or not. Whatever the decision of the General Assembly, the decision, duly substantiated, will be communicated to the member concerned by registered letter.

Full, associate and supporting members shall be invited every three years to submit documents to prove that they are still in compliance with the criteria for membership.

**Article 7 – Annual dues**

The annual membership fee for full members and associate members shall be the subject of a recommendation each year by the Board to the General Assembly as part of the agenda for the meeting, whether it be for an increase or a continuation of the previous fee. This proposal may be altered or approved by the General Assembly.

The Board, at its discretion, may recommend to the General Assembly a waiver of dues from new members subject to the waiver not exceeding three years.

*The annual dues for 2022-2023 are 100,00 euro/year.*

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