
Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance) Bylaws

1. Name and purpose (Name und Zweck)

Name: Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance)

Purpose: The purpose of the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance) is to strengthen and promote the global capacity and the calibre of collaborative modes of boundary crossing research and practice.

2. Goal (Ziele)

The goal of the ITD Alliance is to link networks, associations, institutions, and individuals with shared interest in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary theories, methods, and practices for addressing complex problems and questions. It increases visibility and coalesces work currently dispersed across the world by catalysing greater collaboration focused on societal problem solving and understanding of complex issues while promoting inter- and transdisciplinarity.

3. Official Address (Sitz)

The Official Address of the ITD Alliance is the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, Laupenstrasse 7, Postfach, 3001 Bern, Switzerland. In case this Official Address changes, the Alliance needs to stay in Switzerland to retain its status as an association under Swiss law.

4. Membership (Mitgliedschaft)

Institutions and individuals can become members of the ITD Alliance. Persons or institutions are eligible to be members of the ITD Alliance if they promote its goals. Membership requires payment of a membership fee that can be reduced by the Leadership Board under certain circumstances.

5. Funds (Mittel)

The income of the ITD Alliance consists of the following:

- Membership fees,
- Donations,
- Grants,
- Project-specific contributions,
- Fees from events and services,
- In-kind contributions,
- Yield on capital from prior sources.

Further sources of income require approval by the Leadership Board.

In case of termination of the ITD Alliance, remaining funds will be transferred to a non-profit organisation with the same or a similar purpose.

6. Governance (Organisation)

The ITD Alliance is organised as an association (Verein), according to Art. 60 ff of the "Schweizerischen Zivilgesetzbuches" (Swiss law). Its main governance entities are:

- Members
- General Assembly
- Leadership Board
- Executive Committee
- Secretariat

a. General Assembly (Generalversammlung)

All members of the ITD Alliance constitute the general assembly. The general assembly meets at least once a year. The meeting can be held in person or virtually. Virtual participation in in-person meetings will also be possible.

The duties and responsibilities of the general assembly are:

- To elect and members of the Leadership Board, and, in case a presidency will be installed, the President
- To approve annual budget and financial statement,
- To decide on changes in fees for membership,
- To decide on changes to the bylaws,
- To decide about terminating the ITD Alliance.

The assembly will decide by majority vote. In order to approve or change the bylaws or to terminate the ITD Alliance, a qualified majority of 2/3 of the members present at the general assembly is needed. A minimum of 1/5 of the total number of members have the right to request an extraordinary meeting of the general assembly.

b. Leadership Board (Vorstand)

The Leadership Board consists of 5-15 board members. Members of the Leadership Board are elected by the general assembly for a period of 2 years. They can be re-elected for a maximum of 3 continuous terms. After reaching maximum number of terms, re-election is possible after a break of 1 term.

The following general principles apply for composition of the leadership board:

- At least 2/3 of its members represent institutional members; however, each institutional member may only be represented on the Leadership Board by at most one representative at a time;
- The host institution(s) of the secretariat has(have) the right to delegate one board member;
- The board aims to maximize diversity and inclusion in composition, defined in our diversity statement.

The Leadership Board meets regularly, at least 4 times a year. Board meetings can be in- person or virtual.

Duties and responsibilities of the leadership board are:

- To define the strategy of the ITD Alliance and to set priorities for its implementation;
- To elaborate and define governance structure of the Leadership Board, (i.e. presidency model or 'Swiss federal council model', specific roles and duties of board members),
- To appoint all functions required for an association under Swiss law that are not appointed by the General Assembly,
- To elect the Executive Secretary and host institution(s) of the secretariat,
- To define additional members of the executive committee,
- To approve new members,
- To exclude members if they act contrary or in opposition to goals of the Alliance,
- To propose membership fees,
- To decide on fee reductions for specific members (e.g. members from low-/low-mid income countries, member-funded institutions, significant in-kind contributions, offering significant benefits for ITD Alliance members),
- To approve or terminate working groups (with termination due to several years without activity, or acting contrary or in opposition to goals of the Alliance),
- To reach out for third-party funding,
- All members of the Leadership Board are generally entitled to represent the ITD Alliance. The Leadership Board will discuss specifics of representation.

The Leadership Board is capable of making decisions if at least 2/3 of its members are present in-person or virtually. Decisions are made by majority vote.

c. Executive Committee (Ausschuss)

The Executive Committee consists at least of the Executive Secretary and the Treasurer, and if installed, the presidency.

The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee are:

- To conduct day-to-day work within strategic boundaries set by the General Assembly and the Leadership Board,
- To make decisions on a day-to-day basis, within strategic boundaries set by the General Assembly and the Leadership Board,
- To prepare and conduct General Assembly and Leadership Board meetings;
- To prepare annual planning, including a budget,
- To organise internal communications,
- To represent the ITD Alliance within strategic boundaries set by the General Assembly and the Leadership Board.

d. Secretariat (Sekretariat)

The Secretariat is hosted by a member institution or collaboratively by several member institutions. Alternatively, e.g., if no host institution is available, the Secretariat can be run directly by the ITD Alliance. The Secretariat of the ITD Alliance consists at least of an Executive Secretary. Both the host institution(s) and the Executive Secretary are elected by the Leadership Board for a period of 2 years. Re-election is possible.

The duties and responsibilities of the Secretariat are:

- To support the Leadership Board in their work,
- To serve as contact hub for the Alliance,
- To suggest new ITD Alliance activities to the Leadership Board,
- To administer membership including fees,
- To facilitate interaction between subgroups of the ITD Alliance (e.g., working groups) and the Leadership Board,
- To organise methods of communication,
- To keep records of the Alliance;
- To organise documentation of official meetings.

7. Authority to sign and accountability (Zeichnungsberechtigung und Haftung)

The Executive Secretary and the treasurer have the authority to sign jointly for the ITD Alliance. In case of absence, the right to sign can be delegated to another member of the Leadership Board. The accountability is limited to ITD Alliance funds.

Place, Date

Signatures

Bern, 22.03.2021

Executive Secretary - Tobias Buser

Treasurer - Christian Pohl

