



Statutes of GIREP vzw

I: Legal Status

Art.1

Between

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it is decided to establish a legal non-profit organisation (npo), called GIREP npo (Groupe International de Recherche sur l'Enseignement de la Physique -International Research Group on Physics Teaching)(acronym: GIREP). GIREP npo is a continuation of the member organisation GIREP, which was founded in 1966 and ever since deployed activities in line with Art.3, §1 to §4.

Art.2

The registered office of GIREP is established in B2531 Vremde (Boechout), Millegemweg 49, judicial district of Antwerp, Belgium

Art.3

§1 GIREP has the following aims and purposes:

- to promote the enhancement of the quality of the teaching of and learning of physics at all levels and in all contexts.
- to promote research in the field of the teaching of and learning of physics at all levels and in all contexts.
- to support the improvement of the quality of pre-service and in-service professional development of the teaching of and learning of physics at all levels and in all contexts.
- to support and facilitate cooperation between all stakeholders that aim at enhancing the teaching of and learning of physics at all levels and in all contexts.
- to support and facilitate the exchange of information on the subject of the teaching of and learning of physics at all levels and in all contexts.

§2 GIREP is entitled to set up and exploit facilities and services and can by all means organise and/or support projects and initiatives that are in line with the goals of Art3,§1, and all this without having the goal of any profit.

§3 GIREP can carry out all legal actions which are necessary or useful to reach its societal goals; it can therefore obtain or manage all goods and any movable or immovable property, or possession of the property or otherwise and use these goods, manage or put to disposal.

§4 GIREP may perform on a secondary basis certain economic activities provided that the profits thereof are exclusively devoted to the aims and purposes of the organisation, described in Art 3, §1.

Art.4.

§1 The legal organisation is of indefinite duration. It may be dissolved at any time. Apart from cases of judicial dissolution and dissolution by law, the dissolution of the association may only be decided by the GA (see Art. 7) according to art.20 and subsequent of the Belgian Law of June 27, 1921, changed by the Law of May 2, 2002, and according to these statutes.

§2 The dissolution of the organization can only be decided by a two-third majority of the members taking part in a GA meeting.

§3 In case of dissolution of the npo the assets of GIREP, after taking into account the liabilities, will be given to an international association, whose activities are in favor of the teaching of and learning of physics or science teaching at all levels and in all contexts.

§4 All issues not arranged by the these statutes, the Belgian Law of June 27, 1921, changed by the Law of May 2, 2002 applies.

II: Members

Art. 5

§1 The number of members is unlimited, but cannot be less than ten.

§2 Individuals, organisations and legal entities can become member of GIREP

Art.6.

§1 Membership requires that the goals of Art3 §1 of GIREP are endorsed.

§2 Membership is granted to any candidate who applies for it to the Committee (see Art. 8) by paying his/her/its fee every year and as soon as such application is accepted by the Committee by delivering a membership certificate. Different groups of members can be established.

§3 Membership is valid from the 1st of January until the 31st of December.

§4 Each year the Committee establishes the amount of the membership fee for every group of members. Prolongation of membership is granted as from the very day of payment on.

§5 Members not paying their yearly fee before the 1st of July of the current year are no longer considered as members.

§6 The Committee keeps a list of all members of the organization.

III: The General Assembly (GA) of GIREP

Art 7

§1 The statutory bodies of the GIREP are:

- a) The General Assembly (GA, see Art.7)
- b) The GIREP Committee (Committee, see Art. 8)

§2 The General Assembly is the statutory body of highest authority of GIREP and formed by

all members. The responsibilities of the General Assembly are described in articles 4 and 12 of the Belgian Law of June 27 1921, changed by a Belgian law of May 2, 2002 on non-profit organizations. Its decisions are binding for all members.

§3 A General Assembly meeting takes place at least once a year, convened according to articles 5 to 9 and 12 of this law. Each member has one vote. Members may be represented at the GA by another member by written proxy.

§4 Every meeting of the General Assembly shall be deemed duly convened, on first call, with the presence or representation of at least half plus one of the total number of members or, at second call, to be held on the same day, regardless of the number of members present.

§5 The General Assembly can also be convened if at least half plus one of the members request this in a written form to the Committee.

§6 The President of the Committee (see Art.8 of this statute) chairs the meeting of the General Assembly. In his absence another member of the Committee takes over the presidency for the time of the session.

§7 The General Assembly shall decide only on issues written in the agenda of the meeting, The agenda is announced together with the invitation.

§8 The ways in which a member can take part to a meeting of the General Assembly are stated in the GIREP Handbook (see Art. 8, §5).

§9 All decisions shall be taken by a majority vote of the members participating in the meeting.

§10 The present Statutes may be revised by a decision of a 2/3 majority of the General Assembly. Each change of the statutes must be published in the "*Belgian Official Gazette*", via the Court of Commerce. This is also obligatory for each change of the composition of the Committee.

§11 Decisions on changes of statutes, exclusion of members or dissolution of the organization can only be taken if the conditions, as stated in articles 8, 12, 20 and 26 of the law of June 27 1921 are taken into account.

§12 The GA decides on the approval of the Annual Report as presented by the Committee.

§13 Of each GA meeting a report is made and spread among all members of GIREP, at the last 1 month before the next GA meeting takes place.

§14 Participating to a GA meeting is possible both face to face or via an on-line conference.

IV: The GIREP Committee

Art.8

§1 The second statutory body of GIREP, the GIREP Committee (called "Committee") is the executive organ of the organization.

§2 It consists of at least five members elected by the General Assembly for four years. They are re-electable. The Committee chooses among themselves the President, two Vice-presidents, the General Secretary and the Treasurer. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall belong to different countries and preferably to different linguistic regions.

§3 The Committee leads, represents and engages legally the organization, without additional authorization from the General Assembly, in all judicial and extrajudicial actions. It acts as plaintiff or defendant, in all legal proceedings, and decides whether or not to take actions. It is authorized for all actions, without exception, of its members, including buying or selling of movable or immovable property and the mortgaging, of the borrowing and lending, for any period, all trade-and banking activities, and the lifting of mortgages. For well-defined partial tasks from Art.8 §3 and for a defined period, the Committee may give authorization to a member of GIREP or another person. This authorization must be signed by all committee members.

§4 The Committee, at least once a year upon request of the President, shall be convened by message to be sent at least ten days before the date of the meeting; the meeting shall be considered deemed duly convened with the presence of at least half of its members and act by a majority of the members present and, if necessary, the vote of the President of the meeting will sway the decision.

§5 The Committee establishes and adapts the GIREP Handbook. This document describes all daily and changeable activities and processes within the GIREP organization. It is constantly available and is approved during each meeting by the General Assembly.

§6 Should a member of the Committee stop its mandate by death, resignation or failure to meet membership requirements, the other members decide unanimously among themselves how to substitute this member for the rest of his period only. Approval of the General Assembly is needed during its next meeting.

§7 The Committee is responsible for all communications, both within the organisation as with external parties.

§8 The Committee can delegate all or partial responsibilities to one of its members for a specific goal and/or dedicated period.

§9 The Committee makes each year an Annual Report which, among other items, includes reports of all official meetings of the Committee and the financial statement, and presents this during the GA meeting and makes it available to all members at least 14 days before the GA meeting.

§10 Every member may protest within 14 days in case of disapproval with the Annual Report.

§11 The Committee takes all responsibilities of the organisation that are not legally or by the statute attributed to the General Assembly.

§12 A Committee meeting can take place both face to face or via an on-line conference.

V: Finances

Art.9

§1 The financial year starts on the 1st of January and ends the 31st of December.

§2 An external auditor is elected by the General Assembly in the same way and for the same period as the Committee. He shall not reside in the same country as the Treasurer. He oversees the correct management of accounting and administrative procedures and reports to the General Assembly via the Annual Report.

§3 The treasurer prepares a financial statement within 4 months after the end of a year and submits it to the auditor and the Committee for approval. After that, the statement becomes part of the Annual Report of GIREP.

§4 The account books are kept with GIREP's records at the headquarter of the organization.

§5 The financial responsibility of GIREP will be involved by joint signatures of the Treasurer and another member of the Committee.

Addendum 1 during establishment

Appointment for the GIREP Committee: the members of the Committee are: date 2nd January 16

Name	Address	Date of birth	Place of birth
Leoš Dvořák,	Súdanská 598/5, Vokovice, 160 00 Praha 6, Republik Tsjechië	31-08-1952	Praag (CZ)
Claudia Haagen	Paulahofsiedlungsstr. 72, 8600 Bruck (Oostenrijk)	2-11-1975	Hartberg (AT)
Marisa Michelini	Via Chiusaforte 46/13 33100 Udine (Italië)	29-11-1951	Modena (IT)
Willen Peeters	Millegemweg 49, 2531 Boechout (België)	29-05-1958	Capt. Miranda (PY)
Dagmara Sokołowska,	ul. Św. Faustyny 37, 32-085 Modlniczka (Polen)	2-3-1971	Krakau (PL)

Addendum 2 during establishment

According to Art. 8, §2 of the statute, the GIREP Committee decided to distribute the functions as follows:

Name	Address	Function in the Committee
Leoš Dvořák,	Súdanská 598/5, Vokovice, 160 00 Praha 6, (Republiek Tsjechië)	Treasurer
Claudia Haagen	Paulahofsiedlungsstr. 72, 8600 Bruck (Oostenrijk)	Vice-president

Marisa Michelini	Via Chiusaforte 46/13 33100 Udine (Italië)	President
Willen Peeters	Millegemweg 49, 2531 Boechnout (België)	Vice-president
Dagmara Sokołowska	ul. Św. Faustyny 37, 32-085 Modlniczka (Polen)	Secretary