



World Association for Positive and Transcultural Psychotherapy (WAPP) e.V.

By-laws (Statute)

Preamble

- (1) The Association is committed to a humanistic view of man and is inspired by the knowledge that every person represents “a mine of gems of inestimable value”.
- (2) The Association promotes mutual understanding and tolerance between cultures as a contribution towards the unity of mankind in its multi-dimensionality.
- (3) The Association commits itself to the promotion of the physical, social, emotional, spiritual and mental health of individuals, families and groups.
- (4) The Association was established in 1996 as International Centre for Positive Psychotherapy and in June 2008 converted into the World Association for Positive Psychotherapy. The amendment “and Transcultural” has been added to the Association’s name in August 2016. In 2023 the name was translated into English: World Association for Positive and Transcultural Psychotherapy.

§ 1 Name, headquarter, financial year and date of inception.

The Association is registered in Germany as “World Association for Positive and Transcultural Psychotherapy (WAPP) e.V.”. Its headquarter is situated in Wiesbaden, Germany. The financial year coincides with the calendar year. These by-laws become effective as soon as the Association is formally registered.

§ 2 Purpose, goals and mission

- (1) The purpose of the Association is the worldwide promotion of psychotherapy with an emphasis on Positive Psychotherapy. The Association is the supreme authority of Positive Psychotherapy worldwide. The Association pursues these goals more specifically through:
 - a. As all-encompassing international Association it will co-ordinate and manage issues of Positive Psychotherapy worldwide.
 - b. Nurturing, developing and expanding Positive Psychotherapy in conjunction with Transcultural Psychotherapy, Family Therapy and Psychosomatic Medicine, focusing on training, service delivery, research and further development of theoretical concepts with due consideration given to scientific standards and ethical norms.
 - c. Organising scientific meetings, seminars and conferences locally and internationally.
 - d. Publication of an international journal and an information bulletin for all members.
 - e. To support and mentor, especially younger, scientists and psychotherapists with particular emphasis on those from economically less advantaged countries and regions.
 - f. The establishment of Centres and Associations of Positive Psychotherapy at local, regional and national levels in and beyond the borders of Germany.
 - g. Publication of literature on Positive Psychotherapy and related subjects in different languages by means of books, journals and bulletins.
 - h. Co-operation with institutions and organisations, which pursue similar goals.
- (2) The Association shall be registered legally as a non-profit organization.
- (3) The Association operates as a non-profit organisation; it does not primarily pursue self-enriching purposes.
- (4) Proceeds may only be used for purposes as laid down by the by-laws. Individual members do not receive financial contributions from the proceeds of the Association.
- (5) The Association engages exclusively and directly in activities of general benefit in line with the paragraph “purposes which qualify for tax relief” of the income tax laws.



§ 3 Membership

- (1) The Association has ordinary and extra-ordinary members. Membership is open to natural and legal persons.
- (2) Ordinary members may be natural persons inside or outside Germany who have completed a basic, state-recognised psychotherapeutic training or an additional psychotherapeutic training, and who have also successfully completed a WAPP approved basic training in Positive Psychotherapy (Basic Training Programme) of at least 120 hours.
- (3) National Organisations of Positive Psychotherapy or Centres for Positive Psychotherapy, being legal persons, automatically qualify as ordinary members.
- (4) Only ordinary members can vote.
- (5) Extra-ordinary membership is open to every natural and legal person who supports the tasks and goals of the Association.
- (6) To gain membership a letter of application needs to be addressed to the Board for Positive Psychotherapy, which will decide on the applicant's admittance.
- (7) Membership ceases on death or cancellation of the membership. Cancellation of membership is possible at the end of each calendar year and has to be addressed to the Board in writing. Members who cancel their membership have no legal claim to any financial assets of the Association.
- (8) The Board can nominate individuals as honorary members based on their contribution to the development and promotion of Positive Psychotherapy. These members have full voting rights and are exempted from paying membership fees for life.
- (9) The Board can nominate an individual as honorary president based on unique, long-term contributions towards the advancement of Positive Psychotherapy.

§ 4 Membership fees and the use of financial resources

- (1) Membership fees for individual members will be determined by the Board. Particular consideration will be given to equitable membership fees for individuals from economically depressed regions and countries.
- (2) Financial support of members and non-members (sponsoring) by individuals who are able to do so should be promoted and encouraged.
- (3) Financial resources of Associations may only be used for purposes, which are in line with the letter and spirit of the by-laws. Individual members do not receive financial assistance from the Association.
- (4) No person may benefit from financial resources for purposes that are not compatible with the goals of the Association or which are regarded as being excessive.

§5 Organisational structures

- (1) The Association consists of the Board of Directors and the assembly of members.
- (2) The Board of Directors
 - a. Is responsible for the implementation and achievement of the tasks and goals of the Association as set out in §2 of the by-laws. The Board of Directors conducts the business of the Association according to §§ 26 BGB. The Board of Directors calls for meetings.
 - b. According to §§ 26 BGB the Board of Directors consists of at least 7 members. Before the election, the Board of Directors will determine the exact number of members as required and communicated. Two Board members together represent the Association judicially and extra-judicially.
 - c. Members of the Board of Directors are voted in at the general assembly of members. Members of the Board of Directors serve for 2 years. Re-election of the members of the Board of Directors is possible. Members are voted in on the basis of the number of votes they receive. The election of the board of directors can take place in-person at the general assembly as well as by postal vote or online via a suitable online election portal.
 - d. In case of resignation/retirement/expulsion or death of a member of the Board of Directors, a substitute is voted in at the next general assembly of members.



- e. The Board of Directors appoints or votes for its president and own office bearers, decides on allocation of duties amongst Board members and determines its own agenda. The Board of Directors can nominate special committees and working groups as required. The Board of Directors can also delegate specific tasks to individuals and invite them to attend Board meetings.
 - f. The president conducts the meetings but does not have any powers beyond those of the other Board members. He or she is substituted by the vice-president.
 - g. In the case of Board members transgressing the aims of the Association or other ethical-moral principles, or being found guilty of criminal transgressions, the Board of Directors can expel such a member or any other member of the Association with immediate effect if the majority of Board members vote in favour of such a step.
 - h. The honorary president takes part in the meetings of the Board of Directors and has full voting rights.
 - i. Board meetings as well as meetings of committees and working groups can take place in-person, online or hybrid.
- (3) The general member assembly of the WAPP
- a. The general member assembly of the WAPP has the following functions:
 - i. Creation and appointment of working groups and committees relating to specific topics or problems.
 - ii. Discussing the activities of the association and passing recommendations on to the Board of Directors.
 - b. The Board of Directors annually calls for an ordinary member assembly of the WAPP. Extraordinary member assemblies of the WAPP can be called for, if it is in the interest of the Association or if a 3rd of all the members ask for a meeting to be held, stating in writing the reasons and aims of the assembly to be held and submitting this request to the Board of Directors. Member assemblies can take place both in-person or online. The Board of Directors decides on this at its own discretion and informs the members of this in the invitation. The regulation of § 32 paragraph 2 BGB remains unaffected. Virtual member assemblies are held in a members-only chat room. The members must register with their data and a separate password. The password is only valid for one virtual general meeting. Members who have registered their e-mail address with the association will receive the password in a separate e-mail, the other members will receive the password in a letter. It is sufficient to send the password two days before the general meeting to the (email) address last known to the association or one week before the meeting to the postal address last known to the association. Members are obliged to keep the password secret. Passing it on to other people is not permitted.
 - c. Members are informed in writing (by post, fax or e-mail) of assemblies and receive the agenda at least 4 weeks prior to the due date. The president of the Board of Directors or another Board member chairs the member assembly.
 - d. Every formally constituted assembly can take decisions. Decisions are taken according to a majority vote. A change in the by-laws and dissolution of the Association requires a two third majority of the members present at the meeting.
 - e. A meeting of members cannot take decisions against the majority vote of the juridical persons (National Association or bigger Centres).
 - f. A protocol about the proceedings of a member assembly has to be written and signed by the leader of the assembly and the person who wrote the protocol.

§ 6 Dissolution

- (1) The dissolution of the Association can only be decided by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the assembly.
- (2) On the dissolution or discontinuing of an Association or if it no longer serves the purpose for which it was constituted, the assets of the Association are transferred to the German Association for Positive and Transcultural Psychotherapy (DGPP) Inc. (Langgasse 38-40, 65183



Wiesbaden, Germany), who will immediately and exclusively use the assets for non-profit or for charitable purposes.

§ 7 Data protection

- (1) In order to fulfill the purposes and tasks of the association, personal data about the personal and factual circumstances of the members of the association are processed in compliance with the requirements of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG).
- (2) Insofar as the requirements described in the respective regulations are met, each association member has the following rights in particular:
 - a. the right to information under Article 15 GDPR,
 - b. the right to rectification under Article 16 GDPR,
 - c. the right to erasure under Article 17 GDPR,
 - d. the right to restriction of processing under Article 18 GDPR,
 - e. the right to data portability under Article 20 GDPR and
 - f. the right of objection under Article 21 GDPR.
- (3) The organs of the association, all employees or other persons working for the association are prohibited from processing, disclosing, making available to third parties, or otherwise using personal data without authorization for purposes other than the fulfillment of the respective task. This obligation also exists after the above-mentioned persons have left the association.

Version of the by-laws according to the decisions of the general assemblies of 24 June 2008, 4 September 2008, 19 August 2016, and 21 June 2023.