

# ***Statute of the "New Pythagorean School" Association***

## **PREAMBLE**

The figure of Pythagoras is commonly associated only with geometry and numbers, but in fact his teachings tend to harmoniously unify the emotional and spiritual with the rational side of the human being.

*Around 530 BC, Pythagoras left the Greek island of Samos, dominated by the tyrant Polycrates, and came to settle in Croton which he had visited with his father at a young age<sup>1</sup>. Here he opened his school that united life practices with scientific and philosophical speculation. Thanks to these life practices, the all of Italy (that is the actual Calabria) was given the name of Magna Graecia and a large number of philosophers, poets and legislators were born. Arts... and written legislation passed from here to Greece<sup>2</sup>.*

The success of the Pythagorean School in the ancient world derived from the synthesis, made by Pythagoras, of the cultures of peoples where he had lived: Greeks, Syrians, Jews, Egyptians, Babylonians and Persians. That synthesis he then conjugated to the values practiced by Italics: freedom of slaves, communion of goods, vegetarianism, non-competitiveness, friendship, thus laying the foundations of rationality and social organization. Thus the School was born and Great Greece started to develop.

Southern Italy, and the current Calabria in particular, suffered from then on a relentless decline until the current degradation. This can mainly be attributed to the loss of identity due to the numerous occupations and foreign domination that violated all the Italic and Pythagorean principles: Hannibal, Pyrrhus, Romans, Goths, Longobards, Byzantines, Arabs, Saracens, Normans, Angevins, Aragonese, and Spanish...

Today, some women and men want to bring to light the cultural treasure hidden under the ruins of the decay. This project is not animated by a desire to return to the past nor by the spirit of revenge, but is dictated by the will to make the Earth a common home for all people, overcoming the divisions and struggles generated by religion, politics, race and sex. Just for this purpose, ancient and found again, the NSP rises from its ashes in the place that saw its birth: Croton.

## **ART. 1 - NAME AND LOCATION**

The association, called "Nuova Scuola Pitagorica", abbreviated NSP (New Pythagorean School), based in Croton, has been created by the founders.

The Management Board has the power to set up operational headquarters in any part of the world and to transfer the location of the registered office, provided it remains within the area of Croton.

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<sup>1</sup> Porphyry, The Life of Pythagoras, cap.2

<sup>2</sup> Iamblichus, The Pythagorean Life, cap.166

## **ART. 2 - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Association is a private nonprofit institution.

The NSP aims to promote knowledge, information, friendship and participation inspired by the model developed by Pythagoras to live in harmony with yourself, with others and with nature; intends to elaborate ideas, projects and proposals to help improve the quality of life in every situation, geographical and social context. As Pythagoras used a multi scientific approach to promote harmony and health, so the NSP plans to use the study and research for the understanding of the deep roots of human behavior. The NSP has no truth to spread nor precepts to give, but intends to use knowledge and consciousness as a mean to resolve conflicts within the person and the society. To achieve this purpose, the NSP aims in particular to support the creation of a "*World Antiviolence Academy*" for the study and prevention of human violence, an initiative involving experts from all cultural, social and geographical backgrounds.

Violence is an ancient evil that has proliferated in all forms: cultural, religious, social, family, productive, military, behavioral and sexual, but there still does not exist a world center dedicated to the promotion and coordination of studies on violence. This initiative comes from Crotona as a continuation of the great project begun by Pythagoras but forgotten for over two millennia.

Primarily, the NSP wants to promote the active role of women, which Pythagoras accepted in his school in Crotona alongside men and which united into a women's association for him<sup>3</sup>. The participation of women in the management of power to even become leaders of governments, can be considered the main gauge of the operating effectiveness of the NSP.

To this end, the NSP takes all initiatives and will do everything deemed necessary and may in particular:

1. Promote direct or indirect fund-raising to be used, together with the income from the management of assets, for projects and initiatives in support of the aforementioned purposes.
2. Collaborate with other private or public entities.
3. Implement forms of collaboration and integration of projects with non-profit organizations that work to increase civic, cultural and social systems.

The Association can also carry out all activities related or subsidiary to the statutory ones as integrative of the same, unless they are incompatible with its purposes and objectives and are realized to the extent permitted by law.

## **ART. 3 - CAPITAL AND CASH ACCOUNTS**

The assets of the NSP consist of the initial endowment fund given by the founders during the set-up.

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<sup>3</sup> Porphyry, The Life of Pythagoras, cap.18

Such assets may be increased and/or fed by property and valuables that may be purchased and/or acquired by bequests and donations.

The Association intends to achieve its goals by using:

1. The resources from the assets to the extent that a residual amount remains after payment of fees and taxes necessary to the constitution.
2. The periodical and voluntary transfers paid by members.
3. Any contributions and donations from third parties.

The Management Board will invest the money as it deems appropriate in order to secure and enable the achievement of goals and objectives.

#### **ART. 4 - ENTITIES OF NSP**

Entities of the Association are:

1. The Assembly
2. The Management Board (MB)
3. The President
4. The Scholarch
5. The Auditors Board (AB)

#### **ART. 5 - MEMBERS ASSEMBLY**

The Assembly is the sovereign entity of the Association and consists of all the registered members.

All active members have the right to attend both ordinary and extraordinary assemblies.

The Assembly is convened in ordinary session at least once a year for the approval of the balance sheet of the previous year, for the possible renewal of the corporate offices and for the submission of the budget for the current year.

The Assembly may also be convened as ordinary or extraordinary:

- a) At the decision of the majority of the MB.
- b) At the request of at least one third of the members. The request must be addressed to the President.

## **ART. 6 - ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY**

The ordinary and extraordinary assemblies shall be convened by the President through an invitation sent to all members by letter, email or other means. In his absence or impediment, the meetings shall be convened by the Vice President or the senior member of the Board, with a notice of at least ten days. In an emergency situation, the notice may be reduced to five days.

The ordinary assembly is validly constituted, on first call, with the presence of at least half and one of the members entitled to vote, and decides by a majority of those present. The ordinary assembly on second call shall be effective regardless of the number of members present.

The Assembly in extraordinary session is validly constituted with the same quorum of the ordinary on first call and decides with the majority of those present.

The representation by proxy in writing is allowed but has to be given exclusively to another member: it is prohibited to cumulate more than five proxies in one person. For resolutions relating to the approval of the balance sheet, the proxy cannot be granted to members who are also members of the MB.

The assembly is chaired by the President or, in his absence, the Vice President and, failing that, by a person designated by the Assembly.

The President may, when it seems appropriate, call a notary to prepare the minutes of the meeting, the latter acting as secretary.

The Assembly normally votes by a show of hands; on decision of the President, for topics of particular importance, the vote can be made in a written ballot. The President may also, in this case, choose one or more scrutineers among those present.

The Assembly has the following tasks:

a) Ordinary:

1. Elect the Management Board and the Auditors Board.
2. Discuss and vote on the final balance sheet and the reports of the MB.
3. Deliberate on the general guidelines of the Association, the activities carried out or to be carried out in the various fields of its competence.
4. Deliberate on any ordinary matters submitted for its approval by the MB.

b) Extraordinary:

1. Deliberate the dissolution of the Association
2. Deliberate on proposals to amend the Articles of the Statute of the Association.
3. Deliberate on any other extraordinary matter submitted for its approval by the MB.

The minutes of the deliberations of the Assembly will have to be transcribed, in chronological order, in a special register and shall be signed by the President and by the minute-taker.

#### **ART. 7 - MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Management Board (MB) is composed of a number of members not less than three and not more than nine, appointed by the members.

The MB will remain in office for three years and will end on the date of the general assembly to approve the balance sheet for the third year of operation; its members may be reappointed.

In the event of resignation or termination of one or more Board members, provided there is not a sufficient number to constitute a majority, the Board shall replace them by substituting them with the first non-elected; for any other reason the appointment will be entrusted to the Assembly.

These so appointed members shall terminate together with those already in office.

The MB elects the President and the Vice President, who will take over the functions and powers of the President in case of his absence or impediment.

The MB automatically terminates and is dissolved in the event of resignation of the majority of its members. Within a period of two months after the dissolution, the Board will be reconstituted by the members, by convocation of the outgoing President or, in his absence, the Vice President or, in his absence, by the senior member.

#### **ART. 8 - POWERS OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The MB has all powers necessary for the ordinary and extraordinary management of the Association and in particular to:

1. Approve each year of the budget for the following year and the balance sheet of the previous year to be presented to the members for final ratification.
2. Deliberate the financial contribution to ask the members.
3. Deliberate acceptance of contributions, donations and legacies, and the acquisition and transfer of property and valuables.
4. Deliberate the accrual of assets.
5. Make the most safe and convenient use of assets or real estate property.
6. Deliberate on agreements of cooperation between the Association and other organizations or individuals.

7. Appoint the President and Vice President.
8. Provide and appoint one Scholarch, the Head of NSP.
9. Evaluate the applications for admission of new members.
10. Communicate exclusion of members and approves the final decision together with the Board for any appeal.
11. Hire and dismiss any staff and determine the legal and economic issues.
12. Provide the establishment and the arrangement of the offices of the Association.
13. Deliberate the powers and duties it considers appropriate for the President in addition to those already due to him by statute.
14. Deliberate any regulations.
15. Deliberate with the presence and the favorable vote of at least two-thirds of its members, amendments to the Statutes to be approved by the Assembly.
16. Deliberate on the proposal of transformation or dissolution of the Association according to Art. 17.

#### **ART. 9 - OPERATION OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Management Board normally meets in ordinary session four times a year and in extraordinary session whenever the President deems it necessary or when a meeting is requested by half of its members. The meeting is convened by the President by written invitation stating the relative agenda and may be sent by letter, email or any other suitable mean at least seven days before the deadline. In urgent cases, the Management Board may be convened with a 48-hour notice before the meeting by any technical means provided.

The Management Board has a quorum with the presence of at least half of the members and resolutions are adopted by an absolute majority of those present, by open voting. In case of a tie, the vote of the President breaks the tie. The vote cannot be given by proxy.

The minutes of the deliberations of the Management Board shall be transcribed, in chronological order, in a special register and must be signed by the President and the Secretary.

#### **ART. 10 - THE PRESIDENT**

The President has the legal representation of the Association towards third parties and in court. In addition, the President:

1. Calls and chairs the Management Board, proposing the agenda to be discussed in the meetings.
2. Signs documents and whatever necessary for the actualization of all matters approved.
3. Surveys the good administration of the Association, to achieve which he has all necessary powers of ordinary administration and legal representation of the institution.
4. Takes care of compliance with the Statute and promotes its reform, if it becomes necessary.
5. Foresees the execution of the resolutions of the Assembly and relates to the guardianship authorities.

In case of absence or inability of the President, the Vice President or the senior member of the Board takes his place. The President remains in office for four years and may be reappointed regardless of previous mandates.

#### **ART. 11 - THE SCHOLARCH**

The Scholarch is the main coordinator and organizer of the NSP. He will have to develop and propose the scientific part of the research, and will create and maintain contacts with national and international scholars and scientific institutions. He can equip himself with a committee of support to help his work in accordance and with the ratification of the Management Board. In addition, the Scholarch attends both open and restricted assemblies of the entities of the Association; promotes initiatives, projects, discussions and actions to be submitted to the Board of which he is a member by right.

The Scholarch is appointed by the MB and shall hold office indefinitely, or until apparent impediments, resignation, or revocation, in exceptional cases, due to acts that go against the laws or the Statutes. In any case, the Board shall, within thirty days, appoint a permanent or temporary substitute.

The Scholarch will be chosen without any discrimination of sex, religion, ethnicity or nationality, with no bias, just according to the cultural competence and commitment to the mission.

#### **ART. 12 - AUDITORS BOARD**

The Auditors Board (AB) may be composed of one or more members appointed by the members attending the elective meeting. The auditors shall remain in office three years and may be reappointed.

The task of the AB is to monitor the proper functioning of the Association in all relevant sectors and express opinions on disputes between members of the Association or between the same members if they require assistance. Evaluates appeals in case of exclusion of members and presents its conclusions to the MB that, according to the investigation, decides what action to take.

#### **ART. 13 - ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Men and women are admitted as members without any discrimination as well as public or private persons, institutions, associations, foundations and national and international entities. The aspiring member must submit an application to the Association. The MB processes, evaluates and ratifies the approval or not of applications.

Any member may resign and terminate their membership at any time and without any reason by submitting a formal written notice to the MB.

#### **ART. 14 - EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS**

Any member of the Association who carries out activities incompatible with the way of life required by the NSP can be excluded from the list of members with written notice. This exclusion may be appealed stating the reasons and possible justifications, within thirty days, to the AB and for information only to the MB. The AB and MB may hold joint meetings and express a final opinion within sixty days.

#### **ART. 15 - FINANCIAL YEAR**

The financial year of the Association begins on January 1 and ends on December 31.

#### **ART. 16 - ALLOCATION OF NET INCOME AND SURPLUS**

Profits or surpluses are used for statutory activities. The Association is forbidden to distribute, even indirectly, profits or operating surpluses, funds, reserves or equity during the life of the Association.

#### **ART. 17 - TRANSFORMATION AND TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The MB, with three-quarters majority, will propose to the assembly the dissolution or the transformation of the Association, if it considers exhausted or unreachable the statutory purposes. In the event of the dissolution of the Association, one or more liquidators will be appointed with the necessary powers. The funds remaining at the end of the liquidation will be donated to organizations, designated by the MB, whose purpose and objectives are similar to the Association, or any other entity having the same aims.

#### **ART. 18 - APPLICABLE LAWS**

The current laws shall apply for matters not expressly provided in this Statute.