

STATUTES GOVERNMENT COUNCIL FOR NON-STATE NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

Article 1 Introductory provisions

- (1) The Government Council for Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organisations is a permanent advisory, initiating and coordinating body of the Government in the field of non-governmental non-profit organisations (hereinafter referred to as "NNO").
- (2) The Council was established by Government Resolution No. 428 of 10 1992 as the Council for Foundations, and by Government Resolution No. of 30 March 1998 it was subsequently transformed into the Government Council for Non-State Non-Profit Organisations (hereinafter referred to as the Council).

Article 2 Scope

- (1) In its activities, the Council concentrates and discusses materials concerning NGOs and relating to the creation of a suitable environment for their existence and activities. At the same time, the Council contributes to the enhancement of mutual respect, respect in society and the promotion of human rights.
- (2) In particular, the Council shall perform the following tasks:
 - a) initiates and assesses conceptual and implementation documents for government decisions concerning support for NGOs, legislative and policy measures concerning the conditions for their activities,
 - b) monitors, initiates and comments on legislation regulating the status and activities of NGOs, and comments on proposals for legislation related to NGOs,
 - c) initiates cooperation between ministries, other administrative authorities and local authorities in the field of support for NGOs, including subsidy policy from public budgets,
 - d) monitors, analyses and publishes information on the position of NGOs within the European Union (hereinafter referred to as the "EU"), on the Czech Republic's involvement in the EU with regard to NGOs and on related financial resources, and cooperates with ministries and other administrative authorities responsible for the management of EU financial resources in the Czech Republic, insofar as their use relates to NGOs,
 - e) in cooperation with ministries, other administrative authorities, NGOs and other bodies and institutions, including private sector bodies and institutions, ensure the availability and publication of information on NGOs and on state policy measures NGOs, including information on public and private funding of NGO activities,
 - f) participates in measures taken by ministries and other administrative authorities related to NGOs, especially in the process of standardisation of activities, allocation of accreditations and categorisation of types of NGOs,
- (3) The Council shall submit its outputs under this Article to the Government for through the Chairman or Chairman (hereinafter referred to as "Chairman") of the Council or to the relevant members (hereinafter referred to as "Member") of the Government and the heads of other central government bodies.

Article 3 Composition of the Council

- (1) The Council shall have a maximum of 36 members, consisting of the Chairman of the Council, two Vice-Chairmen or Vice-Chairwomen (hereinafter referred to as "Vice-Chairman") of the Council and other members.
- (2) The chair is a member of the government with responsibility for the human rights agenda. In the event that no member of the Government is in charge of this agenda, the President of the Government shall be the Chairperson of the Council. The First Vice-Chairperson shall be the Government Commissioner or Commissioner (hereinafter referred to as the "Commissioner") for Human Rights. The Second Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed and removed by the President of the Council after consultation in the Council, normally from among the members referred to in paragraph 3(b).
- (3) The other members of the Council are:
 - a) Representatives (hereinafter referred to as "representatives") of central bodies, specifically (as appropriate):
 - i) Deputy Ministers or Deputy , Chief Directors or Section Directors or State Secretaries and Secretaries of the Ministries of Finance, Culture, Defence, Labour and Social Affairs, Local Development, Industry and Trade, Education, Youth and Sports, Interior, Justice, Foreign Affairs, Health, Agriculture and Environment,
 - ii) Head of the Office of the Government of the Czech ,
 - iii) a representative of the National Sports Agency at the level of Vice-Chairman,
 - b) representatives of the civil and professional community and academia working in the field of the non-profit sector who, through their knowledge, experience and moral character, can contribute to the fulfilment of the Council's tasks under Article 2(1).
 - c) a representative of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic at the level of mayor or deputy mayor.
- (4) The members of the Council referred to in paragraph 3(a) and (c) shall be appointed and dismissed by the President of the Council on the basis of proposals by the relevant members of the Government (or other authorised persons), unless their membership arises directly from the exercise of their functions. The members of the Council referred to in paragraph 3(b) shall be appointed and removed by the Government on the basis of proposals by the President of the Council. The selection of these members from candidates meeting the conditions of paragraph 3(b) shall be made in an open and participatory manner.
- (5) The term of office of the members of the Council referred to in paragraph 3(a) and (c) shall be for the duration of their term of office, unless terminated earlier in accordance with paragraph 7. Reappointments shall be limited to two consecutive terms.
- (6) The members of the Council referred to in paragraph 3(a) and (c) may have representatives appointed by the President of the Council. In the of the absence of a member of the Council from a Council meeting, his/her representative shall attend the Council meeting with the right to vote.
- (7) Membership of the Council shall cease:
 - a) in the case of members of the government, by ceasing to hold office,

- b) in the case of members referred to in paragraph 3(a) and (c), by termination of their ,
- c) in the case of members referred to in paragraph 3(b), the end of the term of office referred to in paragraph 5,
- d) resignation of a member by written notice to the President of the Council,
- e) by the death of a member,
- f) by removing a member.

Article 4

President and Vice-Presidents of the Council

(1) President of the Council

- a) manages the Council's activities and represents it externally,
- b) convene and chair meetings of the Council at least twice a year,
- c) submits the Council's material to the Government,
- d) is responsible to the Government for the Council's activities.

(2) In addition, the President of the Council shall, in particular

- a) in cooperation with the Council Secretariat, propose the agenda for the Council meeting and decide on the invitation of guests or external collaborators as referred to in Article 9 to attend the Council meeting,
- b) Submits draft Council materials to Council members for consideration and approval,
- c) appoint and dismiss the members of the Council referred to in Article 3(3)(a) and (c),
- d) establish and abolish Council Committees or Council Working Groups after approval by the Council,
- e) Appoint and remove the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other members of the Council Committee, Council Working Groups and the Grants Committee as provided for in Article 8,
- f) appoint and dismiss the Secretary or Secretary (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") of the Council,
- g) coordinate the activities and tasks of the Council, Council Committees and Council Working Groups within their respective areas of competence in accordance with Article 2.

(3) The President of the Council may, temporarily or in the long term, delegate the convening and chairing of meetings of the Council and any other activities specified in these Statutes to one or both Vice-Presidents of the Council. The Vice-Chairman in charge shall then represent the Council externally. In the event of such delegation, the President of the Council shall continue to chair at least one Council meeting per year.

Article 5 Members of the Council

- (1) A member of the Council shall attend meetings of the Council in person. If a member of the Council is unable to attend a Council meeting in person for worthy of special consideration, he/she shall inform the President of the Council through the Council Secretariat. If a member of the Council referred to in Article 3(3)(a) and (c) does not have a permanent representative in accordance with Article 3(6), he may authorise in writing a representative from the same with the right to vote at the Council to attend the meeting. If a member of the Council referred to in Article 3(3)(b) fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings, he may be removed from his position by the Government.
- (2) A member of the Council shall actively participate in the work of the Council, contribute to its objectives and speak at its meetings in accordance with those objectives. A member of the Council shall also carry out the tasks imposed by the resolutions adopted by the Council.
- (3) Members of the Council, in cooperation with the President and the Secretary of the Council, may propose items on the agenda of the Council meeting that are aimed at fulfilling its tasks. Members of the Council may also participate in any meeting of the Committee or Working Group of the Council.
- (4) Members of the Council and its Committees and Working Groups may, through the Council Secretariat and within the scope of the Council's competence, request information and opinions from central government bodies, including those not represented on the Council, from other government bodies and from organisations and institutions subordinate to government bodies.
- (5) Members of the Council may, in exceptional circumstances, request the President of the Council to convene a meeting of the Council if at least one third of them agree. The President of the Council or, in his absence, the Vice-President of the Council shall then convene the meeting so that it takes place within four weeks of the request.

Article 6 Council committees

- (1) Council Committees (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") are generally permanent working bodies of the Council, whose task is to deal with sub-issues within the Council's area of competence, where this is necessary for its work. Committees shall be established and dissolved by the President of the Council on his/her proposal and after approval by the Council. A maximum of Committees may be established which, together with the number of Working Groups referred to in Article 7, shall be in with the capacities and possibilities of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as the "Office of the Government").
- (2) The Committees shall, in particular, prepare documents and proposals for partial and systemic measures for the Council and shall carry out other tasks entrusted to them by the Council.
- (3) The Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President of the Council. The members of the Council Committees shall always be experts in the area of the Council Committee concerned.
- (4) Meetings of the Council Committee shall be held as required. A meeting of the Council Committee shall be convened by its Chairman.
- (5) The Committee shall be governed by its statutes, which shall be approved by the Council.

**Article 7 Council
Working Groups**

- (1) Council Working Groups (hereinafter referred to as "Working ") are, as a rule, temporary bodies of the Council, whose task is to deal with partial issues within the Council's area of competence, if necessary for the Council's work, on the basis of a mandate defined by the Council. Working Parties shall be established and dissolved by the President of the Council on a proposal from the President of the Council and after approval by the Council. Working parties shall normally be set up for a specific period not exceeding two years. A maximum number of Working Groups may be established which, together with the number of Committees established under Article 6, shall be consistent with the capacity and capabilities of the Government Office.
- (2) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Working Group shall be appointed by the President of the Council, normally on the proposal of the members of the Council.
- (3) The Working Party shall not draw up its own statutes and shall be governed by the Council Statutes or the Committee Statutes, as appropriate.
- (4) Council Working Group meetings are held as required. A meeting of the Council Working Group shall be convened by its Chairperson. The Working Party shall normally meet informally and seek to reach consensus in its decision-making.

**Article 8
Grant Commission**

- (1) The Council establishes a Grants Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") under the Grant Program Supporting Statewide Interdisciplinary Networks to review and evaluate projects submitted under this program. The results of the examination of grant applications approved by the Commission shall form the basis for individual grant decisions.
- (2) The members of the Commission and the Chairperson of the Commission shall be appointed by the President of the Council on a proposal from the Council Secretariat.

**Article 9
External collaborators**

- (1) The Chairperson of the Council may request the cooperation of external collaborators (hereinafter referred to as "external collaborator") who are not members of the Council. In particular, an external collaborator may be an employee of the public administration or another expert or specialist in a particular relevant field who is not a member of the Council.
- (2) An external collaborator may
 - a) participate in the Council, the Committee or the Working Party as a permanent guest, or
 - b) Attend a meeting of the Council, a Committee or a Working Group at the invitation of its Chairperson as a guest on a particular issue.

- (3) The rules governing the activities of members of the Council, its Committees and Working Groups shall apply mutatis mutandis to external collaborators.

Article 10 Secretariat of the Council

- (1) The activities of the Council, including its Committees and Working Groups, are ensured by the Council Secretariat, which is a specialist workplace for NGOs, the relationship of the state administration to NGOs and other issues within the scope of the Council. The Secretariat of the Council is organizationally integrated into the Department of Human Rights and Minority Protection of the Office of the Government and consists of the Secretary of the Council and other staff members who generally provide organizational and administrative support for the activities of the Council's Committees and Working Groups.
- (2) The Council Secretariat ensures the professional performance of the Council's tasks, in particular
- a) administrative and organisational support for the activities of the Council, its Committees, Working Groups and the Commission, including the agenda and preparation of their meetings,
 - b) on the basis of the instructions of the President of the Council or the Vice-Presidents of the Council, monitors and concentrates information necessary for the Council's activities and prepares strategic documents and expert documents for the meetings of the Council or its President on legislative and political measures concerning the status and functioning of NGOs,
 - c) publishes on the website of the Office of the Government up-to-date information about the Council, in particular the list of Council members, information on the Council's activities, the valid and complete version of the Council Statute, the Rules of Procedure and information on the established Committees and Working Groups.
 - d) draw up and publish an annual report on the Council's activities for the past calendar year.
- (3) The Secretary of the Council shall attend meetings of the Council in an advisory capacity and may make proposals and express his/her views on matters under discussion; he/she shall always express his/her views on a proposal to establish or abolish a Committee or Working Group of the Council. The same powers shall be exercised by the head of the separate organisational unit to which the Council Secretariat is attached. The Secretary of the Council shall be responsible for the performance of the tasks of the Council Secretariat.

Article 11 Activity costs and remuneration

- (1) The costs of the Council's activities are covered by the budget of the Government Office. Meetings of the Council and its Committees and Working Groups are usually held at the premises of the Government Office.
- (2) Members of the Council, its Committees, Working Groups and the Commission shall be entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses incurred in connection with meetings of the Council, its Committees, Working Groups or the Commission in accordance with the law. Travel shall be authorised by the senior staff member authorised to authorise travel in accordance with the rules of the Government Office. Reimbursement of travel expenses in connection with meetings of the Council, its Committees, Working Groups or Commission shall be governed by the rules of the Government Office.

- (3) Members of the Council, Council Committees or Working Groups and Council Commissions are not entitled to remuneration for the performance of their duties. Remuneration shall be due, in accordance with the applicable legislation, to those members of the Council, its Committees, Working Groups and Commissions for work which they are demonstrably performing for the Council on the basis of a written order or an agreement for work outside the employment relationship¹ in accordance with the regulations of the Government Office.

Article 12 Rules of Procedure of the Council

The Rules of Procedure of the Council shall regulate the manner in which the Council meets. The Rules of Procedure and amendments thereto shall always be approved by the Council. Committees, Working Groups and Commissions may have their own rules of procedure. Otherwise, they shall be governed by the Council's Rules of Procedure as appropriate.

Article 13 Final Provisions

- (1) This Statute shall come into force on 30 October 2024, subject to the approval of the Government by Resolution No. 767 of 30 October 2024.
- (2) Amendments to this Statute shall be approved by the Government.
- (3) This Statute and the Rules of Procedure of the Council established by it are available to the public on the website and at the seat of the Government Office. The complete and valid version of the Statute and the Rules of Procedure of the Council shall always be published on the website.

¹ agreement on the performance of work, agreement on work activity