

Statutes of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG) e.V.

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Disclaimer on the English Translation

The English translation is provided for information and convenience only. Only the current German version of this document is legally authoritative and binding.

I. Purpose and Activities

§1 The Society shall bear the name „Deutsche Mineralogische Gesellschaft (e.V.)“ (DMG) translated to German Mineralogical Society. Its registered office shall be in Bonn, where it is entered in the Register of Associations (Vereinsregister). The financial year shall coincide with the calendar year.

The DMG shall pursue exclusively and directly charitable purpose within the meaning of section “tax-privileged purposes” of the German Fiscal Code (Abgabenordnung). The Society's sole purpose is to promote the science of mineralogy in all its fields of teaching and research and to foster personal and scientific relationships among its members.

This purpose shall be pursued, inter alia, through:

- ▶ Organizing scientific conferences and field excursions to promote the comprehensive exchange of scientific knowledge in all areas of mineralogy;
- ▶ Organizing workshops and training courses addressing current issues in mineralogical teaching and research, in particular for continuing professional development and specialization training of early career scientists;
- ▶ Publishing scientific journals;
- ▶ Representing the scientific organizational and institutional interests of the discipline before the public and public authorities;
- ▶ Contributing to and promoting mineralogical education in schools and higher educational institutions.

§2 The DMG shall operate exclusively on a nonprofit basis and shall not primarily pursue its own economic interests.

§3 The funds of the DMG may be used solely for the purposes set out in these Statutes. Members shall receive no distribution or other benefits from the Society's funds.

§4 No person shall benefit from expenditure unrelated to the Society's purposes or from disproportionately high remuneration.

§5 In the event of the dissolution or termination of the DMG or if its charitable status ceases to apply, its assets shall pass to the "Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V." (German Research Foundation), which shall use them directly and exclusively for charitable purposes.

§6 The DMG shall be organized into the following four Sections:

- ▶ Crystallography
- ▶ Geochemistry
- ▶ Petrology and Petrophysics
- ▶ Applied Mineralogy.

To promote particular areas of scientific interests, the Society may establish Working Groups by resolution of the General Assembly. As a rule, such Working Groups shall operate across Section boundaries. The following Working Groups currently exist:

- ▶ Working Group on Mineralogical Museums and Collections
- ▶ Working Group on Archaeometry and Heritage Conservation
- ▶ Working Group on Raw Materials Research
- ▶ Working Group on Schools and Higher Education

The Sections and Working Groups of the DMG shall advance research and promote coordination within their respective fields in accordance with the objectives of the Society. Their Chairs shall report to the Executive Board and submit proposals for consideration. The Sections and Working Groups shall actively contribute to the organization of the DMG Annual Assembly. They may also hold meetings of their members and organize scientific conferences independently of the Annual Assembly. In addition, focused Project Groups may be established by resolution of the Executive Board. The Executive Board may also establish committees with fixed terms of office, in contrast to the Society's standing prize committees.

The Society's early-career members, known as the YoungMineralogists (YoungMins), shall organize themselves independently within the Society. The YoungMins shall have the status of a Working Group of the DMG.

The DMG may conclude association agreements with other scientific societies, including, where appropriate, reciprocal representation of their respective Executive Boards.

§7 This Society shall organize Annual General Assemblies, scientific conferences, courses and field excursions. It shall publish scientific journals, either independently or jointly with other scientific societies. The publication of which should in each case be governed by contractual agreements. The publications available to members and the conditions under which they are supplied shall be set out in the Membership Subscription Regulation (§11).

§8 To promote the development of early-career scientists, the Society shall maintain the following dedicated funds:

(1) The DMG Early-Career Scientists fund shall provide financial support for the education and training of early-career scientists and for the dissemination of their scientific work.

(2) The Victor-Moritz-Goldschmidt fund shall provide the financial resources for the Victor-Moritz-Goldschmidt award, which is awarded to early-career scientists.

(3) The Paul-Ramdohr fund shall finance the Paul-Ramdohr award, which recognizes outstanding contribution by early-career members presented at the Annual Assembly of the DMG.

(4) The Beate-Mocek fund shall finance the Beate-Mocek award, which recognizes outstanding early-career female members.

The allocation of funds from these dedicated funds shall be governed by separate Regulations, which do not form part of these Statutes. Where necessary, the Executive Board may augment the funds, provided that the Society's financial resources permit this. If no such augmentation is possible, awards and grants shall continue to be made until the respective fund has been exhausted.

II. Membership and the obligations arising therefrom

§9 The Society shall consist of Individual Members and Institutional Members. Any natural person engaged in mineralogy within the meaning of §1 of these Statutes, or in related disciplines, who wishes to participate in and contribute to the activities of the Society may become an Individual Member. Institutes, scientific societies, public authorities, libraries, companies and other organizations may become Institutional Members. All members of the DMG shall belong to one or more Sections. No additional subscription shall be payable for membership of Sections, Working Groups or Project Groups. Applications for membership shall be decided by the Executive Board. Individual members who are undertaking education or training, including doctoral studies, shall constitute the category of Student Members.

§10 The German Mineralogical Society expects its members to uphold, apply, advocate and promote the fundamental values and standards of good scientific practice. Members shall conduct their work in accordance with the current state of scientific knowledge, critically examine their own findings, maintain the highest standards of honesty with regard to the contribution of collaborators, competitors and predecessors, and disclose any conflicts of interest. Members who violate these principles of good scientific practice shall be deemed to have acted contrary to the interests of the DMG.

§11 The annual membership subscription payable by members of the DMG shall be determined by the Membership Subscription Regulations, which do not form part of these Statutes. The Regulations shall be adopted by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Treasurer. Honorary Members shall be exempt from payment of membership subscription to the German Mineralogical Society.

§12 Membership shall cease upon the death of a member, resignation or expulsion from the Society. Notice of resignation must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than 15th of November to take effect at the end of the relevant calendar year. Any member whose annual subscription remains unpaid for two years may be removed from the register of members by resolution of the Executive Board. Expulsion from the Society shall require a majority decision of the Executive Board and shall be permitted only where the member has acted contrary to the interests of the Society. A member who has been expelled shall have the right to appeal to the General Assembly whose decision shall be final.

III. Honours and Awards

§13 The Society may appoint individual members other natural persons as Honorary Members, or confer medals upon them, In recognition of outstanding and exceptional services to the Society or to the science of mineralogy.

To encourage and recognize early career scientists the Society may award prizes annually.

The appointment of Honorary Members and the award of medals shall be governed by the Statutes for Awards of the German Mineralogical Society, which shall be adopted by a $\frac{3}{4}$ -majority of the General Assembly. The award of prizes shall be governed by the DMG Prize Regulations.

IV. Executive Board and Administration

§14 The Executive Board within the meaning of §26 of the German Civil Code (§26 BGB) shall consist of the President, the vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

The Chair of Sections and Working Groups shall serve as ex officio members of the Executive Board. Elected Deputy Chairs of Sections or Working Groups shall be entitled to vote when acting in place of the respective Chair.

A representative of each associated Society, together with the DMG representative appointed to the governing body of the associated Society pursuant to §6 of these Statutes, shall participate in meetings of the Executive Board in an advisory capacity.

The Executive Board shall be assisted by an Advisory Board acting in an advisory capacity. The Advisory Board shall consist of:

- (1) the „Chief Editor“;
- (2) the Public Relations Officer;
- (3) two elected members of the Advisory Board;
- (4) two student members of the Advisory Board.

The members of the Advisory Board referred to in (1) – (3) shall be elected by all DMG members. Deputies may also be elected. The student members of the Advisory Board referred to in (4) shall be elected by the student members of the DMG.

(5) The Executive Board may appoint additional members to the Advisory Board, for example the Bursar or the editors of the DMG website and other DMG publications.

The Executive Board shall appoint representatives of the DMG to other scientific societies and organizations. Wherever possible, DMG representatives appointed to other scientific societies should also be members of that society.

Decisions of the Executive Board shall be taken by a simple majority of those entitled to vote, provided that at least half of those members participate in the vote. In the event of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote, or, in the President's absence, the Vice-President.

Generally, no member of the Executive Board or the Advisory Board may be simultaneously holding two elective offices filled in accordance with §16. Exceptions should require the approval of the General Assembly.

The responsibilities of the Executive Board shall include representing the Society in and out of court, preparing resolutions for consideration by the General Assembly and implementing its decisions, publishing or co-publishing scientific journals and other publications, conducting the day-to-day administration and managing its assets.

Legally binding declarations on behalf of the Society should require the signature of the President, or the Vice-President acting on the President's behalf, together with one additional member of the Executive Board. For filings with the Register of Associations (Vereinsregister), each member of the Executive Board shall have individual signing authority.

For the performance of these duties, the Executive Board may establish an Administrative Office and/or appoint an Executive Director.

§15 Elections to the Executive Board, the Advisory Board and the standing committees, insofar as they are conducted by the members of the DMG, shall be held by secret postal ballot in accordance with the provisions of §16. Elections may also be conducted online. The Secretary, the Treasurer and the elected members of the Advisory Board referred to in §14 (1) – (4), shall each be elected for a term of two years.

The elected President shall serve as Vice-President for one year before taking office and for one year following the completion of the two-year presidential term. The same arrangement shall apply to the deputy Chairs of the Sections. Of the student members and the two other elected members of the Advisory Board, one from each category should retire each year. The secretary, the treasurer and the elected members of the Advisory Board shall be eligible for re-election without restriction. The President of the

DMG and the Chairs of the Sections may not be re-elected to the same office until two years have elapsed following the end of the previous term of office.

Members of the Advisory Board appointed by the Executive Board shall serve for a term of two years and may be reappointed. If an elected member of the Executive Board or Advisory Board leaves office before the end of the term, a by-election shall be held by the earliest possible opportunity for the remainder of the term. In such cases, a single re-election to the same office shall be permitted either for the predecessor of the member leaving office or for the member elected to complete the remainder of the term. Pending the by-election, the Executive Board may appoint an interim representative. The incumbent Executive Board shall have the right to nominate candidates for election to the Executive Board and the Advisory Board. The Sections shall submit their nominations through their respective Chairs for inclusion in the Executive Boards slate of candidates. The Executive Board shall published its nominations before the General Assembly. Additional nominations made at the General Assembly shall be included, if they are supported by at least five members. The terms of office of newly elected members of the Executive Board, the Advisory Board and the Chairs of the Working Groups shall commence on the 1st of January of the first year of the relevant term.

The Chairs of the Working Groups shall be elected by the members of their respective Working Groups for terms of two years and shall be eligible for re-election. Leaders of Project Groups shall be appointed by the Executive Board following nominations by a majority of the members of the respective Project Group.

§16 On the basis of the nominations presented at the General Assembly, elections by postal ballot or online voting shall be conducted in accordance with the DMG Election Regulations. Any amendment to the Election Regulations shall require a $\frac{3}{4}$ -majority of the General Assembly. Following the completion of the election, the members shall be informed of the results within a reasonable.

§17 The President shall convene the Annual General Assembly in text form and shall prepare the agenda. Notice about the meeting and the agenda should be circulated or published, wherever possible, at least two months in advance. A General Assembly duly arranged shall constitute a quorum of at least 50 members, including three members of the Executive Board, are present. Each institutional Member may appoint one representative to exercise their voting rights. No person attending the assembly may cast more than one vote. The General Assembly may be held in a digital online format. Hybrid assemblies combining in person and online participation shall also be permitted.

§18 At the opening of each Annual General Assembly, the President shall convert that the meeting has been duly convened and that a quorum is present. These determinations shall be recorded in the minutes. At the same meeting, the Secretary shall present the Annual Report, and the Treasurer shall present the annual financial statement for the purpose of obtaining the members' discharge of the Executive Board. Prior to the General Assembly, the Executive Board shall appoint two auditors to examine the accounts and report to the General Assembly. Unless these Statutes require a qualified majority, all resolutions shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting shall normally take place by a show of hand unless any participant requests a secret ballot and the request is supported by at least 10% of the members present.

§19 Items for the agenda and motions to be considered by the General Assembly shall be notified by the President together with a notice convening the meeting in text form. Where an agenda item or motion does not concern an amendment to the Statutes, it may also be notified at a later date. However, if such notification has not been given in text form at least four weeks before the meeting, discussion of the item or the adoption of any related resolution shall require a 4%-majority of the members present.

§20 The Secretary is responsible for taking the minutes of the General Assembly. The minutes of the General Assembly shall be signed by both the Secretary and the President and shall be made available to the members in an appropriate manner.

§21 The Executive Board may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time. The Executive Board shall be required to convene such a meeting if at least 10% of the members submit a request specifying the proposed agenda. Notice of an Extraordinary General Assembly should be given no later than four weeks before the meeting.

V. Charitable Status

§22 The Society shall pursue exclusively and directly charitable purposes. The following financial principles shall apply:

(1) Funds of any kind may be used solely for the purpose says set out in these Statutes. In particular, any surplus arising from the annual financial statements shall be carried forward in full to the following financial year. Members shall receive neither profit distributions nor any other payments from the Society's funds. This shall not affect the provision of publications in accordance with the Membership Subscription Regulations or the award of prizes.

(2) Upon termination of membership, members shall not be entitled to any refund of membership subscription paid.

(3) Administrative expenditure shall be incurred solely for the purpose of the Society. No person shall benefit from disproportionately high remuneration. Members of the Executive Board and the Advisory Board shall, generally, serve in an honorary capacity §27(3) of the German Civil Code (BGB). Notwithstanding this provision, the General Assembly may resolve to grant appropriate remuneration to members of the Executive Board and the Advisory Board for the performance of their duties. Expenses incurred for goods and services provided on behalf of the Society shall be reimbursed in accordance with the provision of the German federal travel expenses act (Bundesreisekostengesetz). The Executive Board may introduce additional limitations by resolution.

VI. Amendment of the Statutes and Dissolution of the Society

§23 The dissolution of the Society and any amendment of these Statutes may be resolved only by a quorate General Assembly and only by a $\frac{3}{4}$ -majority. §5 of these Statutes needs to apply.

§24 Upon the entry into force of these Statutes and the Regulations adopted under them, all previous statutes and regulations of the DMG and its constituent bodies shall cease to have effect.