

Libera. Associations, names and numbers against mafias  
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION - Approved by the Libera National Assembly  
Bologna, 22 March 2015  
with the amendments approved by vote in the Plenary Assembly of 22 March 2015

#### CHAPTER I - NAME - REGISTERED OFFICE - PURPOSE

ART. 1 - An association for social promotion is founded with the name "Libera. Associations, names and numbers against mafias" (hereinafter referred to for brevity as "Libera"), with registered office in Rome, Via IV Novembre 98.

ART. 2 - "Libera" is a non-partisan, non-religious and not-for-profit Association. Income from its activities shall under no circumstances be distributed to the members, even indirectly.  
Libera commits to reinvesting any management surplus funds in activities provided for in these Articles of Incorporation.

ART. 3 - "Libera" is founded to pursue the following purposes:

- a) Enhance, by providing support and services, the associations, institutions, universities and other collective subjects engaged in the fight against mafia and hidden powers, performing prevention and research actions of solidarity and assistance, especially to the victims of Mafias, and education on legality;
- b) Promote the enforcement of Law 109/1996 and the establishment of social cooperatives for managing property confiscated from mafias.
- c) Encourage the creation of stable networking among all associations, bodies, universities and other groups committed to legality and against mafias in different civic and social sectors (from Culture to Economy, from Research to Education, from Care to Sports.)
- d) Promote dialogue and collaboration, also in the form of services, among Libera's members and the Public bodies.
- e) Promote a culture of legality, solidarity and ecology based on the principles of the Constitution and by enhancing the historical memory of people who have fought against mafias.
- f) Promote non-violent struggle strategies against mafias' control over the territory, and resistance to mafia-like infiltrations; promote a culture of liability against those who abuse and breach their duties of public office and promote the concept of non-violent struggle strategies against corruption and resistance to infiltrations aimed at corruption.
- g) Promote the establishment of an international network of associations and bodies committed to the prevention of crime and illegality and to promotion of rights and social justice.
- h) "Libera," to achieve its social goals, will also be entitled to become a civil party in criminal proceedings for offences as per Art. 416 bis of the Italian Criminal Code, for crimes committed under the conditions provided for in article 416 bis of the Italian Criminal Code and crimes committed to facilitate the activities of the mafia-type organizations.

It may also be entitled to become a civil party in criminal proceedings for crimes under art. 416 ter of the Italian Criminal Code.

"Libera", to achieve its social goals, will be entitled to become a civil party in criminal proceedings for offences against the public administration, for corruption offences and for all crimes committed to directly and / or indirectly facilitate corruption. It will also file civil claims for damages.

ART. 4 – “Libera” pursues its purposes through service activities; for example:

- a) Organising cultural activities for analysis, research, and information on the Mafia and strategies of response to it.
- b) Publishing materials related to the activities referred to in paragraph a) and producing and disseminating any other text or audio-visual document related to the aims of "Libera."
- c) Organizing training courses for teachers, students, civil servants, local government officials, social workers and anyone else committed to the growth of the culture of legality, solidarity, non-violence and environmental protection.
- d) Collecting, organizing and disseminating updated documentation on mafias and possible strategies to fight against them.
- e) Coordinating extensive monitoring on the evolution of mafias and the fight against them, in different contexts.
- f) Periodically preparing reports on the evolution of the Mafia and the social and institutional answers to it, based on the results of the activity referred to in point e), and any other material available.
- g) Activating an interactive information network among members.
- h) Engaging in and promoting civil or administrative action in case of violation of the rules and principles established to protect the values and matters that constitute the aims of the association.
- i) Campaigning on issues relevant to the pursuit of the Association's aims.
- j) Promoting exchanges and matching among the parties belonging to the Association.
- k) Organizing cultural and sports events and promoting shows, also for fund-raising purposes.
- l) Organizing and promoting social and responsible tourism activities for promotion of a culture of legality.
- m) Carrying out marketing activities, as ancillary and instrumental activities to the pursuit of the Association's goals, concerning publishing, audio visual production, and assets of significant value in the pursuit of social goals.

"Libera" develops and provides, in line with its aims, any other services that can promote growth and improve the effectiveness of its members and their cultural and social rooting. "Libera" will also join initiatives and associations that pursue the same objectives and may perform any other action aimed at the achievement of its goals.

## CHAPTER II - MEMBERSHIP

ART. 5 - The following entities can become "Libera" members: Associations; private non-profit organizations; schools of all levels; other collective entities operating at local or national level, established in Italy or in other countries, and individual citizens, wherever they live, who pursue similar objectives and compatible with those of "Libera." Also, the elected officers of "Libera," according to the provisions of Article 8 of these Articles of Incorporation, will take active status as members, with the exception of the members of the Board of Auditors, as in letter g), and members of the Board of Trustees, as in letter h). Membership by associations on their national level does not include their regional, provincial, territorial and grassroots units, which can join with a specific document, pursuant to Article 6 of these Articles of Incorporation.

No member of "Libera" and no territorial body can use the name of "Libera," which is reserved to the association as such.

ART. 6 - Applications for membership by collective members shall be submitted to the National Presidency Office, which shall accept or reject them with a reasoned opinion, after acquiring the opinions referred to in Articles 10 and 11. Collective subjects shall also submit a copy of their by-laws or other document describing the activities carried out by the applicant, appoint a representative to national, provincial and regional assemblies, and send a copy of the proof of payment of the membership fee in the amount established annually by the National Council. The annual membership fee is valid for one year. The Presidency Office shall decide on applications for membership within 60 days of submission. The request will be deemed accepted if during this period it has not been rejected with a reasoned decision by the Office.

If the application is rejected, this is reported in writing; the applicant may appeal within 30 days to the Board of Trustees, which shall send its motivated decision within 60 days in writing.

Any replacement of the representative to the National Assembly must be reported to the Presidency Office and to the regional and provincial Coordinators.

ART. 7 - The National Assembly may resolve, on a proposal from a member or a petition, the exclusion of a partner in the following cases:

- a) continuous non-compliance with the obligations towards the Association;
- b) assumption of behaviours incompatible with the purposes of "Libera."

In the time between a National Assembly and the next, the Presidency Office, in most serious cases, may decide to suspend a member; the suspension is effective immediately and becomes final on ratification by the National Assembly.

The suspended or excluded member may appeal within 30 days to the Board of Trustees, which shall decide within 60 days in writing and providing a reason.

### CHAPTER III BODIES

ART. 8 - The bodies of "Libera" shall be:

- a) The National Assembly.
- b) The Regional Assemblies, Regional Committees, Regional Coordinators, Regional Guardians for Memory and Regional Secretariat.
- c) Provincial Assemblies, Provincial Committees, Provincial Coordinators and, where elected, provincial Guardians for Memory.
- d) Offices and units;
- e) National Council.
- f) Presidency office.
- g) Board of Auditors.
- h) Board of Trustees.
- i) National Secretariat.

To further protect the associative values referred to in Article 2 of the Articles of Incorporation, all officers are incompatible with the simultaneous coverage of positions of party representation (office of Secretary or equivalent).

No Public administrator may be elected to any "Libera" Association office at the same level as the activities related with his/her duty as potential donor.

ART. 9 – The National Assembly.

As provided for in the Regulations, participation in the National Assembly with voting rights is granted to national or local representatives of associations, private non-profit organizations and other collective bodies belonging to "Libera;" those who hold positions in the Association according to art. 8 of these Articles of Incorporation - excluding the members of the Board of Auditors and of the Board of Trustees - the referent persons of the Units and the delegates of single members appointed according to the procedures referred to in the Regulations.

The meeting is open to the public.

The National Assembly meets at least once a year to:

- a) evaluate the programme performed;
- b) define new work programmes;
- c) examine and approve the budget and financial statements.

The Assembly may also be convened:

- a) on the initiative of the President whenever he/she deems it necessary;
- b) at the request of at least one tenth of its members with voting rights.

The Assembly can be ordinary or extraordinary.

The ordinary general meeting is valid on first call when more than half of the persons entitled to vote are present or represented by proxy and, on second call, regardless of the number of participants. Decisions are taken by absolute majority of those present. The extraordinary assembly is valid on first call when 2/3 of the persons entitled to vote are present or represented by proxy and, on second call, regardless of the number of participants.

Decisions of the extraordinary assembly are valid if approved by 2/3 of those entitled to vote, who are present at the meeting.

The invitation with the proposed agenda must be sent to members at least eight days before the meeting date, in order to allow anyone to propose any changes. The call may be sent by mail, by e-mail and by fax. The agenda must be approved at the opening of the Assembly.

The ordinary Assembly shall:

- a) Define the guidelines of "Libera"'s activity and identify the thematic campaigns.
- b) Elect the President, the Presidency Office, the Honorary President and, at the proposal of the President, the National Secretariat.
- c) Ratify the new members approved by the Presidency Office.
- d) Elect the members of the Board of Auditors.
- e) Elect the members of the Board of Trustees.
- f) Approve the "Libera"'s budget and financial statements as presented annually by the Treasurer.
- g) Approve and amend the organic Regulations.
- h) Approve the exclusion of members.

The extraordinary assembly shall:

- a) Approve amendments to the Articles of Incorporation.
- b) Approve the dissolution of the Association.

## Art. 10 - Regional Assemblies

All regional members participate in the Regional Assembly.

The following may participate in the Regional Assembly with voting rights: Associations, private non-profit organizations, schools of all levels, other collective bodies acting at local or regional level, referents of the Units, regional coordinators, regional Guardians for Memory, regional secretariat, provincial coordinators and, where elected, provincial

Guardians for Memory, and delegates of individual members appointed according to the procedures referred to in the Regulations, if duly registered at least 30 days prior to the date of call to the Assembly,.

The Regional Assembly meets at least once a year and whenever necessary for the pursuit of the association's goals.

It is convened and chaired by the Regional Coordinator or his/her delegate. The meeting is also convened at the request of one tenth of its members with voting rights. The call with the proposed agenda must be sent to members at least eight days before the meeting date, in order to allow anyone to propose any changes. The call may be submitted by mail, email or fax. The agenda must be approved at the opening of the Assembly.

The Regional Assembly shall:

- a) decide on actions to be taken at the regional level or to propose to the national bodies;
- b) coordinate and supervise the progress of the national campaigns in the regions;
- c) elect the Regional Coordinator who is appointed for three years with the possibility of re-election, for a maximum of three terms from the approval of these Articles of Incorporation without prejudice to the right of the Regional Assembly to remove him/her before the expiry of the mandate;
- d) elect, at the suggestion of [mafia victims'] family members registered with Libera in their region, the Regional Guardian for Memory, who is appointed for three years with the possibility of re-election, for a maximum of three terms from the approval of these Articles of Incorporation without prejudice to the right of the Regional Assembly to remove him/her and notwithstanding the right of family members - duly registered with Libera in their region - to propose to the Regional Assembly his/her removal before the expiry of his/her term;
- e) elect the regional secretariat proposed by the regional coordinator, appointed for three years with the possibility of re-election, subject to the right of the Regional Assembly to revoke the office before the term expires.

Each regional member may apply for election by submitting his/her application by mail, email or fax, to the Presidency Office. The Office must issue an opinion within 30 days of the expiry of the previous regional coordinator's term and send it to the regional secretariat.

The Regional Coordinator is responsible for:

- a) chairing the meetings of the Regional Assemblies and Regional Committee;
- b) representing Libera in relations with local institutions, organizations, and the media;
- c) coordinating the activities carried out by the association, also through provincial coordinators, at the regional level and implement decisions taken by national bodies;
- d) coordinating, in the absence of the Provincial Coordinator, training and knowledge building events for creation of new Units;
- e) checking, in the absence of the Provincial Coordinator, the pacts of the Unit;
- f) communicating to the Presidency Office the creation of the Provincial Committee within one month of its establishment, indicating the reference territory and the contact details of the Coordinator; giving prompt notice of any change or situation of special relevance;
- g) informing the National Secretariat on the creation of a new Unit within one month of its establishment, indicating the name, reference area, list of members, and contact details of the Coordinator; giving prompt notice of any changes of special relevance;

- h) proposing to the Regional Assembly the regional members of the Regional Secretariat;
- i) expressing an opinion on the applications for Provincial or Unit Coordinator, receiving the binding opinion of the Presidency Office;
- j) suspending the Provincial Coordinator after hearing the opinion of the Presidency Office, if the general regional and Presidency Office's guidelines have not been implemented;
- k) agreeing on temporary administration measures for Units, in coordination with the Provincial Coordinator, if the general regional and Presidency Office's guidelines have not been implemented;
- l) lifting the suspension of the Provincial Coordinator, if the grounds for suspension are cured or resolved;
- m) revoking the provisional administration of the Units, if the grounds for this measure are cured or resolved;
- n) determining the closing of the Unit, which will be ratified by the Presidency Office;
- o) delivering an opinion on membership requests by new groups or associations at regional level;
- p) on request by the Presidency Office, expressing appraisals on any donations, legacies, offers of free services, financial activities in support of the association's performance received by Libera from economic actors in the region.

The Regional Secretariat is composed of the Regional Coordinator, the Regional Guardian for Memory and the Provincial Coordinators, who are members by right, and 1 to 5 individual members proposed by the Regional Coordinator, members elected by the Regional Assembly, taking into account gender equality. The Regional Secretariat appoints an internal secretariat coordinator on the proposal of the Regional Coordinator. The Secretariat Coordinator is tasked to assist the Regional Coordinator in carrying out its functions, in particular regarding the activities entrusted to the regional secretariat. The Regional Assembly is validly constituted, on first call, with the presence of half of the eligible voters plus one and votes by majority of those present with voting rights. In the second call, resolutions are passed with the vote of the majority of those present who are entitled to vote.

#### Art 11 - Provincial Assemblies

All provincial members attend the Provincial Assembly.

The following participate in the Regional Assembly with voting rights: associations, private non-profit organizations, schools of all levels, other collective bodies acting at local or provincial level, provincial coordinator, provincial Guardian for Memory, where elected, Unit Coordinators, and delegates of individual members appointed according to the procedures referred to in the Regulations, if duly registered at least 30 days prior to the date of call of the Assembly,

The Provincial Assembly meets at least once a year and, in any case, whenever necessary for the pursuit of the association's goals.

It is convened and chaired by the Provincial Coordinator or his/her delegate. The meeting is also convened at the request of one tenth of its members with voting rights. The call with the proposed agenda must be sent to members at least eight days before the meeting date, in order to allow anyone to propose any changes. The call may be submitted by mail, email or fax. The agenda must be approved at the opening of the Assembly.

The Provincial Assembly shall:

- a) decide on the initiatives to be carried out at the provincial level or to propose to the regional bodies;
- b) coordinate and supervise the progress of regional and national campaigns in the province;
- c) elect the Provincial Coordinator who is appointed for three years with the possibility of re-election, for a maximum of three terms from the approval of these Articles of Incorporation without prejudice to the right of the Provincial Assembly to remove him/her before the expiry of the mandate;
- d) elect, at the suggestion of [mafia victims'] family members registered with Libera in their province, the Provincial Guardian for Memory, who is appointed for three years with the possibility of re-election, for a maximum of three terms from the approval of these Articles of Incorporation without prejudice to the right of the Provincial Assembly to remove him/her and notwithstanding the right of family members - duly registered with Libera in their province - to propose to the Provincial Assembly his/her removal before the expiry of his/her term;

Each provincial member may apply for election by submitting his/her application by mail, email or fax, to the Presidency Office. The Office must issue an opinion within 30 days of the expiry of the previous provincial coordinator's term.

The Regional Coordinator must express its opinion on the application and receive the binding opinion of the Presidency Office and send it to the regional secretariat.

The Provincial Coordinator, member by right to the Regional Secretariat, is responsible for:

- a) presiding over meetings of the Provincial Assembly and the Provincial Committee;
- b) representing Libera in relationships with local organizations, institutions and the media;
- c) coordinating the activities carried out by the association at the provincial level and implementing decisions taken by national bodies;
- d) coordinating training and knowledge building events for the creation of new Units;
- e) checking the pacts of Units;
- f) informing the Regional Secretariat about the creation of a Unit within one month of its establishment, indicating the name, reference area, list of members, and contact details of the Coordinator; giving prompt notice of any changes or condition of special relevance;
- g) expressing an opinion to the Regional Coordinator on the applications for Unit Coordinator, receiving the binding opinion of the Presidency Office;
- h) expressing an opinion to the Regional Coordinator on the temporary administration measures for Units, if the general provincial, regional and Presidency Office's guidelines have not been implemented;
- i) expressing an opinion to the Regional Coordinator on the revocation of the provisional administration of the Units, if the grounds for this measure are healed or resolved;
- j) expressing an opinion to the Regional Coordinator on the closing of the Unit, which will be ratified by the Presidency Office;
- k) expressing an opinion to the Regional Coordinator on membership requests by new groups or local associations at provincial level;

The Provincial Assembly is validly constituted, on first call, with the presence of half of eligible voters plus one and votes by majority of those present with voting rights. In the

second call, resolutions are passed with the vote of the majority of those present who are entitled to vote.



## Art 12 - Regional and Provincial Assemblies

Regional and Provincial Assemblies have the authority, with the approval of the Presidency Office, to establish themselves as independent associations and legal entities, bodies with direct attribution of rights and obligations. The assessment criteria used for that purpose by the Presidency Office, and regulated in the Regulations of the association, refer to the need for development in the territory. Therefore, they relate to the number of members, the activities, the ability to involve existing local realities, and self-government (which will be demonstrated through a budget).

The authorization may be withdrawn at any time if the activity is carried out in violation of the rules and laws of the State, the articles of these Articles of Incorporation and, in any case, of the association regulations. The Regional Assemblies may appeal against a decision by the Presidency Office within 30 days to the Board of Trustees who will decide, within 60 days, in writing and providing a reason.

## Art. 13 - Offices and Units

The Units are the closest presence of Libera to local communities.

The Units pursue the aims and objectives of these Articles of Incorporation as well as those specifically identified by the Presidency Office and the pertinent regional and provincial coordinators.

The Units comprise Provincial, Regional and National Committees and Assemblies.

The Units can be structured on a local, municipal, inter-municipal basis and can be created even in schools, universities and workplaces.

The Units are formed by Libera members.

The creation of a Unit takes place through training and instruction of at least four months coordinated by the Provincial Coordinator or, in his/her absence, by the Regional Coordinator.

Members of the Unit to be created define their own path and undertake to comply with these Articles of Incorporation and Regulations. The members of the potential Unit sign the "Unit Pact," a document that must be approved by the Provincial Coordinator or, in his/her absence, by the Regional Coordinator.

The signing of the Unit pact by the members of the Unit to be created and the Provincial Coordinator or, in his/her absence, by the Regional Coordinator, constitutes the formal date of establishment of the Unit itself.

The Unit pact is verified by the provincial Coordinator or, in his/her absence, by the Regional Coordinator, at least once a year.

The Unit is named after people who have distinguished themselves in the fight against the Mafia and illegality for the achievement of social justice and equality, and innocent victims of mafia violence and other forms of violence, prioritizing:

- a) victims on Libera's list;
- b) their link with the territory;
- c) the path that the Unit will pursue in its context of reference.

Within one month of the establishment of a Unit, the Regional Coordinator must give written notice to the National Secretariat of the creation of the Unit, indicating the name, reference area, list of members, and email and phone number of the Coordinator.

The Regional Coordinator shall also promptly inform the Presidency office of any changes or issue of special relevance.

The members of the Unit elect, from among themselves, the Unit Coordinator, without prejudice to the possibility of revocation by the same Unit members.

The Unit Coordinator is responsible for:

- a) ensuring the development in the reference environment of the priorities assumed by Libera at national, regional and provincial levels;
- b) involving the bodies participating in Libera in the relevant territory in the Unit's activities;
- c) coordinating the Unit's work;
- d) representing the Unit in public events;
- e) interfacing on an ongoing basis with the Provincial Coordinator, in his/her absence with the Regional Coordinator, to inform him/her in advance on the initiatives, activities, projects, changes and issues within the Unit;
- f) participating in the provincial, regional and national assemblies. The Unit Coordinator has the right to vote.

Unit members (individuals or body representatives) wishing to apply as Unit Coordinator must make themselves available, by mail, email or fax, to provincial and regional coordinators, within thirty days prior to the date of the election.

The regional and the provincial coordinator must issue a reasoned opinion on the application and receive the binding opinion of Libera's Presidency Office.

The Unit Coordinator is elected by a simple majority, remains in office during three years, with the possibility of re-election, for a maximum of three terms starting from the approval of these Articles of Incorporation.

The Unit is set under temporary administration if the activity performed is not consistent or is contrary to the present Articles of Incorporation and to the national, regional and provincial priorities of Libera.

The Regional Coordinator has the power to determine temporary administration of the Unit, after hearing the opinion of the Provincial Coordinator and the Presidency Office.

During the period of temporary administration, the Unit shall not pursue any public activity in behalf of Libera.

Within a reasonable period of time, defined by the Regional Coordinator, and if it is confirmed that the situation that led to the temporary administration has been remedied and the problem resolved, the Regional Coordinator or the supervising member of the Presidency Office may revoke the measure.

If the reasons for the temporary administration persist and the relevant issues are not solved, the Regional Coordinator, with the advice of the Provincial Coordinator, determines the dismissal of the Unit, which must be ratified by the Presidency Office.

For particularly complex situations due to severe infringement of Libera's principles and objectives and these Articles of Incorporation, as a last resort, the Presidency Office has the opportunity to decide directly on temporary administration.

#### Art 14 - Regional and Provincial Committees

The regional committees are composed of representatives of all the collective members (associations, private non-profit and academic organizations) registered in the region, as well as the delegates of the individual members, the regional coordinator, regional secretariat, regional Guardian for Memory and, where elected, provincial coordinators and Unit Coordinators.

The Regional Committees may adopt internal regulations and are convened and chaired by the Regional Coordinator.

The Provincial Committees are composed of representatives of all the collective members (associations, private academic and non-profit organizations) registered in the province, as

well as the delegates of the individual members, the provincial coordinators, the provincial Guardians for Memory, where elected, and by Unit coordinators.

The provincial committees may adopt internal regulations and are convened and chaired by the Provincial Coordinator.

Any other specification is referred to in the Regulations.

#### Art.15 – Regional and Provincial Guardian for Memory

The role of Regional and Provincial Guardian for Memory is covered by a family member of innocent victims of the mafia who is a member of Libera.

The Regional Guardians for Memory are elected by the Regional Assembly on the proposal of mafia victims' relatives - duly registered with Libera - of the pertinent region, under the provisions set out in the Regulations.

The Provincial Guardians for Memory are elected by the Provincial Assembly on the proposal of mafia victims' relatives - duly registered with Libera - of the pertinent province, under the provisions set out in the Regulations.

#### ART. 16 – National Council

The National Council is made up by the Presidency Office, the National Secretariat, the Regional Coordinators, Regional Guardians for Memory, Provincial Coordinators from the provinces with metropolitan cities, representatives of national associations, and individual members, up to a maximum of 5, as proposed by the President and elected by the National Assembly.

The National Council is convened at the initiative of the Presidency Office at least once every four months. It may also be convened at the request of one tenth of the participants in the National Council of Libera.

The Council is chaired by the President or his/her delegate.

The Council shall act with the participation of the absolute majority of attending eligible voters.

The members of the Presidency Office and of the National Secretariat, the Regional Coordinators, Regional Guardians for Memory, Provincial Coordinators of provinces with metropolitan cities, representatives of national associations and individual members of Libera and individuals proposed by the President and elected by the National Assembly are entitled to vote.

The National Council is responsible for:

- a) promoting the objectives of the association within the guidelines from the National Assembly;
- b) approving the opening of any national decentralized territorial offices that are responsible for monitoring specific campaigns or for conducting research on specific issues;
- c) evaluating, during their performance and upon completion, the results of campaigns and activities organized by "Libera;"
- d) promoting through its constant checking the circulation of information within "Libera" and handle information activities to the general public;
- e) establishing the annual membership fee.

The National Council can also promote the establishment of thematic working groups to study specific issues of interest of the Association or to prepare information and dissemination materials.

#### Art. 17 - Presidency Office and President

The Presidency Office consists of the President, Honorary President and a number of members between five and eleven, elected by the members' assembly, on the President's proposal.

The President, Honorary President and Presidency Office hold office for three years with the possibility of re-election.

The President is the legal representative of Libera and may exercise all the powers of ordinary and extraordinary administration.

The President shall appoint, among the members of the Presidency Office, up to three Vice-Presidents, on one of which are conferred delegated powers of ordinary and extraordinary administration.

In the absence of the President, the Presidency Office meetings will be chaired by the oldest Vice-President.

The President shall:

- a) appoint among the members of the Presidency Office up to three Vice-Presidents, upon one of which are conferred delegated powers of ordinary and extraordinary administration;
- b) propose to the National Assembly the admission of individuals in the National Council of Libera;
- c) propose to the National Assembly the Heads of national sectors, who will comprise the National Secretariat;
- d) convene and chair the National Assembly;
- e) convene and chair the National Council of Libera;
- f) oversee and coordinate all the bodies and activities of "Libera" by promoting respect for the values of the Articles of Incorporation and the recommendations put forward by the National Assembly;
- g) propose to the Presidency Office the suspension of Regional Coordinators and Regional Guardians for Memory;
- h) propose to the Presidency Office the suspension of the head of a national sector;
- i) express a binding opinion on the proposal for suspension and revocation of Provincial Coordinators by the Regional Coordinators.
- l) appoint the Treasurer;
- m) propose a Director to the Presidency Office.

The Presidency Office has the following functions:

- a) decide, after advice by the Regional Coordinators, on applications for admission of new collective members (associations, private academic and non-profit organizations) and new supporters;
- b) exercise a role of guarantee and settlement of disputes arising within the association;
- c) prepare, in consultation with the National Council, the annual report to submit to the National Assembly on the activities of "Libera";
- d) grant and revoke permission to regional and provincial assemblies to establish themselves as independent associations and legal entities;
- e) promote, coordinate and supervise the creation and performance of Units in other countries;
- f) ratify the Unit closure proceedings prepared by the Regional Coordinator;

- g) directly determine the suspension and closure of Units, in case of complex situations due to severe infringement of Libera's principles and objectives and these Articles of Incorporation;
- h) suspend, on proposal by the President, the Regional Coordinators and Regional Guardians for Memory, appointing an interim substitute from among its members. The ratification of the measures provided by the Presidency Office will pertain to the competent Regional Assembly;
- i) give binding opinions on the applications of Regional, Provincial and Unit Coordinators.
- l) ratify the closure of Units, decided by the Regional Coordinator.
- m) request appraisals by the Regional Coordinators on any donations, legacies, offers of services free of charge, financial activities in support of the association's performance received by Libera by economic actors in the concerned region;
- n) suspend, upon proposal by the President, the head of a national sector, appointing a delegate as interim coordinator of the sector. The ratification of the measures provided by the Presidency Office will pertain to the National Assembly;
- o) appoint, upon proposal of the President, the Director for the coordination of the activities of the national secretariat, who be a permanent guest at the meetings of the Presidency Office;
- p) appoint the heads of national projects, national working groups and national permanent committees.

The Treasurer manages the assets and economic activities of the association and draws up the budget and financial statements to be submitted annually to the National Assembly.

#### Art 18 - National Secretary

The National Secretariat is the body where all the activities of national sectors and implementing guidelines drawn up by the Presidency Office are carried out, and it is responsible for streamlining the commitments and activities of the same sectors.

The National Secretariat is composed of the heads of national sectors, elected by the National Assembly on the proposal of the President, having regard to gender equality, and the Director.

The National Secretariat is appointed for three years with the possibility of reelection. The National Secretariat is coordinated by the Director.

#### ART. 19 – Board of Auditors

The Board of Auditors is composed of three members elected by the National Assembly; it is appointed for three years and has the task of monitoring the proper administrative management.

The Auditors appointed from among persons of special competence in accounting and management, need not necessarily belong to the Assembly.

#### ART. 20 – Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is composed of at least five (or any higher odd number) members elected by the National Assembly from among those persons who offer guarantees of

competence and independence and who do not hold the right to vote in the National Assembly or the Coordinators' Meeting.

The Board of Trustees is appointed for three years.

The Board of Trustees acts collectively:

- a) on appeals against decisions of the Presidency Office concerning the admission of new members and the suspension of a member, on the withdrawal of the permission to regional assemblies to establish themselves as independent associations and legal persons;
- b) on the Assembly's decisions on exclusions;
- c) on any internal disputes.

#### ART. 21 – Offices

Libera offices are the following:

- a) National President
- b) Honorary President
- c) Members of the Presidency Office
- d) Regional Coordinators
- e) Provincial Coordinators
- f) Members of the Board of Auditors
- g) Members of the Board of Trustees.

### CHAPTER IV ASSETS - ACCOUNTING STANDARDS - WINDING UP

#### ART. 22 – Assets

"Libera"'s assets are made up of:

- a) membership fees;
- b) property acquired directly by the Association;
- c) grants received from public bodies and international organizations;
- d) donations, legacies and charitable contributions, and any other contributions from individuals;
- e) income from fund-raising campaigns.

It is forbidden to distribute, even indirectly, profits or surpluses as well as funds, reserves, or capital during the life of the association.

#### ART. 23 – Accounting standards and financial year

The financial year opens on 1 January and ends on 31 December each year.

At the end of each financial year, the Treasurer prepares the financial statements and the budget, and submits the first to the Board of Auditors within thirty days from the date of the approval of the financial statement. The Board of Auditors shall express its opinion on the submitted financial statement by the final deadline of 15 days.

The financial statement must be approved by the National Assembly within four months of the end of the year or, in case of difficulty in convening the Assembly, within the longer period of six months.

The financial statement, after its approval, is made public and sent, by the Coordinators' Meeting, to all members.

#### ART. 24 – Dissolution – termination - discharge

The dissolution of the Association is approved by the favourable vote of at least three quarters of its members. In the same meeting, the Assembly shall appoint one or more liquidators and decide on the transfer of the assets.

The assets of the association, in case of dissolution, termination or cancellation, shall be donated to activities with the purpose of social utility consistent with the purposes of "Libera."