

Statute  
BUND INTERNATIONALER DETEKTIVE (BID) e. V.  
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Preamble

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Preamble

The association BID was founded in 1960 in Cologne and sees itself as a professional entity for investigators. The association is politically oriented, ideologically neutral and, subject to a suitable professional and moral aptitude, open to people of all religious confessions.

## **§ 1 Name, registered office, financial year and place of jurisdiction**

The association is called BUND INTERNATIONALER DETEKTIVE (BID) e. V. and is registered at the local court of Berlin (Charlottenburg) into the register of associations with identification number VR 23382. The registered office is located in Berlin. The financial year is consistent to the calendar year. The place of jurisdiction is linked to the location of the registered office (see § 17 paragraph 3 ZPO).

## **§ 2 Purpose and mission of BID**

BID's purpose is the connection of all professionals within the investigation or investigation related industry. The association supports the professional training of its members, the professional exchange of experiences, the cultivation of international co-operations between colleagues as well as all activities that support BID's purpose and mission. Within the association, the members have the unique opportunity to make use of a wide network and to do their jobs in an economical and professional way.

The association's main tasks are:

- Representation of the professional interests of people working in the investigation industry,
- Indicating the obligation to strictly observe the German regulation "BERUFSORDNUNG FÜR DETEKTIVE IN DEUTSCHLAND" or the valid code of ethics applying in the respective country or the regulations of the IKD,
- Continuously establishing a qualified job training of private investigators to represent a qualified professional group,
- Representation and presentation of the professional investigation industry to the public,
- Protection of the professional, economical and commercial interests of its members,
- Fix perspective the public acceptance of the profile as a qualified investigation job,
- Regulation, support and control of the junior staff in the investigation industry by approving the ZAD (ZENTRALSTELLE FÜR DIE AUSBILDUNG IM DETEKTIV-GEWERBE) as training and documentation center in the investigation industry,
- Establishing a clearing center whose duties and competencies are oriented by the so-called clearing policy (BID-ClearO) and that works out- and inwards,
- Calling in an honour council whose duties and competences are stipulated by the corresponding policy (BID-EhrenO),
- Organization of continuous job trainings for its members,
- Support the junior investigators by taking relevant measures and supporting corresponding institutions.

### **§ 3 Membership**

According to § 2, any natural person can acquire a membership as long as the requirements are met. When applying for a membership, the potential member's qualifications as well as professional experience will be checked.

According to the association's policy, people will only be accepted if they can provide a profound and qualified training, an appropriate amount of experience as well as an appropriate moral attitude. The requirements for a membership are as follows:

#### **1. Ordinary members (with all rights and duties)**

- a. Minimum age of 24 years
- b. Integrity, sorted personal and professional circumstances
- c. No previous penalty for a behavior which would imply a bad attitude or doubts regarding the members reliability
- d. Suitable qualification certificate
  - i. Professional experience of more than two years in the investigation or investigation related industry, assessed after a qualified interview with a representative of the BID or
  - ii. Qualification: Certificate by the ZAD "ZAD Geprüfter Privatermittler/ Detektiv" or "ZAD –Geprüfter Privatermittler/ Detektiv mit IHK-Zertifikat".
  - iii. The presidium decides about exceptional cases

#### **2. Extraordinary members**

- a. Employees or partner/relatives of an ordinary member with a minimum age of 21 years. The presidium decides about exceptional cases.
- b. As indicated in § 3 figure 1, paragraph b), c) and d) applying for employees of a member. Verification for b) and c) can be made by written confirmations by the extraordinary member of the applicant. These confirmations have to be attached to the membership application.

#### **3. Passive members**

Ordinary members who retire from their job in the investigation industry and have been holding a BID membership for at least 10 years, can apply for a passive membership. The presidium decides about exceptional cases.

#### **4. Honorary members**

Members or natural persons who do not hold a BID membership but who earned special merits in the association or investigation industry can be appointed by the general assembly in request of the presidium to honorary members according to honorary policy BID-EhrenO. Honorary memberships are free.

#### **5. Supporting members**

In order to fulfill its tasks and missions, the association can accept supporting members by approval of the presidium

#### **6. Applicant for membership**

In case an applicant does only partially meet the requirements for a membership, they have to be met within two years. Until then, the candidate is registered as applicant. Applicants are not allowed to advertise their BID membership. The corresponding membership fee is stipulated in the policy on membership fees BID-BeitragO.

### **§ 4 Acquisition of membership**

1. The ordinary as well as extraordinary membership has to be applied for using the official printed form of the association. The application has to be published in the member info. Members are allowed to object within four weeks after publication. The presidium decides about the admittance.  
In case a membership application is declined, the applicant is not entitled to learn about the reasons for the decision.
2. Supporting memberships are open to persons, companies, institutions, entities, authorities and other organizations and can be applied for at the presidium.
- 3.

## **§ 5 Termination of membership**

1. The membership is terminated by resignation, suspension, cancellation or death. The resignation has to be indicated three months before in written form addressed to the registered office and is only possible to the end of the year.
2. Suspension is considered by serious violation against the professional policy or against the statute. The suspension is decided by the presidium by majority decision after the member has had the chance to hand in a written statement. In case of a suspension, the presidium has to explain its reasons to the affected person in written form.  
The affected person can object against the decision at the honorary council. For details please see the organization policy BID-OrgO.
3. Members that have not paid their membership fee despite a reminder granting a deadline of four weeks will be suspended. The membership fees will not be discharged.
4. In case the requirements are no longer met according to §3 during a membership, the presidium can decide about an immediate suspension of a member. Cancellation of the membership is done as soon as a member is no longer available.
5. The termination of honorary memberships will be done in written form by the presidium. In case of resignation, the membership will terminate with a deadline of three months at the end of the year or by suspension by the presidium with immediate effect.
6. After termination, the usage of certificates, ID cards and other documents that are property of the association is forbidden. They have to be returned to the business office of the association immediately after terminating the membership. Violations are punished with a fee of 2,500 € per case.

## **§ 6 Membership fees**

The amount of the membership fees and other charges is decided by the presidium and is regulated in the corresponding fee policy BID-BeitragO. The membership fees have to be paid annually in advance. Claims on refunds of already made payments are not possible.

## **§ 7 Rights and duties of members**

1. Ordinary members can choose between the active and passive right to vote. They have the right to use all services of the BID, address requests and inquiries to the presidium by the head of the business office and to obtain information, advice, and support. They further have the right to hand in requests for the general assembly.
2. Extraordinary members do neither have an active nor a passive right to vote. They are only allowed to vote in case an ordinary cannot take part in the vote. The right to vote has to be assigned in written form. They can participate in assemblies and all other services of the association.
3. Passive honorary members have the same rights and duties as ordinary members.
4. Members have the following duties:
  - To do their investigator job according to the legal regulations and the statute of the BID as well as obey all further regulations and policies (colleagues in Germany according to the professional policy of the BID and colleagues of all other countries according to their country specific regulations, i. e. applying code of ethics or the regulations of the IKD),
  - Support the association and its mission,
  - Participation in job trainings that are relevant for the association and the profession as well as bringing proof to the association if requested,
  - Informing the BID about severe criminal acts,
  - Reply to all inquiries of the presidiums or its delegates in a prompt, objective, comprehensive und truthful way as well as obey the results of the clearing center.
5. The right to vote is conducted solely by valid personified voting paper.
6. Ordinary members receive a membership certificate and can have a membership ID for a fee. The ID will be handed over in change of a deposit whose amount is decided by the general assembly. All other members receive a membership certificate.
7. Honoring members will be done by the presidium according to the honorary policy BID-EhrenO. Persons that hold the position of president in the association and persons who deserve merits for special work within the association or the professional field can be appointed to be honorary president by the general assembly at the request of the presidium. Honorary presidents do not have to pay any membership fee.
8. Promotion by using the function within the BID is permitted. This is also valid after termination of a membership.

## **§8 BID entities**

1. General assembly
2. The Presidium
  - a. President
  - b. Vice President
  - c. Vice President  
When the circumstances require, a head of the business office  
The business office is led in consultation with the presidium
  - d. Treasurer
  - e. Association counsel (if appointed)

3. The presidium appoints a council for its support, professional consultations or special tasks as well as the IKD deputy
4. The presidium
  - a. The members of the presidium, the legal council as well as the members of the council,
  - b. The deputy treasurer,
  - c. The chairmans of the regional groups,
  - d. The heads of the working groups,
  - e. The IKD delegate,
  - f. The chairman of the honorary council,
  - g. The head of professional training,
  - h. The head of the clearing center,
  - i. The honorary president(s).
5. The right to vote can only be used by valid voting paper.

### **§ 9 BID Organization**

The tasks of the entities, business office as well as all other boards are stipulated in the corresponding policies. Two members of the presidium are allowed to represent the association by their collective signatures.

### **§ 10 General assembly**

1. The annual general assembly is convened by the president. The invitation has to be announced together with the agenda four weeks in advance in the association news or by circular email. Proposals for the agenda can be handed in by written form six weeks in advance at the business office. Urgent inquiries can be tabled during the general assembly and can be accepted by a majority of two thirds of all present members that are entitled to vote.
2. The presidium has to take responsibility for its actions towards the general assembly.
3. The general assembly is responsible for the following tasks:
  - a. Changes in the statute for which a majority of two thirds of all members that are eligible to vote is necessary,
  - b. The proper vote for the presidium according to § 11, the deputy treasurer, the honorary council as well as the cash auditor for a period of four years,
  - c. Resolution of the agenda, handed in proposals, objections and complaints, further matters of the presidium, discharge of the presidents, fixation of amounts, approval of statements, budget related affairs as well as all further tasks regarding the BID.

The general assembly makes decisions with a simple majority. Statute changes require a majority of two thirds disregarding abstentions from voting.

4. Meeting minutes have to be taken about the course of the general assembly. The minutes have to be signed by all present members of the presidium as well as the head of the business office and the minute-taker. Extracts of the minutes have to be presented to the members twelve weeks after the general assembly by the latest.
5. The minute-taker is decided by the presidium/ chairman of the general assembly.
6. Only ordinary and passive members who attend the assembly in person as well as active and passive honorary members are eligible to vote (exceptions see § 7 paragraph 2).
7. General assemblies are not open to the public. The chairman of the assembly has the right to allow guests. In case of doubt, the presidium decides either guests and press are allowed or not.

8. In case of the availability of a legal adviser, he/ she is allowed to participate in presidium meetings as well as general assemblies in his/ her legal function.

### **§ 11 Election procedure**

Proposals regarding the election for certain candidates can be presented after the call of the vote leader.

If the proposed candidate does not accept the won election, the proposal will not be accepted.

Candidates win the election as soon as they have the majority of votes and accept the position.

Invalid votes as well as abstention from vote are not regarded any further.

Only present ordinary members who are entitled to vote can be voted.

The votes will be either given in written and secret form or by show of hands.

In case of an equality of votes, there will be a run-off. In case of another equality of votes, the election will be decided by drawing lots.

Voting papers have to be kept at the business office as long as the next cash audit will be conducted.

All entities of the association will keep their functions until the revote.

### **Presidium**

The president is voted by single vote in written and secret form.

The vice president is voted by total vote in written and secret form. A single majority is sufficient. In case of an equality of votes, there will be a run-off. In case of another equality of votes, the election will be decided by drawing lots.

The treasurer is voted by single vote in written and secret form.

The election of the honorary council, the cash auditor and the voting committee is conducted publicly by showing hands.

In case a presidium member will drop out during its term in office, the remaining presidium members will be allowed to appoint temporarily another ordinary member to be member of the presidium until the next general assembly is coming up.

In case of equality of votes, the vote of the president will be counted twice.

### **§ 12 Extraordinary general assembly**

In very urgent and justified cases, the president has the right to call in an extraordinary general assembly in case the following requirements are met:

A majority of two thirds of the presidium members or by request one third of all members of a general assembly is needed to call in an extraordinary general assembly.

All requirements for regular general assemblies are applicable.

The invitation period can be shortened by two weeks.

### **§ 13 Advisory board, clearing board, committee, commission**

The presidium can decide about setting up committees or commissions. They have to report to the presidium only.

### **§ 14 Dissolution of the association**

A dissolution can only be decided by the general assembly or the extraordinary assembly. For a resolution, a majority of three thirds of all present members who are entitled to vote is necessary.

In case of a dissolution, the assets of the association will be given to a professional succession association, an institution in the investigation industry or a professional training center according to the decision of the members.

Payout of the assets is not possible.

The changes in the statute have been accepted by the general assembly.

Regensburg, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013