

Charter for the Non-Profit Organisation Global Asthma and Allergy European Network (GA²LEN), e. V. (Registered Association)

§ 1 Name, Location, Purpose

(1) The name of the Registered Association is Global Asthma and Allergy European Network (GA²LEN). It shall be entered into the register of Associations. After this entry, it will have the suffix “e.V.” (Eingetragener Verein, ie. Registered Association).

(2) Its registered office is in Berlin.

(3) The objective of the Association is to promote research, science, public health and health care in the area of allergy and asthma with the goal of decreasing the burden for patients with allergies and asthma.

(4) The objective will be carried out through these specific measures:

1. Promotion of joint research projects between the GA²LEN partner organisations.
2. Promotion of joint research projects with other research networks.
3. Promotion of activities which integrate the research and resources of all GA²LEN partner centres and of as many collaboration centres as possible.
4. Organisation of educational activities, for example “allergy schools” and other training courses for researchers and clinicians throughout Europe.
5. Organisation of scientific congresses, conferences, workshops and meetings which are open to all interested parties, including allergy and asthma patients and patients’ organisations, the results of which will be disseminated to scientists and the general public.
6. Publication of jointly authored guidelines for scientists and health care professionals.
7. Promotion of exchanges of researchers and Ph.D. students between different GA²LEN partner institutions.
8. A quality management program which serves the public good by ensuring a consistently high standard of patient care in certified allergy and asthma clinics.

§ 2 Statement of Public Utility

(1) The Association will pursue a course exclusively and entirely for the public utility according to the article on tax deductibility of the tax code.

(2) The Association exists for the benefit of the public; its purpose is not its own economic benefit.

(3) Assets and means of the Association may only be used for purposes that are in accordance with the Charter.

(4) No person may benefit from disproportionate compensation or from expenditures that are not in accordance with the objective of the Association.

§ 3 Acquisition of membership, membership fees

- (1) All persons legally able to enter into a contract as well as all legal entities are eligible to apply for membership in the Association by written application, provided they have the capability and desire to promote the objectives of the Association. The board of directors has the right to decide about the acceptance of applicants.
- (2) Refusal of the application for membership is incontestable and does not need to be justified.
- (3) Each member shall commit to pay a membership fee every calendar year. The amount and due date of the fee are to be decided by the General Assembly. Particulars are to be determined by the Board of Directors.

§ 4 Termination of membership

- (1) Membership may end by voluntary resignation, expulsion, or death.
- (2) Resignation shall take place by written declaration submitted to the Board of Directors.
- (3) A member can be expelled at any time, effective immediately, from the Association when the member acts against the interests of the Association, or for other reasons that the Board of Directors deems appropriate.

§ 5 Governing Bodies of the Association

The governing bodies of the Association are the General Assembly and the Board of Directors.

§ 6 The Board of Directors

- (1) The Board of Directors must consist of at least a first director, a second director, a treasurer and a secretary.
- (2) The members of the Board of Directors are decided by the General Assembly. The term is two years. The directors remain in office until the election deciding the next directors. Re-election is possible.
- (3) The Association shall be represented by the first director of the Board of Directors.
- (4) Legal transactions of a value more than € 40.000 are only binding for the Association when they have been approved by the General Assembly.
- (5) The Board of Directors shall be responsible for:
 1. Management of projects in progress
 2. Implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly
 3. Administration of the Association's assets

4. Creation of a budget for every fiscal year
5. Bookkeeping
6. Compilation of an annual report
7. Preparation and the
8. convening of the General Assembly.

§ 8 Auditing

The General Assembly shall appoint two auditors who are not members of the Board of Directors for a term of two years. The auditors shall review the mathematical accuracy of the bookkeeping and financial management. The auditors shall issue a report and present it at the following General Assembly.

§ 9 The General Assembly, its responsibilities and meetings

(1) The General Assembly shall be responsible for:

1. The election and recall of the members of the Board of Directors
2. The appointment of the auditors
3. The approval of the budget (created by the Board of Directors) for the next fiscal year
4. The receipt of the yearly report and the discharge of the Board of Directors
5. The fixation of the amount and due date of yearly subscriptions and
6. The resolution on statutory changes and the dissolution of the Association.

(2) All members are eligible to participate in the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall convene at least once a year. The convening shall be effected by a written invitation from the Board of Directors in compliance with a time limit of 2 weeks. The invitation shall include an agenda as well as the topics of the resolutions to be discussed.

(3) Voting in the General Assembly shall take place simple majority. Upon submittal of request, the voting can also take place by means of a secret ballot. Resolutions to amend the Charter require a majority of $\frac{3}{4}$ to pass, and a resolution to dissolve the Association requires a majority of $\frac{4}{5}$ to pass. At every General Assembly, minutes will be taken and signed by the Meeting Manager and Secretary.

§ 10 Special General Assembly

A Special General Assembly may be convened when it is deemed necessary for the interests of the Association, or when a written request stating reasons to convene is submitted to the Board of Directors by at least $\frac{1}{10}$ of the members. In urgent cases, a Special General Assembly may also pass resolutions to amend the Charter.

§ 11 Dissolution of the Association, Liquidation

(1) Upon dissolution, the abandonment of not-for-profit activities, or other legal disbandment of the Association the assets shall be distributed to a non-profit organisation active in the field of allergy and asthma research, or this entity's legal heir, which shall be bound to use the funds only for not-for-profit objectives as stated in § 1.

(2) The first director and the treasurer shall serve as liquidators.

This charter has been unanimously ratified by the Founding Assembly.
Brussels, 23.10.2007

Signatures of the Founding Members

It is hereby certified, that the above registered association
Is entered today in the Registry of Registered Associations
under the number *VR27531B*.
Berlin-Charlottenburg, the 04.04.2008

As Notary of the office of the
District Court Charlottenburg,
Department 95.

(Stamped)
Röhl
Secretary of Justice

Official Seal of the District Court of Berlin Charlottenburg