

# THE NETWORK

*Belgian Society of International Law*

## CHARTER of

the Belgian Network of Junior Researchers in International Law

### ***Article 1: Relationship with the Belgian Society of International Law***

1. The Belgian network of junior researchers in international law (“The Network”) is created under the auspices of the Belgian Society of International Law (“BSIL”).
2. All members of the Board of The Network will become effective members of BSIL.
3. All members of The Network are strongly recommended to join BSIL.

### ***Article 2: Object and purpose***

1. The Network aspires to regularly bring together junior researchers affiliated to a Belgian university and working on issues of international law.
2. The Network constitutes a platform to facilitate exchanges between its members in a spirit of cooperation, solidarity and mutual assistance.

### ***Article 3: Members***

1. All predoctoral, doctoral and post-doctoral researchers as well as (teaching or) research assistants affiliated to a Belgian university and working on issues of international law are invited to become members of The Network.
2. To become a member, it suffices to express interest, in writing, to at least one member of the Board of The Network.
3. The Board has the power to decline membership only in case the interested person does not fulfil the conditions laid down in Article 3 (1).
4. The members of the Network will meet at least once per calendar year for a General Assembly (referred to in Article 4).

### ***Article 4: General Assembly***

1. The General Assembly will take place at least once per calendar year.

2. The General Assembly will elect and appoint all members of the Board (referred to in Article 5) and the Organisation Committee (referred to in Article 6(1)(b) and (c)).

#### **Article 5: Board**

1. The Board is composed of two Co-Presidents, one Secretary-General and one Treasurer.
2. The Board will
  - a. include members affiliated to universities regulated by the Flemish Community and the French Community.
  - b. include at least one person with professional proficiency in French and one person with professional proficiency in Dutch.
  - c. not include more than two members of the same gender.
3. The Board is elected by a majority vote of all members present and voting during the General Assembly (referred to in Article 4) and for a duration of approximately one calendar year – i.e., the time between two General Assemblies.
4. Members of the Board can only serve three (yearly) mandates in total, running consecutively or not.
5. The Board's primary tasks include The Network's management and the organisation of its Annual Colloquium (referred to in Article 6(2)).
6. If a board member is unable to fulfil his/her mandate, a replacement may be co-opted by an unanimous vote of the remaining board members, for a period not exceeding the date of the next general assembly.

#### **Article 6: Activities**

1. *BSIL joint event*: The Network organises an event, jointly with the BSIL Conference in years during which this conference is organised.
2. *Annual Colloquium*: The Network organises an annual colloquium:
  - a. The topic of the Annual Colloquium will be decided by The Network's Board.
  - b. Invited speakers to the Annual Colloquium will be selected by the Organisation Committee.
  - c. The Organisation Committee will consist of the four Board members and three additional members. The latter will be elected by the majority vote of all members present and voting during the General Assembly (referred to in Article 4).

- d. Submission of abstracts will be open to all Network members. Upon the decision of the Organisation Committee, it can also be accessible to predoctoral, doctoral and post-doctoral researchers in international law who are not members of The Network.
3. *Other activities*: The Network may organise other projects and activities in pursuance of its object and purpose. They will in any event include the creation of a national database of researchers, a digital newsletter and the organisation of networking events at the different Belgian universities.

***Article 7: Official languages***

1. All official internal and external communication by the Board will be done in English.
2. Outside of the official communications noted in paragraph (1), members are free to use French, Dutch or English in their communications with The Network.