

International Iranian Economic Association (IIEA)

Bylaws

ARTICLE I. NAME, NATURE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the “International Iranian Economic Association,” hereinafter referred to as IIEA or the Association.

Section 2. Nature and Objectives. The IIEA will be a private, non-profit, non-political organization of scholars interested in the study of economic issues concerning Iran, in the broadest sense of the term. The Association shall operate in a democratic, transparent, and non-partisan manner. The IIEA as such will be non-partisan and will not commit its members to particular economic methodologies, economic philosophies, or any position on practical economic issues or policies.

The objectives of IIEA shall be:

- (a) promotion of high standard economic scholarship and research on Iran's economy,
- (b) promotion of cooperation among persons and organizations committed to the objectives of IIEA,
- (c) facilitation of communication among scholars through its webpage, meetings and publications,
and
- (d) promotion of better understanding of Iran’s economic policy challenges and opportunities.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS

Section 1. Membership. Membership is open to all individuals throughout the world with a professional interest in Iran’s economy.

Section 2. Dues. All members are required to pay such membership dues as may be determined by the Board of Directors of IIEA from time to time. Members who pay their dues for a given year are considered in good standing for that year.

Section 3. Types of Membership. In addition to general membership, students interested in the objectives of IIEA who are enrolled in graduate programs of institutions of higher education are eligible to join the Association at a reduced rate.

Other membership categories such as “Affiliate Members”, “Institutional Members”, “Fellows” and “Distinguished Fellows” can also be created by the Board of Directors in due course according to rules and regulations to be determined by the Board.

Voting Eligibility: Only Members in good standing shall be eligible to vote or serve on the Board of Directors or on committees.

Section 4. Annual Meeting. IIEA shall normally hold an annual meeting. This meeting shall consist of a business session and a planned program of papers and discussions to be prepared under the direction of the Board of Directors. Procedure of business meetings shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 5. Notice of Meetings. Notice of the forthcoming annual meeting and any special meeting shall be announced at the current annual meeting and/or served by email on each member not less than 60 days before the meeting. Such notice shall state the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called and the time and place it is to be held.

Section 6. Quorum. At the meetings of IIEA, the General and Student Members who are present shall constitute a quorum if they exceed one quarter of the total IIEA members in good standing. Except as otherwise provided by law or by the Bylaws, the act of a majority of the members present shall be the act of the membership of IIEA as long as those present add up to at least one-third of the total IIEA members in good standing.

Section 7. Compensation. The Board of Directors may authorize reimbursement for expenses incurred by members, Directors and Officers in connection with the performance of their duties, provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any member from serving IIEA in any other capacity or receiving compensation for such services.

Section 8. Chapters. IIEA members may organize themselves into chapters. The basic role of any chapter within IIEA is to facilitate activities consonant with the broad aims of IIEA at a more local level outside the framework of the organization's annual meetings and at times that would not conflict with those meetings.

Any individual or group proposing to establish a chapter of IIEA should communicate to the IIEA Board member designated as the Chapter Liaison Officer the intent to do so. This communication should contain (a) a brief description of the activities contemplated, (b) the geographic (e.g., a country or a

state or province within a country) or alternatively functional (e.g., public finance, political economy) area of the chapter, and (c) a statement indicating that members of the chapter would also be members of IIEA and that such membership would be open to all persons who are eligible for membership, regardless of sex, religion, employer, political party, ethnic group and country of origin. This proposal would then be taken to the IIEA Board for approval.

Once approved, the chapter members should select their own officers and communicate their names and contact information to the Chapter Liaison Officer on the IIEA Board. Through the Chapter Liaison Officer the chapter members could explore IIEA activities of special interest to the chapter and the chapter activities of special interest to other IIEA members. One function of any chapter is to extend IIEA membership and activities within the area of the chapter. Yet, chapter activities could include participants who are not currently members of IIEA.

Chapter activities could be undertaken and organized without necessary approval of the IIEA Board but the IIEA would not be liable for any expenditure or legal matter in any way for any activities undertaken without the expressed approval of the IIEA Board.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Management. The affairs and the property of IIEA shall be managed by the Board of Directors (also referred to as the Board or the Directors) except that the ultimate authority of IIEA shall be vested in the membership as expressed in the annual meeting or through email ballots. The membership may originate general policies and give general directives to the Board of Directors. The Directors shall act only as a Board and individual Directors shall have no power as such.

Section 2. Number of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of eight members. Seven of the Board members will be elected by direct vote of the eligible IIEA members. These consist of three Executive Officers of IIEA (the President, the Executive Secretary, and the Treasurer) and four other Directors. One additional Director shall be co-opted by the elected Board members to serve in roles that would be complementary to those carried out by the elected Board members. Any co-opted member shall not be eligible to vote in the Board meetings. In case of tie votes in the Board, the President's vote shall act as tiebreaker. Past presidents shall serve as non-voting *ex officio* Board members.

Section 3. Election of Directors. The Directors shall be elected for a three-year term in a synchronous poll by the eligible members. The election shall be managed by the Election Committee and votes shall be cast via email. Candidates receiving the largest number of votes will be declared the winners. Should there occur a vacancy on the Board for whatever reason such as stepping down or death, then the Board is empowered to appoint a person to fill the un-expired term.

Section 4. Annual Meeting of the Board. The annual meeting of the Board shall be held as soon as practicable during the annual meeting of members.

Section 5. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board shall be called at any time by the Executive Secretary upon the request of the President or upon the request of the majority of the Directors.

Section 6. Quorum. At all meetings of the Board the presence of at least two Executive Officers and three Directors shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided by law or by the Bylaws, the act of a majority of the Directors present and voting shall be the act of the Board.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The Executive Officers. The Executive Officers of the IIEA consist of (a) a President, who shall serve as Chairman of the Board, (b) an Executive Secretary, and (c) a Treasurer. One person may not hold more than one of the aforesaid offices. The Executive Secretary and the Treasurer may succeed themselves only once if re-elected, the President will however stand down after his/her normal term of office is complete.

Section 2. Election of Officers. All officers shall be elected by the members for a three-year term along with other elected Directors. The election shall be managed by the Election Committee and votes shall be cast via email. Candidates receiving the largest number of votes will be declared the winners.

Section 3. President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and shall serve as chair of the Board. The President shall be the executive officer and official spokesperson in dealing with other organizations and with the general public. He/she shall exercise general supervision over all of the activities of the organization and shall have additional powers and duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Board from time to time. In the absence of the President, the Executive Secretary shall preside.

Section 4. The Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for organizing the annual meeting, the call for the meetings, correspondence with the members, distribution of ballots and any other task that may be assigned to him/her by the Board.

Section 5. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping accurate and adequate records of the membership, assets, liabilities and financial transactions of the organization. He/she shall solicit new members, actively seek members' dues, deposit all moneys and other valuable effects of IIEA in the name of and to the credit of IIEA in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as may be designated by the Board. He/she should report to the annual meeting on all IIEA's finances for the year.

Section 6. Newsletter Editor. If it so decides, the Board may elect one of its own members or general members as the Newsletter Editor to prepare periodical newsletters for distribution consisting of information about developments in IIEA and other events of interest to the members.

Section 7. Webmaster. The Board will elect one of its own members or general members as the Webmaster to manage the Website of the Association and keep it up-to-date regarding information of interest to the members.

Section 8. The Chapter Liaison Officer. The Board may elect one of its own members or general members as an officer to serve as an intermediary between the IIEA Board and actual or potential chapters and their activities as specified in article II, Section 10.

Section 9. The Publication Liaison Officer. The Board may elect one of its own members or general members as an officer to help the IIEA Board in arranging the publication of conference proceedings or other documents produces under the auspices of the Association.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive Committee. The President, the Executive Secretary and the Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee. Such Committee may act in the name of the Board when the latter is unable to meet.

Section 2. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall consist of the President, the Executive Secretary, and a Board member appointed by the Board. The Committee shall be responsible for arranging the meetings of IIEA, selecting the abstracts and papers included in the program of such

meetings, and for carrying out the program. It may delegate the organizational task of the meeting to an Organizing Committee selected by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee shall consist of three Board members selected by the Board of Directors. The Nomination Committee members should elect their own chair. The officers to be elected are the President, the Executive Secretary, the Treasurer, and four elected Directors. Nominations for elected positions should be solicited from the general membership and suggestions of nominees for the various offices be sent to the Chairperson of the Committee. The Nomination Committee shall provide the Board of Directors a slate of prospective nominees no later than four months before elections take place. The Board of Directors shall review the recommendations of the Nomination Committee and forward the list of candidates to the Elections Committee no later than two months later. All nominees should be members in good standing. The Nomination Committee shall follow the procedures established by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Election and Bylaws Committee. The Election and Bylaws Committee shall have three members selected by the Board of Directors. Preference in this selection shall be given to ex-officio Board members when such members are present and willing to serve on the Election Committee. The Committee shall oversee the implementation of the Bylaws, carry out periodic review of the Bylaws, and manage the voting process on proposed amendments based on the procedures specified in Article VIII. The Committee shall also run the election of the Board and Executive Officers. It shall distribute and count the ballots in accordance with the procedures determined by the Board of Directors and prepare a written report certifying the election of the successful candidates. Members of the Election Committee cannot be current members of the Board or standing candidates for the Board of the Directors or the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Ad Hoc Committees. The Board may constitute new *ad hoc* committees to carry out tasks complementary to the work of the Executive, Nomination, Election, and Program Committees. *Ad hoc* committees may include IIEA members outside the Board members. The majority of members of each *ad hoc* committee must be members of the Board.

ARTICLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. Fiscal Year and Audit. The fiscal year of IIEA shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 in each year. The Treasurer shall prepare a report on the financial status of the Association at the end of each year and submit it for review to the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Notices. Except as may otherwise be required by law, any notice required to be given under these Bylaws shall be in writing (including email) and signed by the President or the Executive Secretary or other personnel authorized by the Board.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Amendments to these Bylaws or any of them may be proposed (1) by the Board of Directors (2) by petitions signed by 5 members in good standing. All proposed amendments shall be discussed at the first annual meeting of the members following their proposal, after which they shall be sent to the Election and Bylaws Committee by the Board of Directors. The Committee shall submit the proposed amendments to the members by email ballots and allow for sixty days for the returns. It shall send a reminder notice after 30 days, count the ballots returned within sixty days, and submit a written report to the Board certifying the results. The amendments shall be considered adopted if approved by a majority of those returning ballots. Amendments shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

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