

# **BYLAWS**

## **youthHansa**

### **2022**

#### **ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE**

##### Section 1 - Name

The organisation's name is "YouthHansa" or any appropriate translation of the term to another language.

##### Section 2 - Purpose

YouthHansa - the youth organisation of "Die Hansa" - has existed since 1998. The youthHansa aims to make young people aware of the Hanseatic heritage and enable international and intercultural exchange. The young delegates participate in the International Hanseatic Day and develop projects contributing to international understanding. The official language is English. Only English or another language understood by everyone present during free-time activities shall be used.

#### **ARTICLE II. DELEGATES**

##### Section 1 - Delegates from Hanseatic cities

Each Hanseatic city sends YouthHansa delegates between 15 and 26 years of age to the annual Hanseatic Days. The representatives must be sufficiently mature to discuss serious topics, willingly participate in work groups, pay attention to presentations, and be fluent in English. Each Hanseatic city may send as many delegates as wanted.

##### Section 2 - Continuity of work

To guarantee continuity of work and a sufficient number of experienced delegates is needed, there should be no exchange of a city's entire delegation at one time.

##### Section 3 - Votes

Each Hanseatic city has a vote. Only members that are present are entitled to vote. Abstentions are taken as on-registered votes.

##### Section 4 - Proposals

Any delegate of the YouthHansa can send in proposals. At the following meeting of the YouthHansa, the same representative will present its proposal in person. The simple majority adopts the proposal.

##### Section 2 - Presence

A two-thirds majority of delegates present at an official YouthHansa meeting is needed to amend these YouthHansa by-laws.

### **ARTICLE III. THE COMMISSION**

#### Section 1 - The youthHansa commission

The youthHansa commission (yhc) forms a network of five individuals with equal rights and duties. The commission will appoint one spokesperson and one deputy spokesperson to represent the youthHansa at official meetings and at "Die Hansa". These spokespersons may be replaced whenever required.

#### Section 2 - Seats in the yhc:

- a) All seats in the yhc have equal voting rights.
- b) A simple majority democratically elects the vacant seats at the youthHansa meeting for a term of two years. Candidates must comply with the rules listed in Article II. They must be present at the YouthHansa meeting to introduce themselves. Candidates may nominate themselves. They may be re-elected.
- c) One of the seats in the commission can be open for re-election for one year if:
  - i. The so-called commissioner decides he/she is unable to fulfil the duties that the seat in the commission requires.
  - ii. There is a unanimous decision needed of the remaining commissioners that the commissioner in question is either unable or unwilling to or not involved in the duties that the seat in the commission requires.
- d) A delegate from the yhc may be replaced if proceedings according to Article III – c are initiated.
- e) The commission shall report on all previous activities of that year during the annual meeting.
- f) The commission will record the minutes of all meetings.
- g) The commission supervises the departments and ensures that each department has an active leader (head of the department).
- h) The yhc shall decide on all issues not covered by these by-laws.

### **ARTICLE IV. Projects**

#### Section 1 - General

Anyone may start and join a project. A new project has to be presented to the yhc before it may use the term "Official project of the youthHansa". The yhc reserves the right to not accept a project if none of the goals of the youthHansa is met.

#### Section 2 - Contact person

A single person who starts a project becomes the contact person for the yhc. If a group of persons starts a project, they are responsible for appointing a contact person. A contact person must regularly inform the yhc of the project's current activities.

### **ARTICLE V. Procedures**

#### Section 1 - Proposals

All proposals and nominations must be submitted to the yhc at least three weeks before the next youthHansa meeting. The yhc has to inform the delegates of upcoming votes before the next youthHansa meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI. Departments**

### Section 1 - Topics

The departments work on specific youthHansa-related topics. They ensure continued work and exchange between delegation meetings.

### Section 2 - Joining

Every delegate can join one or more departments. All youthHansa delegates vote on the head of the department by simple majority.

### Section 3 - Head of departments

- a) A head of a department has oversight over projects and activities carried out within their department.
- b) The head of the department reports back to the yhc agreed upon objectives for their work and coordinates activities among their department members.
- c) In case of inactivity, a head of the department can be replaced by the yhc to ensure continuous work in the department. A majority vote of the yhc is necessary.

### Section 4 - Different areas

- a) Finances
- b) Program planning and project management
- c) Communications
- d) Key relations

### Section 5 - Proposals

The delegates can send proposals for new departments to be created, merged, or discontinued. A simple majority adopts the proposal.