Bayreuth AI Association

Articles of Association

§ 1 Name, Registered Office, Financial Year

(1) The association bears the name “Bayreuth AI Association”.
(2) It is to be entered in the register of associations and shall then bear the suffix “e. V.”
(3) The registered office of the association is Bayreuth.
(4) The financial year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose of the Association

(1) The association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section “Tax-privileged purposes” of the German Fiscal Code (Abgabenordnung, AO; §§ 51 et seq. AO).
(2) The purposes of the association are:
    1. The promotion of **science and research** (§ 52 (2) no. 1 AO).
    2. The promotion of **public and vocational education, including student assistance** (§ 52 (2) no. 7 AO).
    3. The promotion of **international attitudes**, tolerance in all areas of culture and the idea of international understanding (§ 52 (2) no. 13 AO).
(3) The association pursues these purposes in particular through:
    1. **Scientific networking & discourse**: Promoting the exchange on methods and developments in the field of artificial intelligence through regular meetings that are open to the general public.
    2. **Education through expert exchange**: Organising public lectures and exchange events with experts from academia and industry in order to convey current knowledge in the field of artificial intelligence to the general public.
    3. **Practical qualification**: Conducting practice-oriented case studies related to artificial intelligence. The aim is to promote individual professional competence through the joint study of complex algorithms and their application. The focus lies on the exchange of knowledge about best-practice methods and on peer consultation; the results of the case studies are made available to the general public in a suitable form, and the events are, as a rule, open to the public.
    4. **Regional welfare & common good**: Developing and providing open-source concepts and technological demonstrators based on artificial intelligence that serve to address societal, ecological or structural challenges in the region of Franconia. By publishing these approaches, the association promotes technology transfer into regional civil society. The focus lies primarily on the city of Bayreuth and the region of Upper Franconia.
    5. **International integration**: Promoting intercultural exchange in the academic environment by including international perspectives in the scientific engagement with artificial intelligence. The association promotes mutual understanding and tolerance by creating a platform for cross-border knowledge exchange between people of different origins.

§ 3 Non-Profit Status

(1) The association acts selflessly; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
(2) Funds of the association may only be used for the purposes set out in these Articles.
(3) Members receive no allocations from the funds of the association.
(4) No person may benefit from expenditure that is alien to the purposes of the association or from disproportionately high remuneration.
(5) To achieve its tax-privileged purposes, the association may operate special-purpose operations (Zweckbetriebe) in accordance with § 65 AO. This takes place in particular through publicly accessible educational formats and workshops as well as through research projects oriented towards the common good, the results of which are made available to the general public free of charge.
(6) To raise funds for the fulfilment of its statutory purposes, the association may also operate commercial business operations. Any profits from these may only be used for the statutory purposes. A commercial business operation that is not a special-purpose operation must not become the main purpose of the association.

§ 4 Membership

(1) Any natural or legal person who supports the aims of the association may become a member.
(2) The association has the following types of membership:
    a. Full members
    b. Supporting members
    c. Honorary members
    d. Alumni members
    e. Corresponding members
(3) Full members are natural persons who participate regularly and to a substantial extent in the work of the association. In the General Meeting they have the right to submit motions, the right to speak and the right to vote.
(4) Supporting members are natural or legal persons who support the association non-materially or financially without actively participating in its work. In the General Meeting they have the right to attend and to speak, but no right to vote.
(5) Honorary members are natural persons who have rendered outstanding services to the association or its purposes. They are appointed by resolution of the General Meeting on the proposal of the Executive Board. Honorary members have the right to attend and to speak; they have a right to vote only if they are also full members. Honorary members may be exempted from the obligation to pay membership fees.
(6) Alumni members are natural persons who were previously full members of the association or who have a special connection with the association, but who no longer regularly take part in its active work. Alumni status may be established by resolution of the Executive Board upon application by the member if the requirements are met. Alumni members have the right to attend General Meetings as well as the right to speak and to submit motions, but no right to vote. A change from alumni status back to the status of full member is possible upon application; the Executive Board decides on the application.

(7) Corresponding members are natural persons who wish to support the aims of the association, in particular the promotion of international attitudes and the idea of international understanding, without regularly taking an active part in the life of the association at its registered office (e.g. after completing their studies, upon returning to their home country or when permanently residing abroad). This membership serves to maintain the worldwide professional network and intercultural exchange in the field of artificial intelligence. In the General Meeting, corresponding members have the right to attend and to speak, but neither the right to vote nor the right to submit motions.
(8) The Executive Board decides on the admission of full members and supporting members upon application submitted in writing or in text form (e.g. by email).
(9) Membership begins with the resolution on admission.
(10) Membership ends by resignation, expulsion, death or, in the case of legal persons, by their dissolution.
(11) Resignation must be declared to the Executive Board in writing or in text form (e.g. by email) with four weeks' notice to the end of a month.
(12) In the event of a serious violation of the interests of the association, a member may be expelled by resolution of the Executive Board. Before the decision is taken, the member must be given the opportunity to comment.
(13) Full members, honorary members and alumni members may, upon application, receive a confirmation or a letter of recommendation regarding their engagement in the association. There is no entitlement to any particular content. Such documents are issued at the due discretion of the Executive Board.
(14) The detailed rights and obligations of the members may be governed by Membership and Fee Regulations adopted by the General Meeting.
(15) Membership fees already paid will not be refunded.

§ 5 Membership Fees

(1) Membership fees may be levied on the members.
(2) The amount and due date of the membership fees are determined by resolution of the General Meeting.
(3) Upon application submitted in writing or in text form (e.g. by email), the membership fee may be waived in whole or in part if the member is in a demonstrably difficult financial situation. The Treasurer decides on the application at their due discretion.
(4) The waiver of the membership fee must not lead to any disadvantage for the member within the association.

§ 6 Bodies of the Association

The bodies of the association are:

1. the General Meeting
2. the Executive Board

§ 6a Additional Functions and Officers

(1) To support the work of the association, the Executive Board may appoint additional functions and officers. These are optional and need not be filled.
(2) In particular, the following may be appointed:
    a. an Advisory Board, which may consist of former chairs of the association or other particularly qualified persons,
    b. further officers for specific tasks.
(3) The Advisory Board and other officers have exclusively advisory and supporting functions. They are not members of the Executive Board within the meaning of § 26 of the German Civil Code (BGB) and may not represent the association.
(4) Advisory Board:
    a. consists of former chairs or particularly qualified persons,
    b. has exclusively advisory functions,
    c. tasks: advice on strategic, professional and scientific matters; support with events, projects and public relations; passing on knowledge to members,
    d. term of office of at least one year; reappointment is possible,
    e. may be dismissed by the Executive Board at any time.
(5) Officers:
    a. are appointed for specific tasks. In particular, the following may be appointed:
        i. a Secretary,
        ii. a Public Relations Officer,
        iii. an Officer for promoting exchange between the University and the City of Bayreuth,
        iv. an Officer for promoting scientific networking and discourse,
        v. an Officer for promoting practical qualification,
        vi. an Officer for promoting international integration,
        vii. an Officer for membership development.
    b. have exclusively advisory and supporting functions,
    c. their term of office, detailed tasks and powers are laid down by the Executive Board in its rules of procedure,
    d. may be dismissed by the Executive Board at any time.

§ 7 General Meeting

(1) The ordinary General Meeting is held at least once a year.
(2) An extraordinary General Meeting must be convened if the interests of the association so require or if at least one third of the members request it in writing.
(3) The General Meeting is convened by the Executive Board in writing or by email with two weeks' notice, stating the agenda. The notice period begins on the day following the dispatch of the invitation.
(4) The General Meeting constitutes a quorum regardless of the number of members present.
(5) Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of the votes cast.
(6) Minutes must be taken of the General Meeting.

(7) General Meetings may be held in person, digitally or in hybrid form. The Executive Board determines the format when issuing the invitation. If the meeting is held digitally, it must be ensured that all members are able to participate, vote and express their views.

§ 8 Executive Board

(1) The Executive Board consists of:
    1. the Chair
    2. the Vice-Chair
    3. the Treasurer
(2) The Executive Board is elected for one year. Re-election is possible.
(3) The Executive Board passes its resolutions by simple majority.
(4) The Executive Board conducts the day-to-day business.
(5) The Executive Board within the meaning of § 26 BGB consists of the Chair, the Vice-Chair and the Treasurer. Each member of the Executive Board is authorised to represent the association individually.
(6) The Executive Board may adopt rules of procedure.
(7) The Executive Board remains in office after the expiry of its term until a successor has been elected.

§ 9 Amendment of the Articles, Non-Profit Status and Dissolution

(1) These Articles of Association may only be amended by the General Meeting.
(2) Paragraph (1) of this section does not apply to amendments to the Articles that are required by supervisory, judicial or tax authorities for formal reasons. In this case, the Executive Board may make the required amendments on its own initiative. All members of the association must be notified of such amendments promptly in writing or in text form (e.g. by email).
(3) The Executive Board authorised to represent the association is empowered to make amendments and additions to the Articles that the local court (Amtsgericht) requires for entry in the register of associations or that the tax office requires for recognition of charitable status.
(4) Upon dissolution or termination of the association or if its tax-privileged purposes cease to apply, the assets of the association shall pass to Universitätsverein Bayreuth e. V., which must use them directly and exclusively for charitable, benevolent or religious purposes.
(5) Resolutions on the use of the assets may only be implemented after the consent of the tax office has been obtained.

§ 10 Data Protection

(1) In order to fulfil the purposes and tasks of the association, personal data on the personal and factual circumstances of the members are processed within the association in

compliance with the requirements of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG).

(2) Every member of the association has the right to information about the data stored about them, and to the rectification and erasure of such data, provided that no statutory retention obligation precludes this.

(3) The bodies of the association and all persons acting on its behalf are prohibited from processing personal data without authorisation for any purpose other than that pertaining to the performance of their respective tasks, or from making such data accessible to third parties. This obligation continues to apply after leaving the association.

(4) The Executive Board is authorised to issue data protection regulations setting out the details of data collection and use as well as the technical and organisational measures for the protection of data.

§ 11 Entry into Force

These Articles of Association were adopted in Bayreuth on 2 April 2026 and enter into force upon entry in the register of associations.