

RULES

Name, registered office and area of operation

§ 1 The name of the association is Suomen Ekonomit - Finlands Ekonomer r.y. and its registered office is in the City of Helsinki. In these rules, the association shall be referred to as the union.

The union's area of operations encompasses the entire country.

The languages of the union are Finnish, Swedish and English. The language of meetings and minutes is Finnish, but Swedish and English may also be used in discussions.

Purpose and operations

§ 2 The union is the interest group of its member associations and the members thereof, and the central body for training and support activities.

The purpose of the union is to promote cohesion and co-operation among those who have completed a graduate degree in economic sciences, to act as a link between its member associations, to promote the general and common professional interests of their members, to support their educational aspirations, to promote their knowledge in, above all, the economic branch, and to build a correct understanding through its activities of the significance of the business school graduates' association and the responsibilities of its members. The purpose of the union's activities is not to generate direct financial gain for its affiliates or individual members.

In order to achieve its purpose, the union guides and supports the activities of its member associations, concludes agreements to promote the interests of its members, organises meetings and other joint events and conducts training, publication, member service and research activities.

Provisions pertaining to membership

§ 3 The members of the union entitled to vote are business school graduate associations and student associations. In addition to the above, the union has honorary members, of whom one at a time may be appointed honorary chairperson. The union's meeting, also known as the Union Conference, elective assembly, or Autumn or Spring Meeting, may, on a proposal by the Board, invite a person who has significantly promoted the aims of the union to become an honorary member of the union.

At the proposal of the Board, the Union Conference may accept as a member a registered business school graduate association comprising those who have completed a graduate degree in economic sciences that operates in accordance with the union's approved rules. At the proposal of the Board, the Union Conference may accept as a student association a student union comprising those pursuing a graduate degree in economic sciences or a registered association comprising those pursuing a graduate degree in economic sciences that operates in accordance with the union's approved rules.

The same person can belong to several member associations simultaneously. When calculating the voting power of the member associations, each person is only considered to be a member of the association through which they have stated that they wish to belong to the union. When assessing a member's eligibility for the union's shop steward duties, the person is only considered a member of the aforementioned association.

- § 4 Member associations are obliged to pay a membership fee to the union according to the number of their members. The Union Autumn Meeting determines the amount of the membership fee for the following year.

The Union Conference may decide on membership fee reductions based on the unemployment of a member of the member association, being otherwise not a part of working life, being retired, living abroad, spouses' membership in the member association, parallel membership in another member association, membership in another member union of the same central organisation, the time of completion of a degree, joining in the middle of the calendar year and other comparable factors to those listed above.

Student associations or honorary members do not pay a membership fee to the union. The Union Conference may decide to limit the member services and benefits to which members of the student associations are entitled.

Member associations are obliged to submit their approved annual report and financial statements to the union.

- § 5 The Union Conference is entitled, on a proposal by the Board, to dismiss from the membership of the union a member association that neglects its obligations to the union or acts or permits its members to act against the purposes of the union without penalty.

- § 6 The Board of the union shall consist of a chairperson, who shall be appointed as the chairperson of the union, two vice-chairpersons, who shall be appointed as the I and II vice-chairpersons of the union, and a minimum of six and a maximum of nine other members of the Board, of whom at least one shall represent students. All members of the Board must be members of member associations. No member of the board of a member association, including its chairperson, may simultaneously serve as a member of the Board of the union.

The members of the Board are elected every three years at the elective assembly for a term of office of three calendar years. The chairperson, I vice-chairperson and II vice-chairperson must be members of different associations.

The same person may be appointed as chairperson, vice-chairperson or member of the Board for a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.

If a member of the Board is unable to take part in the work of the Board, resigns, or is dismissed, a new member may be elected for the remaining term of office in the Union Conference. If the remaining term of office is less than 12 months, such a term of office shall not be taken into account when calculating the terms of office referred to in the previous paragraph.

A member of the Board is not eligible for election as the chairperson of the Union Conference or as a member of the Appointment Committee.

- § 7 The Board meets at the invitation of the chairperson or, if the chairperson is unable or disqualified, the I vice-chairperson or, if the former are unable or disqualified, the II vice-chairperson. The meeting notice must be sent to the members of the Board no later than five (5) days before the meeting and the matters to be discussed must be mentioned in the meeting notice. The Board is quorate when at least half of the Board members are present, of which at least one must be one of the chairpersons.

For matters of fact, an opinion that has received more than half of the votes cast becomes the decision in meetings of the Board. In elections, those who received the most votes are elected; if there is only one person to be elected, half of the votes cast are required to be elected. When the votes are tied, the opinion of the chairperson is decisive in matters of fact, and in elections, the decision is drawn by lottery.

- § 8 The task of the Board is to:

1. act to achieve the purposes of the union
2. represent the union, make commitments on behalf of the union and act on behalf of the union as plaintiff and defendant
3. convene meetings of the union and prepare the matters to be discussed in them
4. supervise compliance with the decisions made by the Union Conference
5. be responsible for the union's finances
6. appoint and dismiss directors, managers and supervisors and decide on the terms of their employment relationship
7. determine the authorisations of the operative management within the limits permitted by the Associations Act
8. make proposals to the meeting of the union on accepting member associations and withdrawing membership
9. prepare the union's annual report and financial statements
10. prepare proposals for the union's budget and action plan
11. decide on the number, guidelines and authorisations of the committees operating within the framework of their term of office and on their composition on the basis of the criteria issued by the previous Board. Applications for membership in committees are processed by the group decided by the Board elected in the elective assembly, which makes a proposal on the members of the committees to the Board elected in the elective assembly. Committees are chaired by a member of the Board. When there are no more committees than the number of members of the Board, the same person may serve as chairperson of only one committee. Each committee must have at least one member representing Swedish-speaking member associations and at least one representing student associations.
12. decide on the guidelines, authorisations and composition of the management teams it uses
13. handle other matters concerning the union, if they have not been assigned to committees or management teams.

The Board may decide on the sale, exchange and mortgaging of the union's assets.

Union meetings

§ 9 General Meetings of the Union Conference are held twice a year, the Spring Meeting no later than May and the Autumn Meeting no later than December. The Board determines the more specific time and place of the meeting, but it must notify the member associations of the dates of the statutory and other known Union Conferences of the following calendar year by the end of November. The Board or the Union Conference may decide to allow participation in the Union Conference by post, over telecommunications or other technical means during or before the meeting.

The Union Autumn Meeting held every third year shall be an elective assembly where, in addition to matters relevant to the Autumn Meeting, the following matters shall be discussed:

1. A decision is made on the total number of members of the Board, which must be at least nine and at most twelve. The term of office of the Board begins at the start of the calendar year following the elective assembly
2. The chairperson of the Board is elected for a three-year term
3. The I vice-chairperson of the Board is elected for a three-year term
4. The II vice-chairperson of the Board is elected for a three-year term
5. Other members of the Board representing member associations are elected for a three-year term in accordance with section 6 of the Rules, some of whom shall serve as chairpersons of committees under the Board. If the selection cannot be made unanimously, the election of the members of the Board shall be carried out as a proportional election using lists of candidates, so that each vote is given to the list of candidates in its entirety.
6. An auditor is elected for the three-year period, and the firm must be an APA association

One of the chairpersons must represent the Swedish-speaking business school graduate associations. A member of a student association cannot be elected as chairperson or I vice-chairperson.

§ 10 The following matters shall be discussed in the Union Spring Meeting:

1. The chairperson of the meeting and the examiners of the minutes are chosen.
2. The union's annual report and financial statements are presented
3. The auditors' report is presented and a decision is made on the approval of the financial statements and the discharging from liability
4. At the Spring Meeting preceding the elective assembly, a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a minimum of five and a maximum of seven other members are selected from among the member associations' members for the Appointment Committee for the term ending at the elective assembly, one of whom shall represent student associations and at least one shall represent Swedish-speaking business school graduate associations. The Committee's task is to make justified candidate proposals for the chairperson and the I and II vice-chairpersons of the Board, chairpersons of committees under the Board, members of the Board and auditing firms.

§ 11 The following matters are discussed in the Union Autumn Meeting:

1. The chairperson of the meeting and the examiners of the minutes are chosen.

2. The action plan and budget are approved and the amount and payment time of the member associations' membership fees to be paid to the union in the following year are determined

§ 12

The matters to be decided by the Union Conference also include:

1. The union's strategy
2. The union's strategic action plan, including key development projects
3. Basic principles of the union's investment activities
4. Policy guidelines for the various operating sectors
5. If necessary, electing new persons to replace members of the Board who have resigned or been dismissed during the term of office for the remainder of the term of office of the persons concerned. When any of the minimum requirements specified in section 6 concerning the composition of the Board is no longer fulfilled, the Board must be filled out so that all the minimum requirements are met.
6. Other matters proposed by the Board
7. Matters the Board has been notified of in writing by the member associations no later than one month before the meeting and the Board's position on the proposals made.

Other meetings of the union are held when the Union Conference so decides, at the discretion of the Board or when at least one third of the member associations have requested a meeting from the Board in writing for the handling of a specified matter.

§ 13

The Board convenes the Union Conference by notifying the members and representatives of the Union Conference at least fourteen (14) days in advance for General Meetings and at least seven (7) days in advance for other meetings by post or e-mail.

§ 14

Each member association shall have one representative with the right to speak and vote at the Union Conference, unless otherwise stated in this provision. The chairperson of the member association shall act as the representative as a result of their position, unless the association wishes to appoint another member of the association as their representative for the calendar year. Each member association shall also appoint two deputy representatives at a time for each representative for the calendar year and determine the order of representation for them. The representative to be appointed in place of the chairperson, other representatives and the deputy representatives of the association must be selected and reported to the Board of the union by the end of January each year. The member association has the right, by means of a mandate, to authorise a member of its own or another member association to represent the member association that has granted the authorisation and to exercise the association's voting right at the Union Conference.

Business school graduate associations have one (1) vote at meetings per each starting 50 of their number of members; however, for each starting 6,000 of their number of members, they must have a Union Conference representative. The number of votes of the member association is distributed equally among the representatives, and the member association must determine the order of representation for its representatives. If the association's number of votes cannot be equally divided by the number of its Union Conference representatives, the first Union Conference representative in the order of representation shall use the surplus votes. The voting right is based on the number of members of the member association, which is calculated according to the situation on the last day of the month preceding the Union Conference. Honorary members are not counted towards the number of members that entitle the association to vote.

A student association that is a member association shall have at least one (1) vote at meetings. In addition, votes shall be allocated to student associations in proportion to their number of members so that they collectively hold 20 per cent of the total number of votes at the Union Conference, as determined pursuant to Article 14 of these Rules. If the resulting number of votes is a fractional number, the total number of votes allocated to student associations shall always be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

When calculating the number of votes of a student association, the number of members shall include student members who have completed a bachelor's level degree at most and whose information, by which the person can be identified, is included in the association's membership list. A personal identity code or, instead, the date of birth and either the place of birth or the student ID are considered to be such information.

- § 15 A legally convened Union Conference is quorate when at least one third of all member associations, at least one third of the business school graduate associations and at least half of all the votes available at the Union Conference are represented. For matters of fact, an opinion that has received more than half of the votes cast becomes the decision of the Union Conference. Unless otherwise specified in these Rules, those who have received the most votes in the elections shall be elected; if only one person is to be elected, half of the votes cast shall be required to be elected. When the votes are tied, the opinion of the chairperson is decisive in matters of fact, and in elections, the decision is drawn by lottery.

When voting at the Union Conference, no association may use a greater number of votes than would be available to the other member associations of the union if they all participated in the meeting. When so requested by associations whose total number of votes exceeds half of all votes, the voting shall be held by secret ballot. Elections are always held by secret ballot when so requested by even one representative.

Financial period and audit of administration and accounts

- § 16 The union's financial period is a calendar year. The union's accounts and other administrative documents must be submitted to the auditors before 15 April, and the auditors must submit their audit report to the Board before 30 April.

Signing for the union

- § 17 The persons entitled to sign for the union are the chairperson of the union and the CEO of the union alone or the vice-chairpersons of the union either together or one of them together with a salaried employee appointed by the Board. The Board of the union may order a salaried employee of the union to sign for the union alone.

Changing the rules

- § 18 Decisions that amend the first section of these Rules, this section or the section concerning the dissolution of the union require at least 5/6 of the votes cast at the meeting.

Decisions to amend the other sections of these Rules require at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the votes cast at the meeting.

Dissolution of the union

- § 19 Decisions that involve the dissolution of the union require at least $\frac{5}{6}$ of the votes cast at the union meeting and the decision to be confirmed by a similar majority of votes at a union meeting held at least one month later. One of these meetings must be the union's General Meeting.
- § 20 Upon the dissolution of the union, its remaining funds shall be donated to a cause promoting education or research in the economic branch in a manner specified in more detail by the meeting that made the decision to dissolve the union.