

Constitution of the Pan-Australian & NZ.
Coordinating Committee – Justice for Cyprus (PA.S.E.K.A.)

CONSTITUTION OF THE PAN - AUSTRALIAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE - JUSTICE FOR CYPRUS (PA.S.E.K.A.)

1. NAME

Pan Australian Coordinating Committee - Justice for Cyprus (PA.S.E.K.A.). PASEKA is a member of the International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA) with its headquarters in Nicosia. PASEKA is a non-governmental non-profit organization.

(a) The Pan-Australian Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (PASEKA) was initially established on 19th March, 1978 in Sydney, a decision of 19 representatives of the State Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (SEKA) from all Australian States, to implement the relevant decision that was taken in Nicosia during the First International Congress of the Cypriots Abroad.

2. EMBLEM

"Remember Cyprus" (Never Forget)

3. HEADQUARTERS

PASEKA'S headquarters will be the state from which the President. comes

4. OBJECTIVES

(A) GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The study of the current situation regarding the Cyprus problem, the submission of recommendations to the democratically elected Government of Cyprus for the planning of the struggle in Pan-Australian level and the coordination of the efforts for actual reinforcement of the policy of the Government of Cyprus, in relation to this, within the framework which sets or approves the legitimate Government of Cyprus and the National Council in which all parliamentary parties bestir themselves.

(B) SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1.The accurate advice , about the Cyprus problem and the current developments, to governments, political organizations and nations, and to the states in which the State Coordinating Committees “ Justice for Cyprus (SEKA)” are activated.

2. To protect the human rights of the Cypriot people on a Pan- Australian Scale.

3. The systematic development of the idea and the ways of fraternal coexistence of all Cypriots, irrespective of origin, religion or place of residence.

4. The approach of Turkish Cypriots to join in the common cause to release Cyprus from foreign troops, the return of displaced persons to their homes and properties and prevalence of justice.

5. Developing ways of peaceful activity for the promotion of the Cyprus problem and the promotion of our positions at a Federal level, to solve the Cyprus problem, and by submitting and supporting appropriate representations to the Federal Government and the representation of PASEKA at conferences in Australia, Cyprus and elsewhere.

6. The provision of moral, material assistance and unconditional support to the struggling people of Cyprus.

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7. The coordination of the activities of every state SEKA , for the systematic enlightenment, and the promotion of the Cyprus cause, by Cypriot , Community and friendly to Cyprus organizations, and the cooperation with other organizations that work for other National issues and for people who aim about the above objectives.

8. To realize the above objectives, PASEKA is bound to seek and strive always in a community spirit of cooperation, unanimity and unity, but also with respect and cooperation with the Cypriot, the Hellenic and the Australian authorities.

9. PASEKA must think, decide and act without being influenced by any party positions of its members and completely independent of any differences or disputes in the intra community (Parikia).

10. PASEKA follows, promotes and implements the policy of the democratically elected Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

11. The relations of PASEKA with the community organizations, the Australian and Hellenic authorities and the Archdiocese, in particular the Cypriot authorities, should be warm, lively and ensure constant communication, so as to achieve the perfect conditions for cooperation.

5. MEANS

The means used to promote the general and specific objectives as set out above, are according to the case and always within the framework of legality in cooperation with the Federation of Cypriot Communities and Organisations of Australia and New Zealand or other Cypriot organizations and associations, the Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE), the Hellenic and Cypriot organizations, movements friendly to Cyprus and other Australian and international personalities, who support the struggle of the Cypriot people, including:

(a) Sending or publishing materials for enlightenment purposes or the suggestion for the need of organizations, individuals, political, scientific, religious, social or union leaders or agents, to support the just struggle carried out by the Cypriot people for freedom and justice.

(b) use of media and participation in public debates.

(c) the organization of gatherings, demonstrations, marches and other peaceful functions for enlightenment purposes or attracting public interest in the Cyprus issue.

(d) The organization of conferences and other events which raise the Cyprus problem and promote solidarity for the Cypriot people.

(e)The participation (with the approval of the Committee or its President), in various Non-Governmental Organizations or into activities, like the promotion and representation of PASEKA in Australian Unions and Organizations.

(f) to organize fundraisers or other events to provide financial resources, to strengthen the funds of the Committee and to promote its objectives and

(g) any other means, the Committee considers necessary.

6. STRUCTURE

(A) Committee: The plenary of PASEKA, consists of:

(a) The Presidents and Secretaries of the members of the Federation of Cypriot Communities in Australia, or authorized representatives of the above organizations.

(b) The Presidents and Secretaries of SEKA of the various states

(c) The Presidents and Secretary of the Federation of Cyprus Communities in Australia.

(d) Former Presidents and Secretaries of PASEKA

(e) Former Presidents and Secretaries of the Federation of Cyprus Communities in Australia

(f) The presidents and secretaries of other organizations or individuals approved by PASEKA or STATES' SEKA.

b. STATES' SEKA COMMITTEES

These committees consist of:

Representatives of the Central Cypriot Community of each state, other Cypriot Communities or organizations that are members of the Federation of Cypriot Communities and Organisations in Australia and New Zealand. Members of the State Cypriot Omogenia and Greek Organizations or other friendly to Cyprus organizations and prominent personalities or individuals approved by SEKA, in numbers and proportion depending on the circumstances in each state.

C. OBSERVERS

At the general annual meeting of the Executive Committee, by decision of the Presidency of the Committee and in cooperation with the Federation of Cypriot Communities and Organisations in Australia and New Zealand, could be invited as observers representatives of non-Cypriot organizations, international non-governmental organizations and initiatives, and personalities.

7. OFFICERHOLDERS

a. COMMITTEE: The Committee in its regular annual meeting is constituted as follows:

- From its members, that come from the Federation they elect:

- o The President
- o The Deputy President
- o The Vice President from each state and territory
- o The General Secretary
- o The Treasurer

b. The Committee may appoint more officeholders amongst its members, if it deems necessary.

c. The term of officeholders is for two years and all members can be re-elected. The election, recall and reappointment is to be verified by the relevant authority that had elected them, except for: the President, the Deputy President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer of PASEKA, whose term expires after two years, at the general meeting of the Committee, by the election of a new Committee.

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d. STATE SEKAs

The State SEKA Co-ordinating Committees elect, amongst their members, their officeholders in accordance with regulations prepared by the same, with purposes that are consistent with the Constitution of PASEKA.

PASEKA can intervene in any state SEKA if that state SEKA or any of its officeholders are in the view of PASEKA, acting in a way inconsistent with the constitution of PASEKA. Each state SEKA namely NSW, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Canberra, acknowledges that PASEKA has the right to intervene as foreshadows by this provision.

8. SUBCOMMITTEES:

The Committee and the State SEKAs are entitled to appoint Sub-Committees for special purposes according to their needs, like the committee for the lobby, the refugees and human rights, and others.

9. MEETINGS

(A) PASEKA and the SEKA State Committees, are active throughout the year. The committee meets regularly each year, and in special meetings whenever deemed necessary by the Presidency of the Committee or at least by 60% of its members.

(B) Members who are unable to attend a meeting, may be represented by an individual from the same organization, who has to present a written authorization.

(C) Between two meetings of the Committee, the Presidency of PASEKA meets biannually, in order to implement and promote the decisions of the Committee. The Presidency of PASEKA has an executive character. The meetings of the Presidency of PASEKA may take place outside Australia or even by teleconferencing (eg. by exchanging fax or e-mail, by simultaneous conversation in a predetermined time through the Internet, by telephone with written validation, etc.)

(D) The State SEKAs have a regular meeting at least once every two months and in special meetings at any time deemed necessary by its President or upon procedures that are defined by them, in the house of the Central Cyprus Community of each state or territory, unless the plenary session decides another easier or more convenient place.

(E) The invitations of the regular meetings of the Committee or the Presidency, are sent at least one month in advance and two weeks prior to the special meetings.

10. THE RIGHT TO VOTE

(A) Each member of the Committee has one vote, except for the President or the Presiding person, where he may have a second in the event of a tie.

(B) All members are entitled to vote on all matters put to a vote, to elect and to be elected.

11. QUORUM

The Committee/ Presidency forms a quorum when at least 50% of its members, and who derive from at least 50% of the Australian states.

12. SERVICE OF MEMBERS

The service of the members of the Committee is for two years.

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13. DECISION-MAKING AND ELECTIONS

(A)The decisions are taken by acclamation or by open vote, unless the President considers that the seriousness of the issue requires a secret vote, or if requested by the majority of members. Elections of officeholders are always carried by secret ballot, unless there aren't any competing candidates.

(B) The Elections are conducted by a 5 member Electoral Committee of the Federation of Cypriot Communities and Organisations in Australia and New Zealand who are elected on election day. Nominations are submitted to the Electoral Committee.

14. PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at the meetings of the Committee / Presidency, and he/she represents the Committee at official events. In case of impediment, he/she is replaced by the Deputy President.

15. DEPUTY PRESIDENT

The Deputy President replaces the president in all the tasks when he/she is absent or in case of impediment.

16. VICE- PRESIDENTS

The Vice-presidents replace the Committee on official events in their states or territories, unless it happens that the President or his/her Deputy President are there, personally.

17. GENERAL SECRETARY

The General Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings. He/she collaborates with the President on the formation and movement of the documents of PASEKA, on the conduct of the correspondence of the Committee / Presidency and the convocation of PASEKA meetings. The General Secretary may represent the Committee when and if necessary, after consultation with his / her replacement. If unable to attend he/she is replaced by the Vice President.

18. TREASURER

(A) The Treasurer is responsible for bookkeeping, preparing budget draft and recommend ways to find financial resources. He/she keeps the Committee / Presidency informed about the economic situation by drawing up a report every six months. He /she submits a financial statement annually, which is filed in the general annual meeting of PASEKA.

(B)The Treasurer shall deposit in a bank or banks, designated by the Committee / Presidency , any amount vested in his/her hands, no later than fourteen days from the date of receipt.

(C) All payments beyond the amount of one hundred dollars are made by bank check, which is signed by the Treasurer and the President. Payments by bank checks can be made for smaller amounts, as well.

(D)The Treasurer is not authorized to make or authorize payments for the same purpose, amounting to more than 200 dollars without the approval of the President or the General Secretary.

(E) Cash flow monitoring is conducted by the Audit Committee of the Federation.

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19. RESOURCES OF THE COMMITTEE

- a. Contributions from organizations and agencies
- b. Contributions and annual subscriptions by the Federation of Cyprus Communities and Organisations in Australia and New Zealand and their members
- c. Contributions and subscriptions from community and friendly to Cyprus organizations and State SEKA Committees
- d. Contributions from any other source and
- e. Proceeds from functions or activities organized for this purpose,
- f. All members shall pay annual membership which is to be approved by to the plenary

20. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

(A) All members of the Committee are required to comply to its decisions.

(B) The Committee by a majority of two thirds of the plenary, is entitled to remove any member who refuses to comply with its decisions and / or acts or behaves in a manner that does not comply to its general or specific purposes and to seek his/her replacement by the relevant authority which has elected it. In addition, the Committee may indicate failures or wrongdoings or systemic inertia and indifference of the Local Committee with the requirement to take remedial measures.

(C) The Committee shall have the right to prepare and adopt Internal Regulations to ensure the smooth and efficient operation.

(D) The decisions of the Committee are reported to the Federation, to SAE, the State SEKAs , the friendly to Cyprus organizations , so that they undertake any similar action, as their members deem necessary and in any case take into account the local circumstances and realities.

(E) The State SEKAs have the right to form their own ways, how to enlighten and promote the Cyprus issue, within the framework of the constitution. In each state or territory, there will be just one Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus SEKA. No other organization will be entitled to use or refer to the name or emblem (Logo) "Justice For Cyprus", without the approval of PASEKA.

21. SECRETARIAT

The PASEKA is served in Australia by a permanent Secretariat, the size of which depends on the needs. The Secretariat works closely with the President, his / her Deputy President, his / her Secretary and his/her Treasurer.

22. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

With the exception of article 4 (a) all the other articles of this Constitution, may be amended with the consent of at least two thirds of the members of the Committee.

23. DISSOLUTION

The Committee is dissolved by decision of 80% of its members or where as, the reason for which it was set up, does not exist .

24. The above constitution was approved at the Meeting on Saturday, the 26th July, 2003.