

International Christian Network

C o n s t i t u t i o n

(Accepted by the Executive Committee in Frankfurt/Main on 1 October 1981)

1. Objectives

The International Christian Network is a worldwide fellowship of concerned Christians and Christian bodies who seek renewal of the Biblical Faith and are determined to uphold unfalsified biblical standards of doctrine, ethics and church order as over against antichristian currents both inside and outside the churches and especially within ecumenical movements.

2. Basis

- a) The members of ICN accept the authority of the Word of God set forth in the Holy Scripture of the Old and New Testaments as normative for their faith and life.
- b) With the Apostolic and Nicene Creeds, they confess the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- c) They pledge themselves faithfully to the specific doctrinal standards of their own confessional traditions. Without detriment to their loyalty to them, and without regarding the existing doctrinal differences as unessential, they endeavour together with professing Christians in other churches to defend the threatened apostolic heritage which they have in common.
- d) They agree with the substance of such recent declarations which seek to defend biblical faith against perversion by contemporary heretical currents.
Declarations of this type which have been issued in recent years are:
The Frankfurt Declaration on the Fundamental Crisis of Christian Missions (1970)
The Berlin Declaration on Ecumenism (1974)
The Christian Affirmations (Great Britain 1974)
Het Getuigenis (Holland 1971)
The Freudenstadt Appeal (2004)

3. Function

- a) To offer encouragement in the present spiritual fight by promoting genuine Christian fellowship rooted in the Biblical Faith.
- b) To unmask the antichristian nature and pseudobiblical claims of certain present day trends; to oppose theological rationalism, modernism, Marxism, false ecumenism, syncretism, and pseudo-charismatic spirituality, and to awaken the churches of the world to these dangers.
- c) To promote research into movements of thought which threaten the historic Christian Faith.
- d) To provide information that can be used in the present struggle.

- e) To make occasional public statements where the Faith of the Church of Jesus Christ is threatened.
- f) To support truly Christian activity which by word and deed proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations.
- g) To establish a communications media to promote the objectives of ICN and to use the secular media wherever possible to convey the biblical message.

4. Membership

- a) ICN has constituting (see § 6a) and supporting members. Supporting members can be individuals and juridical persons. They have a vote in the International Assembly.
- b) Supporting membership can be granted to:
 - individual members of churches
 - congregations
 - denominations
 - organizations of professing Christians within denominations
 - para-church organizations of professing Christians.
- c) Membership is granted on the understanding and assurance that there is a hearty commitment to the doctrinal basis of ICN and its objectives.
It is obtained by a written application (even by E-Mail) and on decision of the Executive Committee

5. Cooperation

Members of ICN, in view of their widespread geographical separation, work together in the following ways:

- by seeking to obtain and exchange relevant information, important literature and mutual correspondence
- by exchanging subjects for common intercession
- by mutual visits
- by practical support
- by regional and international conferences
- by promotion of ICN's world mission function

6. Organization

- a) *Membership Meeting*
The constituting members from the membership meeting mentioned in §3 of the Articles of the Registered Association.
- b) *Directorate*
The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the President of the International Assembly, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer together from the Directorate.
The Directorate represents ICN in public and is responsible for the management of ICN's running affairs and for the implementation of the instructions of the Executive Committee.

It is elected by the membership meeting.

c) *Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee is composed of the Directorate and additional members to be elected by the membership meeting out of its own midst.

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for

- implementing Corresponding Committee and International Assembly resolutions
- overseeing ICN's continuing ministry and development, and the promotion of ICN's world mission
- appointing, overseeing and discharging executive staff
- fulfilling the function of a finance committee
- promotion of conferences, seminars, lectures, literature and development of communications media

As a rule the Executive Committee shall meet annually.

d) *Corresponding Committee*

The Corresponding Committee consists of the Executive Committee, one additional Deputy Chairman and not more than 12 regional representatives, which are appointed by the Executive Committee on a world-wide basis.

The Corresponding Committee passes its resolutions and gives its recommendations by correspondence or at meetings, which as a rule are called in connection with the International Assembly.

The Corresponding Committee is to promote the world-wide mission of ICN.

It can issue public statements and declarations with regard to burning issues of global significance.

e) *International Assembly*

If possible an International Assembly shall be convened once in four years. All constituting and supporting members and additional concerned Christians shall be invited.

The International Assembly is chaired by its President.

International Assemblies are planned and organized in cooperation between the Executive Committee, Correspondence Committee and the INC constituency in the region where the Conference takes place.

International Assemblies were conducted in Berlin 1974

f) *Regional Representatives*

Where ever possible, the Executive Committee shall appoint regional representatives who are responsible for promoting ICN's work in their country.

g) *Terms of Offices*

All office bearers and committee members are appointed for a period of four years. Re-election is possible. The appointed persons retain their offices until the following election.

Officials and members who fail to fulfil their duties or who violate against the interest of ICN can be dismissed by the Executive Committee.

h) *Institute Diakrisis*

The head quarter of ICN is located at the Institute Diakrisis, from which its activities are coordinated. It is equipped by modern communication facilities: E-Mail

(info@institute-diakrisis.de) and webpage (<http://www.insitute-diakrisis.de>), a chapel, library and archives. It also hosts the editorial committee of the periodical *DIAKRISIS*

7. Finance

- a) ICN is supported by membership fees, donations and services rendered. Being a politically independent organization, ICN does not accept support from any government or political body.
- b) The Executive Committee decides on the height of individual and corporate membership fees.

8. Location

The central office of ICN was after its constitution located in London. Since 1997 it is situated in Gomaringen near Tübingen:

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72810
Germany

Berlin 1974

Freudenstadt 2004