

# Statute of Volt Europa A.S.B.L.

## Preamble

*We, the Undersigned,*

*believe that a transnational political movement is needed in Europe, which*

*contributes to the development of a common European political identity and to the expression of the will of the citizens of this continent,*

*enhances, deepens, and structures peaceful, equal, and responsible cooperation of European people,*

*contributes through activities at local, regional, national, and European level to enhance civil participation and social justice,*

*protects human dignity, human rights, solidarity, democracy, equality before the law, freedom, and the rule of law within and outside Europe,*

*will create and coordinate political organisations belonging to this movement in every European country, to advance common causes, shared values, and progressive policies,*

*promotes and protects the common good of all the citizens and residents of Europe;*

*turns into a truly united European party, merging all its national chapters, when possible under the law;*

*therefore, we have come together to form a non-profit association under Luxembourg law which shall represent this movement and which Statute is as follows:*



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## **Section I – General Provisions**

### **Article 1 – Name and Logo**

(1.1) The association is named Volt Europa A.S.B.L. and will, in the remainder of the text, be referred to as “Volt Europa”.

(1.2) The logo of the association is defined in Annex C to this statute.

### **Article 2 – Seat**

(2.1) Volt Europa’s seat is located at Banzelt 4 A, 6921, Roodt-sur-Syre, Luxembourg

(2.2) The seat can be changed with a simple majority decision of the Board of Volt Europa (hereinafter: the Board); changing the seat to another jurisdiction within the European Union needs additional approval by the General Assembly.

### **Article 3 – Language**

(3.1) In the event of discrepancies or doubt arising from a difference between this Statute in English and this Statute in another language, the English version shall prevail.

(3.2) English shall be the working language of Volt Europa. Any initiatives and proposals must be submitted in English, if directed at any of the bodies defined in the Statute below. However, to ensure that every individual member can fully participate in the activities of Volt Europa, individual members may submit requests to Volt Europa via their national Member Association in the official language of the Member Association.

## Section II – Aims and Goals

### Article 4 – Principles

Volt Europa:

(4.1) pursues the aims set out in the Volt Charter, as described in Annex A;

(4.2) shall pursue its aims in respect with the principles on which the European Union is based, as described by in the preamble of the Lisbon Treaty<sup>1</sup> and Art. 2 TEU<sup>2</sup>, especially the protection of human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, and respect for the rule of law and human rights, including the protection of minority rights;

(4.3) pursues the aim to register as a European political party within the term of EU Regulation 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and political foundations;

(4.4) shall work transparently and in an accountable manner;

(4.5) does not pursue any profit goals. It shall adhere to all necessary regulations to be an *association sans but lucratif* under Luxembourgish law.

### Article 5 – Objectives

(5.1) The purpose of **Volt Europa** is to coordinate and direct all the natural persons (in this Statute, they will be referred to as “**Individual Members**”) and associations (in this Statute, they will be referred to as “**Member Associations**”), which form and promote **Volt**, a transnational and pan-European political movement.

(5.2) Empowered by democratic legitimacy, Volt Europa

- a) Represents Volt;
- b) Defines Volt’s strategic and political direction, especially by:
  - i) Defining, communicating, and implementing Volt’s strategy, political vision, program, and policies;
  - ii) Setting the political guidelines for all Member Associations, and ensuring compliance with those guidelines and coherence among the Member Associations;
  - iii) Coordinating, reviewing, and approving national political programs and policies, for consistency with the Volt Charter, Volt Europa’s strategy, and political vision, program and policies; and
  - iv) Setting up and promoting Member Associations in new countries, including through activities at the local, regional, national and European levels;
- c) Ensures its operational efficiency, especially by:

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<sup>1</sup> Treaty of Lisbon, 13 December 2007, amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community.

<sup>2</sup> Treaty on European Union, 7 February 1992.

- i) Facilitating, supporting, and coordinating the operation of all Member Associations across all functions and ensuring coherence of the organisational structures
  - ii) Assisting Member Associations in promoting Volt and running for elections across Europe; and
  - iii) Providing training for individual members; and
- d) Coordinates Volt's European campaigns and members in the European Parliament, especially by:
- i) Supporting the development and promotion of Volt's European campaigns;
  - ii) Coordinating the selection procedure of candidates to the European Parliament; and
  - iii) Coordinating Volt's European Parliamentary members and, if existent, factions.

## **Section III – Members**

### **Article 6 – Membership**

(6.1) The number of members is unlimited, but may not be lesser than three.

(6.2) Members may be natural persons (“Individual Members”) or associations (“Member Associations”).

(6.3) A register of all current members by name in alphabetical order will be kept by Volt Europa at its registered office and attached to this Statute as Annex B. The list shall be updated every year by recording membership changes. Any member of Volt Europa may request to consult the list of members at the association’s registered office, in accordance with the applicable law.

#### **Requirements for membership applications – Individual Members**

(6.4) Natural persons applying to Volt Europa shall do so by applying to a Member Association as all Member Associations are authorized by this statute to approve and reject membership applications on behalf of Volt Europa. All members of each Member Association will at the same time be admitted as members of Volt Europa. Volt Europa reserves the right to suspend this authorization in accordance with Art. 6.6.. Art. 6.8 remains unaffected.

(6.5) In order to apply for membership of a Member Association, individuals must either be a citizen or live in the country where the relevant Member Association has its registered office, notwithstanding any further requirement set out by the relevant Member Association itself.

(6.6) The decisions regarding the approval or dismissal of a membership application of an Individual Member are taken by the relevant Member Associations. The Member Associations, jointly with Volt Europa, will develop internal guidelines to be followed in the admission procedure of individuals to all Member Associations. However, if the Board of Volt Europa ascertains that any Member Association is admitting members who do not comply with the requirement laid out by Volt Europa or by the relevant Member Association itself, the Board may suspend the admission authorization for the specific Member Association. . Such measure would be temporary in nature and need to be promptly confirmed or revoked by the Regional Council at its first successive meeting.

(6.7) Individuals applying for membership of any Member Association cannot be part of any other political party or group, faction, association aiming to become a political party. Alternatively, when presenting its application to a Member Association, such individual may undertake to withdraw or revoke its association or membership from such political entities within maximum 3 months.

(6.8) Individuals may also apply to membership of Volt Europa without being members of a Member Association in the case that:

- a. There is no Member Association in any country in which the individual would satisfy one of the requirement set in Art. 6.5;
- b. They communicate in writing to the Board the reasons why they do not want to or cannot join any Member Association for the membership of which they would be eligible for, and the Board approves in writing such exception; or
- c. They communicate in writing to the Board the specific reasons why they believe that they would highly contribute to the improvement or growth of Volt Europa, and the Board approves in writing such exception.

Competent for the application procedure is the board of Volt Europa, who may also delegate this function to another body or person.

(6.9) Applicants for individual membership need to inform the board of the relevant Member Association of:

- a. Ongoing lawsuits or criminal investigations;
- b. past, actual, or planned actions which constitute a fundamental risk or threat to Volt's mission or operations;
- c. any association, involvement, or membership in a political party, group, or initiative;
- d. any other piece of information required by subsequently adopted regulations of Volt Europa.

When applying to Volt Europa under Art. 6.8, the individual shall provide the pieces of information listed above to the Board of Volt Europa.

(6.10) For the first three months after admission, individual members shall not be granted any voting rights within Volt Europa and within the relevant Member Association, subject to the applicable national law.

(6.11) Individuals can only be a member of one Member Association, but may transfer their membership once per year. A transfer of membership between member associations does not affect their membership in Volt Europa.

#### **Requirements for applying for memberships – Member Associations**

(6.12) The Regional Council of Volt Europa determines the internal admission procedures for Member Associations. The decision of admission shall be taken by simple majority vote with a three-quarters quorum. Should the quorum not be reached, a second vote shall be held with at least a two-week prior notice; for this second vote, the decision shall be taken by simple majority with no quorum required. The decision shall be based on the conformity of the applicant's profile with Volt Europa's purpose, as detailed in this Statute and in the manifesto.

(6.13) The Regional Council shall communicate promptly the grounds of rejection of the application of a Member Association upon request of the rejected Association.

(6.14) Rejected applicants may re-apply for membership following a 6-month delay from the date of rejection, or as soon as the underlying reasons for rejection have changed.

(6.15) In order to obtain membership, any association, group or organisation must:

- a. be constituted lawfully under the laws of the country where it has its seat OR be considered by the Regional Council as an equivalent to a legal entity
- b. respect the principles and regulations outlined in this Statute and comply with the orders of the bodies of Volt Europa;
- c. maintain a democratic internal structure and democratic decision-making procedures with an elected leadership; notwithstanding the requirements under Art. 6.10.
- d. not be subordinated to any other political association, group, or party;
- e. intend to be politically active and participate in local, regional, national, and, where applicable, European elections;
- f. be, or intend to be as soon as possible, formally named "Volt" together with a national geographical characterisation (e.g. "Volt France") as soon as their application is accepted;
- g. no other Member Association is already present in the same country.



- (6.16) Applicants to become a Member Association need to inform the Regional Council of:
- a. Past and ongoing lawsuits or investigation against office holders;
  - b. past, actual, or planned actions which constitute a fundamental risk or threat to Volt's mission or operations; and
  - c. any association, involvement, or membership in a political party, group, or initiative;
  - d. any other piece of information required by the Rule Book or other subsequently adopted regulations of Volt Europa.

(6.17) If a group of Individual Members could not be accepted as a Member Association of Volt Europa only due to legal restrictions, a solution shall be found that is in the spirit of treating this group as a Member Association of Volt Europa, especially when it comes to the workings of the Regional Council and the delegate system.

## **Article 7 – Rights and Duties of Members**

### **Individual Members**

- (7.1) Individual members have the duty to:
- a. Comply with the Statute, regulations, Rule Book, manifesto and fundamental values of Volt Europa, and with the directives of the bodies of Volt Europa;
  - b. Promote and support the purpose and aims of Volt Europa as detailed in its Statute and Charter;
  - c. When representing Volt, acting in an official capacity granted by Volt Europa, or otherwise communicating in the name of Volt publicly, do so according to Volt's political vision, program and policies, and, when in doubt, verify compliance with the Board and/or their respective Member Associations.
- (7.2) Individual Members have the right to:
- a. Express their views and political opinions in the General Assembly, through delegates, according to the procedures set out by this Statute and the Rule Book;
  - b. Participate in the development of Volt's activities and realisation of its goals;
  - c.
  - d. Vote for the delegates
  - e. Exercise any other voting rights granted to all individual members in accordance with the Rule Book or as decided by the Board;
  - f. Use, reproduce and display, the name, logo, branding, and any other marketing material owned by Volt Europa and that has been approved by the movement, for personal, non-profit use, in good faith while furthering the purpose of Volt; and
  - g. access Volt Europa's material and tools in accordance with the role they are assigned within Volt.

### **Member Associations**

(7.3) Member Associations have the following duties:

#### *Legal compliance*

- a. Inform the Board in writing of any decisions regarding a change in their legal status.

#### *Cooperation with Volt Europa*

- b. Inform Volt Europa about internal election results, national general assembly agenda and decisions, and other decisions, events, or developments affecting Volt's cause via regular updates;
- c. Have concrete rules about the acceptance of and compliance with Volt Europa's statute in their statutes;
- d. Ensure that all their members comply with Art. 7.1 of this Statute, so as to be enrolled as members of Volt Europa;
- e. Comply with the Statute of Volt Europa and any official decisions made by its bodies and communicated to the Member Associations;
- f. Participate in Volt Europa's meetings, political discussions, and decisions when requested by Volt Europa if required by their position in Volt; and
- g. publish on their websites, in a clearly visible and user-friendly manner the political programme and logo of Volt Europa.

*Compliance with Volt Europa's program, policies and vision*

- h. Promote Volt Europa's purpose as detailed in this statute and in the manifesto, and not contradict its current vision, program, and policies;
- i. Propose the policy documents as determined by the General Assembly to their own political decision making bodies and comply with the decision-making process for political positioning of Volt Europa; and
- j. Receive authorisation by the Regional Council before starting political cooperations with other political parties, groups, or movements.

*Financial obligations*

- k. Pay their designated fees and/or donation shares and honor any other financial agreement toward Volt Europa as member, in a timely manner, as applicable;
- l. Give the Board free access to all its official documents and financial books;
- m. submit annually a financial report to the Board; and
- n. Conduct their financial organisation in a transparent and accountable manner.

*Individual membership*

- o. Comply with members admission procedures as defined by Volt Europa.

*Intellectual property*

- p. Enter into a license agreement with Volt Europa regarding use of Intellectual Property rights in the name of Volt Europa

(7.4) Member associations have the following rights:

- a) Send two board members with full representation rights to Volt Europa's Regional Council (see Section IV of this Statute) as full voting members of that body;
- b) Use the name "Volt [plus country]" (see Art. 6.15.f) when closing the agreement pursuant to Art. 7.3.p.; and
- c) Use the name Volt Europa and its logo and other intellectual property rights for non-profit use while furthering the purpose and actions of Volt.

## **Article 8 – Name change and merger**

(8.1) A Member Association planning to change its name or planning a merger with another political party or organisation must request approval from the Regional Council.

(8.2) When a decision has been reached, the Regional Council shall issue a statement of approval or disapproval to inform the requesting Member Association. In case of approval, the merger or name change shall be conducted without loss of the membership status. The merged Member Association will be considered as having accepted Volt Europa's decisions applicable to the former Member Association and will be bound this Statute and responsible for all its obligations to Volt Europa, including financial obligations

(8.3) „In the event that Volt Europa is registered as a European party according to Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014, as amended from time to time, and is allowed by law and/or case law to stand for election in all elections from local to European level in the respective Member State, Member Associations undertake to merge upstream with Volt Europa, if permitted by law, or to dissolve according to applicable national law.“

## **Article 9 – Termination of Membership**

### **Individual members**

(9.1) A cancellation of the Member Association membership by an Individual Member leads to a cancellation of the Volt Europa membership.. The cancellation of Volt Europa membership by Individual Members that are not members of any Member Association must be communicated to the Board. Cancellations will take effect immediately or at a later date, as stated in the letter of cancellation, but the cancelling member shall remain bound by all outstanding obligations both financial and of other nature towards Volt Europa, unless otherwise stated by the Board.

(9.2) Individual Membership ceases automatically upon death.

(9.3) Resigning or deceased Individual Members and their rightful successors in title shall have no entitlement to the assets of Volt Europa. They may not claim restitution or reimbursement of fees paid or payments made.

### **Member Associations**

(9.4) Each Member Association may cancel their Volt Europa membership at any time. The resignation must be communicated to the Regional Council by the Member Association and needs to stem from a vote of the general assembly of the Member Association. The resignation will take effect immediately or as otherwise stated in the letter of resignation, but the resigning member remains bound by any obligation both financial and of other nature towards Volt Europa. Following resignation from Volt Europa, Member Associations shall not maintain or use the brand “Volt”, “Volt Europa” or “Volt [plus country]” in its name or activities.

(9.5) A Member Association’s membership ceases automatically upon dissolution, liquidation or insolvency. The Volt Europa Membership of all the individual members of a ceased Member Association is automatically ceased as well unless such individuals are members of another Member Association or unless otherwise stated by the Board in accordance with Art. 6.8.

(9.6) Resigning, dissolved or bankrupt Member Associations or their rightful claimants shall have no entitlement to the assets of Volt Europa. They may not claim restitution or reimbursement of fees paid or payments made.

## **Article 10- Sanctions against Individual Members**

## **Measures and grounds**

(10.1) The following sanctions can be imposed on Individual Members:

- a. Warning,
- b. Suspension from any rights provided by this statute or the Rule Book,
- c. Demotion from party offices,
- d. Expulsion.

(10.2) Sanctions can be imposed on at least one of the following grounds and shall be in proportion depending on the gravity of the action of the Individual Person:

- a. non compliance with his or her obligations under this Statutes or the Rule Book;
- b. non compliance with the criteria for its membership;
- c. past, actual, or planned actions which constitute a fundamental risk or threat to Volt's mission or operations and were not known to Volt Europa when the individual became a member;
- d. non compliance with the fundamental values and behaviours.

Each sanctioning decision shall clearly specify the reasons behind it.

## **Competences and procedures**

(10.3) Competent for the issuing of all sanctions is the Board of Volt Europa. Exceptions under Art. 10.7 and 10.8 remain unaffected.

(10.4) A request for the application of any sanction to a member, apart from expulsion, may be submitted to the Board by any other member, but not more than once on the same grounds, unless the behavior in question occurred another time. The Board shall immediately inform the member of the existence of a request for sanctions towards her/him, allow the member to defend himself to give her/ his point of view on the topic and decide of the matter within one month from the receipt of the request for sanctions. A sanctioned member may appeal to the Conflict Resolution Body which decides according to its procedural rules.

(10.5). A suspended member may regain their rights if they eliminate the reasons that caused the suspension and comply with what is demanded them in the decision of the Board on te suspension. Such compliance must be formally notified to the Board, who may then decide to lift the suspension. Suspension and any other sanctions may also be temporary. In such cases, at the end of the sanction period the sanctioned member automatically fully regains any of his right that was limited.

(10.6) The expulsion of Individual Members who are part of a Member Associations is decided by the relevant Member Associations. Being expelled from a Member Association automatically entails expulsion from Volt Europa.

(10.7) The expulsion of Individual Members that are not part of any Member Association is decided by the Board of Volt Europa. Such decisions are taken by a two-third majority of the Board with a 50% constitutive quorum.

(10.8) The requests to file a sanction against a member of the Board, are submitted to the Conflict Resolution Body, which evaluates the request on the grounds of Art. 10.2. Within 10 days after the decision of the Conflict Resolution Body, the sanctioned Board member may call upon the General Assembly to lift or confirm the sanction in an extraordinary vote, which can also be held online. Before such vote both the Conflict Resolution Body and the sanctioned Board member shall provide a justification of their reasons.

## **Consequences**

(10.9) Sanction pursuant to Art. 10.1.a-c shall come into effect immediately after issuing by the first competent organ. The expulsion comes into effect 10 days after issuing or, if the sanctioned member appeals against the decision, after a final decision is taken. In the meantime it will be immediately suspended from its rights pursuant to Art. 10.1.b.

(10.10) Sanction issued toward an Individual Member by Volt Europa shall automatically be respected in the relevant Member Associations of which the individual is a member of.

(10.11) A sanctioned member remains bound by any obligation both financial and of other nature towards Volt Europa. Expelled Individual Members shall have no entitlement to the assets of Volt Europa. They may not claim restitution or reimbursement of fees paid or other payments made.

## **Art. 11- Sanctions against Member Associations**

### **Measures and grounds**

(11.1) The following sanctions can be imposed on Member Associations:

- a. Warning
- b. Suspension from any rights provided by this statute, the rule book or other agreements between Volt Europa and the relevant Member Associations
- c. Suspension of voting rights in the Regional Council
- d. Expulsion

(11.2) Sanctions can be imposed on at least one of the following grounds and shall be in proportion depending on the gravity of the action of the Member Association:

- a. non compliance with its obligations under this Statutes or the Rule Book;
- b. non compliance with the criteria for its membership;
- c. past, actual, or planned actions which constitute a fundamental risk or threat to Volt's mission or operations and were not known to Volt Europa when the member association became a member;
- d. non compliance with the fundamental values and behaviours; and
- e. ongoing lawsuits or criminal investigations.

Each sanctioning decision shall clearly specify the reasons behind it.

### **Competences and procedures**

(11.3) Decision on sanctions pursuant to Art. 11.1.a-b are taken by the Regional Council with a 50% constitutive quorum by majority decision, for sanctions under Art. 11.1.c-d a two-third majority is required.

(11.4) A request for the application of any sanction of a Member Association may be submitted by any member or the Regional Council to the Regional Council itself, but not more than once on the same grounds, unless the behavior in question occurred another time. The Regional Council shall inform the Member Association of the existence of a request for sanctions towards it, allow such member to defend himself giving his point of view on the topic and decide of the matter within three months from the receipt of the request for sanctions.

(11.5) At the end of a temporary sanction period, the sanctioned member automatically fully regains any of his right that was limited. A suspended Member Association may regain its rights if it

eliminates the reasons that caused the suspension and comply with what is demanded them in the decision of the Regional Council on the suspension. Such compliance must be formally notified to the Regional Council, who may then decide to lift the suspension.

### **Consequences**

(11.6) A suspended Member Association and its members that are not members of other Member Associations may not attend Volt meetings and loses all of his rights connected with the membership of Volt Europa, unless otherwise stated by the Regional Council.

(11.7) The expulsion comes into effect immediately after the decision of the Regional Council, but the expelled Member Association remains bound by any obligation both financial and of other nature towards Volt Europa. All the members of an expelled Member Association are automatically expelled from Volt Europa unless they are members of another Member Association or unless otherwise stated by the Regional Council.

## **Article 12 – Membership Fee**

(12.1) A monthly fee may be charged to Member Associations and to the Individual Members that are not members of any Member Association.

(12.2) The amount of the fee (and/or the different amounts based on the income) for Individual Members that are not members of any Member Association is proposed by the Board and approved annually for the following year by the General Assembly by simple majority. If no agreement is reached between the Board and the General Assembly, the fee shall remain the same as in the current year. Fees shall be paid in Euros without deduction of incurred costs. When enforced, membership fees for Individual Members may be differentiated on the basis of income levels of the individuals themselves.

(12.3) The amount of the fee (and/or of the different amounts based on the financial situation) for Member Associations is proposed by the Board and approved annually for the following year by the Regional Council by simple majority. If no agreement is reached between the Board and the Regional Council, the fee shall remain the same as in the current year. Membership fees for each Member Associations consist in a percentage of the membership fees gathered for the same relevant year by the Member Association itself. When enforced, membership fees for Member Associations may vary between different Member Associations based on an assessment of the financial situation of each of them.

## **Section IV – Organs**

### **Article 13 – Bodies of Volt Europa**

The bodies of Volt Europa are:

- a. The General Assembly,
- b. The Board,
- c. The Electoral Committee,
- d. The Regional Council,

- e. The Conflict Resolution Body.

## **Article 14 – General Assembly Composition**

(14.1) The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of Volt Europa and represents the will of all its members.

(14.2) The General Assembly consists of delegates representing all individual members of Volt Europa.

(14.3) The number of delegates invited to the General Assembly shall be at least 500 delegates. The exact number is defined on a yearly basis by Electoral Committee, according to the Rule Book. The distribution to each Member Association should follow these guidelines:

- a. One third of the delegates is distributed equally to each Member Association representing all Individual Members in their respective country.
- b. One third of the delegates is distributed proportionally to each Member Association, which represents all Individual Members in its country, according to population of the geography that the Member Association represent, compared to the population of all the geographies of Volt Europa; and,
- c. One third of the delegates is distributed proportionally to each Member Association according to the number of members of the Member Association compared to the total number of members of Volt Europa; non-attached individual members of Volt Europa are considered as a Group for the purpose of this distribution; and
- d. A Member Association may not represent more than 15% of the total delegates of the General Assembly. If according to criteria A, B, and C, a Member Association is assigned a proportion of delegates higher than the threshold, half of the exceeding amount of delegates rounded down shall be redistributed to the other Member Associations according to criteria A, and the other half according to criteria B. In this additional calculation, the Member Association which has exceeded the threshold is not taking into account.
- e. After all the calculations above, the number of delegates for each Member Association is rounded down to the nearest whole number. If any number of delegates remains to be distributed, it shall be assigned to the least represented Member Association.

(14.4).. Each individual member, regardless of their position within Volt, can run for delegate elections within the Member Association, where they hold voting powers. These delegates shall be elected for a period of 1 year, and attend the regular and extraordinary General Assemblies. The Electoral Committee is responsible for organising and overseeing the election, as stated in Art. 15 and the respective provisions of the Rule Book.

(14.5) Each candidate for delegation must be a member of Volt Europa and must promote their own candidacy to the Electoral Committee.

(14.6) Should a delegate be unable to fulfill their duties, the next candidate of the same Member Association by number of votes in the most recent election shall take their place.

## **Powers and responsibilities**

(14.7) The General Assembly, inter alia:

- a. is responsible for approving the larger political agenda of Volt Europa, the political vision, programme, policies, resolutions and for proposing and voting on amendments;

- b. votes to confirm or lift sanctions against Board members, as detailed in Art. 10.8
- c. approves the budget as detailed in Art. 23;
- d. decides on all other topics assigned to the General Assembly in this Statute and the Rule Book.

### **Decision making-process**

(14.8) Each delegate shall have one vote at the General Assembly.

(14.9) Unless otherwise stated in this Statutes, the General Assembly takes decisions by simple majority with a quorum of 50% of the delegates. Delegates are dismissed if they do not participate in more than three votes during their mandates. The Board can provide exceptions to this rule and has to provide a written motivation for it.

### **Meetings**

(14.10) The regular General Assembly will meet every year between September and November. An extraordinary General Assembly shall be organised by the Board and held whenever requested by:

- a. a two-thirds decision of the Board or the Regional Council;
- b. one third of all Individual Members and/or Member Associations; or
- c. requirements from this Statute, including for powers and responsibilities as stated in article 14.7.

(14.11) Delegates can participate in the General Assembly either in person or remotely /by means of remote communication should the Election Committee deem it is possible.

(14.12) The Board shall schedule a General Assembly at least four months in advance and announce the preliminary agenda and the city of the meeting. For extraordinary assemblies, this period is reduced to 4 weeks. Any Delegate may submit proposals for the agenda until the final agenda will be announced ten days before the General Assembly starts. Announcement via email to all delegates shall be sufficient.

(14.13) Apart from cases provided for in Articles 6 and 8 of the Luxembourg Law of 21 April 1929 on charitable associations and foundations (ASBL), the General Assembly may consider items not on the agenda provided that two-thirds of allmembers of the General Assembly are present and/or represented, either in person, or remotely.

## **Article 15 – Ad hoc Delegate Votes**

Ad hoc Delegate Votes may be called by the Board with at least 3 business days of notice outside of General Assemblies. Ad hoc Delegate Votes can consist of several voting topics at once. These votes can consist of votes on policies, programmes, and their amendments. Delegates cannot miss more than 3 votes during the duration of their mandate or they will lose their mandate.

## **Article 16 – Electoral Committee**

### **Composition**

(16.1) The Electoral Committee shall be appointed within four weeks from the official scheduling of the General Assembly – if voting procedures are needed – and shall dissolve at the announcement of the next General Assembly.



(16.2) The Electoral Committee comprises of 1 member from each Member Association, who are appointed by the Boards of the Member Associations. Members of the Electoral Committee may not hold any official or representative role in a Member Association or Volt Europa.

### **Powers and responsibilities**

(16.3) The Electoral Committee decides by majority vote and shall:

- a. Define the number of delegates in accordance with this Statute and the Rule Book at least three months before the General Assembly;
- b. Organise, support, and monitor the election of delegates for all individual members in accordance with this Statute;
- c. Define the exact election procedure for the Board, receive candidacies for Board positions and schedule the closing of the Board elections at a reasonable time during the General Assembly;
- d. Support and organise further voting during the General Assembly; and
- e. Define means of participation in the General Assembly for delegates with online participation of delegates as a standard option, unless serious technical or security issues are identified.

(16.4) The accordance of the Electoral Committee's work with this Statute and the Rule Book shall be overseen by the Board and, in case of dispute, by the internal Conflict Resolution Body.

## **Article 17 – The Board**

### **Composition**

(17.1) The Board shall consist of the President, a Vice-President, the Treasurer, and at least two appointed Board members. The number of the appointed Board members is left to the discretion of the elected Board members.

(17.2) Elected Board members can appoint and dismiss the non-elected Board members for the period of their term. Appointed Board members may be removed from the Board by a decision of the elected Board members, taken by majority vote.

(17.3) At least three different nationalities shall be represented on the Board. The Board shall be gender-balanced, considering the possibility of an uneven number of board members. .

(17.4) Members of the Board shall not assume leadership roles in any of Volt Europa's Member Associations.

### **Election of the Board Members**

(17.5) Each individual member of Volt Europa is entitled to vote in the election of the members of the Board, in person or remotely.

(17.6) The elections of the Board shall be secret and free. The Electoral Committee is in charge of the election procedure and receives the candidacies.

(17.7) Candidates for the positions of President and Vice-President shall promote their candidacies as one ticket to the Electoral Committee, and the ticket must not be from the same gender and must represent at least two nationalities. Each Candidate to the position of Treasurer shall promote their own candidacy to the Electoral Committee.

(17.8) The term for the Board is 2 years. There is a term limit for each board member of a maximum of 3 terms as elected Board member.

(17.9) Before the end of their term elected Board members may be removed from their office by imposing the sanction pursuant to Art. 10.1.c.

(17.10) In case of vacancy among elected Board members, an election to fill the vacancy shall take place within the next two months and the election shall be overseen by the last Electoral Committee. The person extraordinarily elected shall stay in office for the period running until the end of term of other Board members.

### **Powers and responsibilities**

(17.11) The Board is in charge of the management of Volt Europa, and therefore shall, inter alia:

- a. Ensure the preparation of and the compliance with the budget and the guidelines approved by the GA;
- b. Publish financial reports on a regular basis, however, at least once a year at the General Assembly to ensure openness and transparency;
- c. Ensure the presence of Volt Europa in the European political landscape.
- d. Be responsible for the organisation and convening of General Assemblies, and for the drafting and publishing of their minutes;
- e. Report to the General Assembly on the work and state of Volt Europa and its aspirations.
- f. Ensure communication and cooperation among individual members, as well as among Member Associations.
- g. Take administrative and organisational decision and conduct the day-to-day management of Volt Europa

(17.12) The Board may, inter alia:

- a. Develop and publish official political positions in line with Volt Europa's political programme, its agenda and decisions taken by the General Assembly;
- b. Appoint and remove holders of European leadership positions,
- c. Attend any Member Association meeting (or appoint representatives to attend on their behalf) in order to promote understanding and cooperation between all sections of the association; and
- d. Uphold and enforce the Statute and any internal regulations of Volt Europa.

(17.13) To fulfil its rights and duties under this Statutes and the Rule Book, the Board may delegate its task to a body or office holder indicated by the Board itself.

### **Meetings**

(17.14) The Board shall meet as often as necessary but not less than 4 times in a calendar year upon the notice of the President. An e-mail notification is sufficient and shall state the date and the place of the meeting. The meetings of the Board can be held in person or by means of telecommunication if possible.

(17.15) The meetings of the Board shall be led by the President or, in his absence, by the Vice-President.

### **Decision making-process**

(17.16) The Board shall decide with a quorum of 50 % and by consensus or, where consensus is impossible and has been sought without success, by simple majority. In case of a vote resulting in perfect parity, then the President of Volt Europa has an additional vote to avoid the paralysation of the Board. If the quorum is not reached, a new meeting shall be convened, provided that proper notice is given. In the subsequent session, regardless of the attendance rate, the Board is entitled to take valid decisions.

## **Article 18 – President**

(18.1) The President shall be responsible for the political representation of Volt, as the political leader of Volt Europa, and for the execution of the General Assembly's political line. The President is the highest representative of Volt Europa and shall have the rights and duties as stated in this Statute and the Rule Book.

(18.2) As the political leader of Volt, the President shall have the right and obligation to:

- a. Ensure the maintenance and development of the political line of Volt Europa, in accordance with the Volt Charter, political vision, programme, and policies approved by the GA;
- b. Issue political statements in line with the political vision, programme and policies approved by the GA, and / or the Volt Charter, when time-sensitive and needed;
- c. Ensure the execution of the decisions of the General Assembly

(18.3) As the executive head of the movement, the President shall have the duty to:

- a. Regularly summon, prepare, and chair Regional Council meetings; and
- b. Convene, inform, and chair Board meetings on a regular basis and when requested by the Regional Council; and
- c. Consult with other board members, who shall provide the President with advice and support in achieving the goals of Volt Europa and deputise as requested.

(18.4) Should the President be absent or otherwise unable to discharge his duties, the Vice-President shall stand in for them and fulfill their role duties and tasks.

## **Article 19 – Treasurer**

(19.1) The Treasurer is responsible for the budget and the accounts of Volt Europa and for overseeing its finances.

(19.2) The Treasurer shall fulfill the obligations as detailed in the *Loi du 21 avril 1928 sur les associations sans but lucratif et les établissements d'utilité publique*.

(19.3) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial reporting obligations that may apply to Volt Europa and shall at least annually submit a financial overview to the GA.

## **Article 20 – Regional Council**

### **Composition**

(20.1) The President and one Vice-President of each Member Association, according to their statute, shall represent the Member Associations at Volt Europa and form the Regional Council, which shall be chaired by the President or, in his absence, by the Vice-President of Volt Europa.

### **Powers and responsibilities**

(20.2) The Regional Council is the guarantor of the unity of the movement across Member Associations; its role is to provide cohesion for Volt. Thus, the Regional Council shall ensure that Volt moves as one, and that no internal conflicts and contradictions are left unresolved.

(20.3) The Regional Council shall, among others, have the rights and duties to:

- a. Nullify political statements taken by the President if they contradicts the political vision, programme and policies approved by the GA or the Volt Charter; in such cases the RC shall provide a written justification and communicate it to all members;
- b. Approve political alliances and cooperations of any Member Association and assess their conformity with Volt's values;
- c. Be the highest official channel of communication among Member Associations and Volt Europa;
- d. Determine a group of Individuals from one country to be equal to a member association according to art. 6.17
- e. Admit new Member Associations, as detailed in Art. 6;
- f. Decide on the suspension and expulsion of Member Associations, as detailed in Art. 11;

### **Decision-making process**

(20.4) The Regional Council shall decide by consensus or, where consensus has been sought without success, by simple majority with a quorum of 50%. Should the vote be equally split, the Chair of the Regional Council shall have the deciding vote. The conclusions of Regional Council proceedings shall be published internally after each meeting.

(20.5) The nullifying right under Art. 19.3.a requires two-thirds majority and a quorum of two-thirds.

### **Article 21 – Conflict Resolution Body**

(21.1) An internal Conflict Resolution Body shall be set up and consist of 5 Arbitrators elected by the General Assembly for a period of two years. At least three different nationalities shall be represented in the Conflict Resolution Body.

(21.2) The Conflict Resolution Body shall assist in settling disputes between Members, persons and/or bodies of Volt Europa, be the last body of appeal for Members of Volt Europa and perform other duties foreseen in this Statute or the Rule Book.

(21.3) The rulings of the Conflict Resolution Body shall be binding for all of Volt Europa's organs, Individual Members, and Member Associations.

(21.4) Disputes that fall under the competences of the External Arbitration Body as defined in Art. 29 shall not be part of the tasks of the Conflict Resolution Body.

(21.5) The exact composition of and specific regulations for the Conflict Resolution Body are further defined in the Rule Book.

## **Article 22 – Limited liability and prevalence**

(22.1) Volt Europa is not liable for the actions or obligations of its Member Associations.

(22.2) The members of Volt Europa, the members of the Board, as well as any persons entrusted with the daily management of the Association are not personally liable for the obligations of the Association.

(22.2) The Board is legally liable for actions of Volt Europa within the limits of the laws of the country where the official seat of Volt Europa is situated, as stated in Art. 2 of this Statutes.

(22.3) The liability of persons entrusted with daily management is limited to the proper performance of their mandate.

## **Article 23 – Representation**

Each elected Board member is individually entitled to represent Volt Europa legally and to sign contracts on its behalf. The Board may appoint a proxy (attorney-at-fact), and is legally bound by actions of such a person, within the limits of their power of attorney.

## **Section V – Finances and other provisions**

### **Article 24 – Finances**

(24.1) The financial year of Volt Europa shall run from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year.

(24.2) The Treasurer shall keep detailed financial accounts, prepare the annual budget. The annual budget shall be submitted in finalized version to the General Assembly for approval. The Treasurer shall also ensure that annual accounts and any other document required by the law of the country where Volt Europa has its seat and other applicable law.

(24.3) The Board may decide to grant reimbursement of costs in relation with activities and functions fulfilled for Volt Europa in a fair and consistent manner, should the financial situation of Volt Europa permit.

(24.4) The General Assembly decides on the compensation of the Board for their tasks on an ongoing basis; it may transfer this prerogative to a committee acting on its behalf. The Board may decide to compensate any other member in a fair and consistent manner.

(24.5) An independent audit shall take place once a year and be facilitated by the Treasurer. One or more public accountants certified by the General Meeting of members of the Luxembourg Institute of Accountants, Institut des réviseurs d'entreprises (IRE) shall be selected by the Regional Council for this purpose.

(24.6) An extraordinary General Assembly may request an internal review or external audit of Volt Europa's finances.

### **Article 25 – Donation Policy**

(25.1) Volt Europa publishes an annual list of donations received, specifying both the donor and the donation, for every donation exceeding 3,000 euro per donation or donor per year.

(25.2) When a donation exceeds 3,000 euro, the name of the donor will be listed on Volt Europa's website.

(25.3) Once a European Party, Volt Europa will comply with all provisions from Regulation 1141/2014, especially on obtaining the donor's consent, when the donation exceeds 1,500 Euro.

### **Article 26 – Privacy and Data Protection**

Volt Europa complies with all relevant national and European laws regarding data protection, in particular the Regulation 2016/679<sup>3</sup>. The Association ensures only needed and relevant data is collected and that it is securely stored.

### **Article 27 – Rule Book**

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<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1–8.

(27.1) The Board shall propose a Rule Book for approval by the Regional Council. The Rule Book shall detail, as necessary, the provisions of this Statute for the effective management and operation of Volt Europa and the composition of its bodies in accordance with these Statutes.

(27.2) The procedure for amendments shall be defined in the Rule Book.

## **Article 28 – Amendments to the Statutes**

(28.1) Amendments to these Statutes shall be made by the General Assembly with a three-fifths majority of the votes cast and a quorum of three-fifths of the members of the GA. Amendments to Article 4.1 and 4.2 shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast and a quorum of two-thirds of the members of the GA.

(28.2) Any decision amending the Statutes shall be submitted to the Company Registrar (RCSL) and published according to Luxembourgish law.

## **Article 29 – Duration and Dissolution**

(29.1) Volt Europa is set up for an unlimited period of time.

(29.2) Volt Europa shall not dissolve as a result of the death, expulsions, or resignation of an Individual Member or the dissolution or resignation of a Member Association, provided the resulting number of Individual Members is not less than three.

(29.3) In the event that European legislation give the right to operate under a different legal status for European political parties, and should the General Assembly decide to adopt such a status and to cease the existence of this association, all financial and other assets of Volt Europa shall be transferred to this new legal entity.

(29.4) Except for the event of judicial dissolution or automatic dissolution due to legal requirements, Volt Europa may only be prematurely dissolved by a decision of the General Assembly acting in accordance with Article 20 of the Luxembourgish Law on Non-Profit Associations.

(29.5) A decision to start the dissolution process shall require a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast at the General Assembly, with a quorum of two-thirds. Should the quorum not be reached, a new meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened. In their second session, regardless of the attendance rate, the General Assembly shall be entitled to take valid decisions on the dissolution of the association, provided that a four-week notice is given to the General Assembly and that remote voting is arranged.

(29.6) After dissolution, all assets of the association shall either be transferred to a new Volt Europa entity, in accordance with Art. 28.3, or, in the absence of such new association, be given for charitable purposes in line with Volt Europa's values and purpose.

## **Article 30 – External Arbitration Body**

(30.1) Individual Members, and other natural persons that interact with them in cases arising in the course of Volt activities, can choose to activate an external conflict resolution body when the conduct of the other person:

- potentially implies criminal liability under Luxembourgish law; or

- is discriminatory or amounts to harassment, sexual harassment, or hate speech.

(30.2) This arbitration body shall be independent and external to Volt.

(30.3) The External Arbitration Body shall be proposed by the Board for a period of its own term, and needs to be accepted by the first General Assembly meeting chaired by the newly established Board.

(30.4) Rulings of the External Arbitration Body are binding for all Volt Europa Individual Members, organs, and Member Associations.

### **Article 31 : Jurisdiction clause and competent law**

(31.1) In case of a lawsuit between Volt Europa and one or several Member Associations, Luxembourg law shall apply.

(31.2) In case of incompatibility between Volt Europa's statutes and one or several Member Associations' statutes, Volt Europa's statutes shall prevail.

### **Article 32 – Transitional provisions**

Should Volt Europa be recognised as a European Political Party, the General Assembly shall convene and the Statutes be amended, if necessary.



## Section VI – Annex

### Annex A – Founding Documents: The Volt Charter

#### 00. Preamble

*The Volt Charter is the primary source of the Volt ideology. Summarising the founding documents of Volt, the Charter represents the political vision and direction of Volt.*

*Amendments to the Volt Charter shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast and a quorum of two-thirds of the members of the GA.*

#### 01. Manifesto

##### *Founding pledge*

*We believe that a transnational political movement is needed in Europe, which*

*contributes to the development of a common European political identity and to the expression of the will of the citizens of this continent, which*

*enhances, deepens, and structures peaceful, equal, and responsible cooperation of European people, which*

*contributes through activities at local, regional, national, and European level to enhance civil participation and social justice, which*

*protects human dignity, human rights, solidarity, democracy, equality before the law, freedom, and the rule of law within and outside Europe, which*

*will give birth and coordinate political organisations belonging to this movement in every European country, to advance common causes, shared values, and progressive policies, which*

*promotes and protects the common good of all the residents and citizens and residents of Europe,*

*therefore, we have come together to create Volt, the first pan-European, progressive movement that aims to change the way politics is done, forever.*

##### *Status of European Societies*

*European societies of the 21st century face ample social, political, and economic challenges.*

*On the social level, many **citizens are excluded from partaking in society** and living a decent life. Our system neglects certain disadvantaged groups and regions. The pillars of our social system – the*

*foundation of our societies – are becoming less and less sustainable. Immigration and integration require a re-thinking of our national and European identities and stretch our idea of solidarity.*

*National politics seem to be **stuck in old divisions** of left versus right and liberal versus conservative, but fail to give answers in an insecure and fast-changing world. This perceived insecurity creates a room for extremist movements and parties, who offer ready-made and simplistic answers to questions of security, identity, and solidarity. The European Union, the political and social project of our grandparents and parents, **is blocked** by quarrels of competence and failure to align on shared interests.*

*Our national economies often face **low growth rates**, rely on futureless industries, and lack the conditions to nurture innovation. Economic crises yield detrimental effects on our daily lives. **Diverging economies become a threat** to European cohesion. Digitisation and automation of labour threaten to make large parts of our workforce obsolete, while globalized markets exert pressure on our wage levels. Markets become more and more influential in shaping many spheres of society, ranging from education to the arts and sciences.*

## **Volt**

*Volt is a pan-European, progressive movement.*

***Pan-European**, because we strongly believe that in addition to change at the national level, we need a strong and united Europe to confront the challenges described.*

***Progressive**, because we promote new answers to build a better future, rather than chasing mistaken images of a long gone past.*

***A movement**, because it is time to unite across national borders and become a strong voice to promote our beliefs.*

## **Vision**

*We envision a **united Europe** that values its citizens and residents, who are able to fulfill their unique potential and continuously strive to achieve together the highest standards of human, social, environmental, and technical development.*

*We envision a society where individuals have the rights to **choose how they want to lead their life**. This includes the rights to choose one's religion, gender, sexual orientation, education, profession, and personal aspirations & goals. Furthermore, we believe that individuals should have the **right and responsibility to contribute** to the development of their own community, to mold a more efficient and inclusive society. Finally, we believe that individuals should have a voice and should be able to influence public decision-making, always.*

*We envision a State that is the **guarantor** for the rights of every individual, the **enabler** for the young and for vulnerable individuals to partake fully in society, and the **system of solidarity** by which we ensure a minimum decent standard of living for everyone. No one should be left behind. As a mean,*

*rather than an end in itself, we believe the State should intervene as little and as fast as possible, and as much and as long as needed. We believe that the government should regularly and democratically decide on its way forward and constantly evaluate the State's effectiveness in all its dimensions.*

*We envision a **free and open market economy**, within the rules of a functioning legal system and with equal chances to participate and thrive, that creates the greatest possible wealth for everyone. We believe that the state cannot plan or foresee innovations, but that it needs to **create a space for innovation** to take place and enable research. We believe that the market economy creates **systemic imbalances, which need to be counterweighted**. We believe that the agglomeration of additional wealth should be possible for the hard working. We believe that the right to a decent life includes leisure. We believe that we need to value all professions, especially those that benefit our societies the most, such as education, care, and research.*

*We envision the strengthening of a **European identity**, complementary to the national and local one, to foster a sense of solidarity, cooperation, and belonging in the European people. We believe that only through a widespread adoption of European values our continent can not only avoid falling back in the conflict that crossed Europe for centuries, but also project our society to a future of sustainable peace, shared prosperity, and international relevance.*

## **Goals**

*Our Vision is enshrined in three fundamental goals that the movement pledges to achieve.*

*The **maximisation of the economic prosperity** of European nations and their citizens in a sustainable manner.*

*The **elimination of prejudices and social barriers** that cause the sufferance and discrimination of people who belong to minorities and groups historically discriminated against, or who come from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds.*

*The creation of a pan-European, progressive political force, built upon national-level progressive parties, that achieve a considerable political weight to foster **the European integration** in the near future.*

## **Internal principles**

*When working in Volt, we put a special emphasis on three key principles in order to govern the way we collaborate and progress.*

**Innovation.** *We express our ambition to find innovative solutions and never be bound to the status quo*

**Efficiency.** *We express the need to make the best use of our human, and economic resources, in order to fight waste and achieve our goals in the fastest way possible.*

**Equal Opportunities.** *We express our conviction that every member should face the same opportunities when it comes to personal development and success. Every member shall have a voice, and feel part of a shared vision.*

## 02. 5+1 Challenges

*Volt defined 5+1 fundamental challenges that we want to advance in every European country. The reason for 5+1 is that the 5 first challenges will be adapted to the national level to take into account local realities, and the +1 challenge – our proposal to reform and strengthen the EU – will be identical across all our national programs. Those 5 first challenges provide guidelines to all Volt Chapters, and do not only deal with European competences.*

### **1. Smart State**

*In times of transformation, governments must adapt to enable every citizen to fully participate and contribute to society, and provide for maximal social inclusion and mobility. Smart States must adopt new tools to earn their citizens' trust through accountable, transparent, and efficient governance. We will invest in our common future, including crafting innovative education systems, quality healthcare, and effective justice. Together, we will use technology for common prosperity.*

### **2. Economic Renaissance**

*European economies need to become the engine of society's progress and allow for a decent living standard for everyone. To achieve our vision we established three key levers: rebuilding economically challenged areas, fostering leadership in innovation, and pushing for the EU to become a 'Social Union'. This requires innovative concepts and policies to reduce bureaucracy, strengthen the job market, revive innovation in our economies, invest in smart and sustainable productivity and trade, tackle unemployment, and create a more unified European social and fiscal system.*

### **3. Social Equality**

*EU citizens and residents need to be guaranteed equal rights and opportunities, and human rights need to be respected and applied! To ensure that, we aim to introduce policies that tackle all types of inequalities and discrimination, alleviate poverty and provide access to basic needs. Most importantly, no one will be left behind! These policies include: bridging the gender gap by 2025, ensuring equal rights for all, and end homelessness in Europe.*

### **4. Global Balance**

*In an interconnected world, Europe needs to assume responsibility for its role in global challenges, especially regarding climate change, food and water security, public health, migration and refugee*

crises. In line with the UN Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, we aim to take actions on eradicating poverty, generating jobs, building a circular economy, ensuring fair trade, securing livelihoods and building infrastructure for sustainable development and growth.

## **5. Citizens Empowerment**

This challenge explores to what degree citizens can have a more direct influence on their government, what kind of information governments should publish and how citizens can be optimally informed to participate in democratic life. This means that we search for best practices of citizen participation, transparency, for ways to structure public media and approaches to safeguard our privacy.

### **+1. EU Reform**

The European project has brought 70 years of peace and stability to our continent. However, the EU has been shaken by crises and Euroscepticism. In order to build on what has been achieved, the EU Reform team develops (1) ways to improve EU governance by proposing a clear path of institutional reform towards a federal European Union, and (2) concrete proposals for all policy fields.

## **03. Fundamental Values**

Volt is a **progressive** movement. We uphold principles that value equality, human dignity, and human rights no matter what: we will not compromise on our fundamental values, and will stand up for them in every corner of Europe, every time it is needed.

We founded our movement on these pillars: we do not take decisions based on “what our background is” or “where we grew up”, we do not trump people’s rights because “it feels wrong” or because “we are scared”, we cannot hide from tough questions because “they make us feel uncomfortable” or because “voters will not like it.” For this reason, we will not back down from a fight necessary to advance, uphold or defend the rights of somebody just because it is unpopular with the electorate.

Our fundamental values are formed based on the respect of human rights, the respect of others, justice, human dignity, solidarity, democracy, equality before the law, freedom, and the rule of law.

In practice, here are some of the values that are fundamental to Volt, and upon which Volt was created: equality for all (which includes gender equality, LGBTIQ+ rights, principles of non-discrimination), freedom of religion, the belief in a secular state, abortion rights and refugee rights. This list is not exhaustive but it aims at depicting Volt’s commitment to the rights of every person in the European continent.

**Annex B – List of all members**

[under development]

**Annex C – Logo of Volt Europa**

