

**Constitution of the non-profit association**  
**European Association for the History of Medicine and Health**  
(voted upon by the General Assembly August 29, 2025)

**Article 1 – Name and Seat**

1. The name of the organisation shall be 'The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health', hereinafter referred to as The Association.
2. The constitution of The Association shall be in accordance with the requirements of the national law of the country of its seat.
3. The seat of The Association is in Berlin (Germany).

**Article II - Purposes of The Association**

The principle purposes of the Association shall be:

1. To provide a high-level interdisciplinary and international forum for research in the history of medicine, health, and disease understood in the broadest sense.
2. To promote and foster research, teaching, and international scientific cooperation, between individuals as well as with related national and international societies through conferences and an open-access journal.
3. To promote public awareness of historical aspects of medicine, health and disease through free (online) lectures.

The Association shall be a non-profit organisation.

**Article III - Membership**

The Association shall only consist of Ordinary (private) members.

Members should work in the history of medicine and/or related fields, or be young scholars in the relevant fields. Residency or employment in Europe is not a precondition for qualification.

**Article IV – Officers**

1. The officers of The Association shall be: The President, the Vice-President (or Past-President), the President-elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Chair, the webmaster, the chair of the student prize and the book award, the social media and communications officer, the networks coordinator, the webinar officer and the regional inclusion officer.
2. The General Assembly may elect the same person to hold the offices of both Secretary and Treasurer.
3. The President: the President shall act as the Chairperson of the General assembly. The President shall be elected to serve until the end of that conference period (i.e., two years) and shall not be eligible for re-election.
4. The President shall then serve on the Scientific Board for one period as Vice-President (or Past-President).
5. Should the President be prevented from completing the term of office, the Vice-President (Past-President) shall act as deputy until the next meeting of the General Assembly.
6. The President-elect: the President-elect shall be chosen from a different country from that of the President. The President-elect shall serve for two years (or one conference period) concurrently with the President, and shall succeed the President in office.

7. The Secretary: the Secretary shall be responsible for the day-to-day conduct of The Association's business. The Secretary shall be elected to serve two conference periods, and shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretary shall also be responsible for the Archives.
8. The Treasurer: the Treasurer shall assume the customary duties and responsibilities of this office. The Treasurer shall be elected to serve for two conference periods, and shall be eligible for re-election.
9. The Chair shall be responsible for the meetings of the Scientific Board, setting its agenda
10. The webmaster shall be responsible for the upkeep of the website of the Association
11. The chair of the student prize and the book award shall be responsible for the proper procedure of both prizes, also putting together both juries in collaboration with the other members of the Board
12. The social media and communications officer shall be responsible for the public relations of the EAHMH (including a Newsletter)
13. The networks coordinator shall oversee the networks of the Association and be responsible for the acquisition and initial funding of new networks
14. The webinar officer shall organize and oversee the EAHMH webinars
15. The regional inclusion officer shall be responsible for the inclusion and active participation of medical historians of all regions in Europe
16. Nominations for officers are made by the Scientific Board for election at the General Assembly.

#### **Article V - The General Assembly**

1. The President calls the Members of The Association to meet in General Assembly during each regular scientific conference. The Members present at a meeting of the General Assembly shall constitute a quorum for its business.
2. The General Assembly carries out the following:
  - a) receives a report of the President,
  - b) determines the date and place of the next scientific conference,
  - c) elects the President, the President-elect (if there is at least one candidate), the Secretary, and the Treasurer,
  - d) elects the other Members for the Scientific Board,
  - e) votes on the topic of the next scientific conference, to be suggested by the newly elected President,
  - f) approves the Accounts,
  - g) deals with any other business raised by the Scientific Board or Members. This business must be submitted, in writing, at least two weeks in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly.

#### **Article VI – Scientific board and committees**

1. The Scientific Board is composed of the Officers, who are all members of the Association. One of the Members shall act as Chairperson. The Members shall be elected by the General Assembly, to serve for one conference period, and shall as a rule be eligible for re-election for a maximum of four conference periods. Nomination for membership can be made by two ordinary Members or by the Scientific Board by written submission to the Secretary. Six members constitute a quorum for its business.
2. The Scientific Board shall be responsible for:
  - a) the organisation of the scientific biennial conference,
  - b) research networks under the auspices of The Association,
  - c) the promotion of other activities furthering the purposes of The Association.
3. Sub-Committees may be established by the Scientific Board.

4. The Chair shall be the legal representative of The Association
5. The President and the Chairperson of the Scientific Board shall be ex officio members of all Sub-Committees.

#### **Article VII – Book series**

1. The Association publishes a book series called *Clio Medica: Studies in the History of Medicine and Health*.
2. The book series shall be co-edited by three medical historians, to be elected by the Scientific Board.
3. The Scientific Board has the right to replace one or more of the editors.
4. At the recommendation of the series editor the publisher will appoint scholars of high international standing who together make up the Editorial Board.
5. The Scientific Board shall have the right to decide on the discontinuation of the book series for scientific, financial or other reasons. It will inform the General Assembly about its considerations.

#### **Article VIII – Journal**

1. The Association publishes a journal called the *European Journal for the History of Medicine and Health*. It is published in open access (free access for all).
2. The journal shall be co-edited by five Editors-in-Chief, three of which are to be elected by the Scientific Board in consultation with the publisher.
3. The Association or the Editors-in-Chief shall appoint an Editorial Board.
4. The journal is considered the continuation of *Gesnerus*, which used to be published by the Swiss Society for the History of Medicine and Sciences. Three Editors-in-Chief shall represent The Association and be elected by its Scientific Board, the other two shall represent and be elected by the Swiss Society.
5. The Scientific Board shall have the right to decide on the discontinuation of the journal for scientific, financial or other reasons. It will inform the General Assembly about its considerations.

#### **Article IX - Dues**

Members pay an annual membership fee of an amount to be determined by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Scientific Board.

#### **Article X – Status of members**

1. Anyone who has paid the membership for a given year will be considered a Member for that year.
2. A Member may be expelled for good cause from The Association following the vote of three quarters of those present and voting at the meeting of the General Assembly.
3. Any Member may resign from the Association at any time and need only inform the Scientific Board of this decision in writing. No refund of membership dues will be possible.

#### **Article XI - Amendments to the Constitution and Bye-laws**

Amendments to the Constitution can be proposed by the Scientific Board or conjointly by at least five Members.

1. Such amendments shall be submitted to all Members in writing at least two weeks before the meeting of the General Assembly at which they are to be considered. In order to be integrated into the constitution such amendments require the vote of two-thirds of those members present and voting at a meeting of the General Assembly.
2. Amendments to the Bye-laws may be considered at any meeting of the General Assembly, and shall require the votes of two-thirds of those present and voting for approval.

#### **Article XII – The Dissolution of the Association**

1. In the event that the General Assembly, upon the proposal of the Scientific Board or a joint proposition by five or more Members, decides by the votes of three-quarters of those present and voting that the Association is unable to fulfil its purposes as specified in Article II, The Association shall be dissolved.
2. Upon the dissolution of the Association, its assets remaining after payment or provision for payment of all debts and liabilities of the Association shall be distributed to the non-profit Fachverband Medizingeschichte (Professional Association for Medical History) for the purpose of promoting science and research.

#### **Article XIII – Bye-Laws**

1. Quorum and Decisions: The quora of the General Assembly, and the Scientific Board are fixed in Articles V and VI, respectively. Provided these are reached and unless otherwise specified, decisions shall be made by a majority of those present and voting. In the event of a hung vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.
2. Should a vacancy occur among the officers of The Association or the Members of the Scientific Board each body shall have the power to co-opt an appropriate person (preferably a Member) until the next General Assembly at the latest.
3. The business year of The Association is the calendar-year.
4. Two Members shall be recruited at least a week before the biennial conference to audit the Accounts of the Association (the Auditors). The Auditors should not work in the same institution as the Treasurer and, where possible, should both be working in different countries or a different country from the Treasurer. The Auditors will approve or reject the Accounts (with a full written explanation in case of their rejecting the Accounts) prior to the general assembly. The judgement of the Auditors on the Accounts should be communicated to the assembled Members at the General Assembly prior to their vote concerning the Accounts.