**Regulations for the Student Organization of Agder (STA)**

# Chapter 1: Name and purpose

**§ 1 Name**

 The name of the organization is the Student Organization of Agder, abbreviated STA.

**§ 2 Purpose**

The Student Organization of Agder is the main organization for all students at the University of Agder. STA`s main task is to look after and promote the students’ academic, social, cultural, financial, welfare and democratic interests, and to promote awareness for local, national and international cases concerning the students, cf. *Lov om universiteter og høgskoler,* §.4.1.

The Student Organization of Agder is neutral when it comes to party politics and will only state a point of view in issues concerning student politics.

## Chapter 2: Membership

**§ 3 Members of the Student Organization of Agder**

All students at the University of Agder who pays their student fee to the Student Welfare Organization (SiA) is a member of the Student Organization of Agder.

**§ 4 Membership of national organizations**

 **§4.1** The Student Organization of Agder is a member of the National Union of

 Students in Norway (NSO), with the rights and obligations this entails.

 **§ 4.2** The Student Organization of Agder is a member of the Norwegian Students`

 and Academics` International Assistance Fund (SAIH), with the rights and

 obligations this entails.

### Chapter 3: STA`s documents

### § 5 Document hierarchy

 This paragraph regulates which documents that at any time takes precedence over the

 others in the hierarchy of documents.

 **§ 5.1 Regulations**

 The regulations are the highest document of the Student Organization of Agder.

 **§ 5.2 Organizational documents**

 These documents are equal and elaborates the regulations.

* The Election Rules
* The Economy Rules
* STA`s budget
* STA`s Job descriptions

 **§ 5.3 Political documents**

 The documents under are listed in a prioritized order.

* The Policy paper
* Political document(s)
* Plan of action

 **§ 5.4 Conflicting documents**

 In cases where the documents are conflicting, and the document hierarchy does not

 prioritises, the Student Parliament shall decide the current policy.

**§ 6 Regulations**

###  The regulations are binding for all aspect of the organization.

 The regulations shall every year, before 31th of March, be treated by the Student Parliament. To change the regulations demands a 2/3 majority. Suggestion changes concerning the regulations must be sent to the STA-board 2 weeks at the latest before the Student Parliament`s treatment of the case. The Student Parliament shall be informed about the incoming suggestion changes consecutively.

 The STA-board will make propositions on the suggestion changes in the case to the Student Parliament. The suggestion changes, with the STA-board`s propositions, will be sent out to the Student Parliament with the usual case papers.

 A change in the regulations will be effective as soon as the Student Parliament has voted over the whole regulations. The Student Parliament can decide, with a 2/3 majority, that the regulations will be effective from a later time.

 The Student Parliament can open for an extra ordinarily treatment of the regulations, this decision must have a 2/3 majority. The procedures will be the same as a normal treatment.

**§ 7 Election Rules**

The Student Parliament shall treat the election rules every year before the 31th of March.

**§ 8 Economy Rules**

 The Student Parliament shall treat the economy rules every year before 31th of March.

**§ 9 Budget**

The Student Parliament passes a budget for the upcoming year before the 3oth of September.

 An audited budget will be treated by the Student Parliament after the balance sheet has

been approved. An absolute majority passes the budget.

**§10 STA`s work description**

The StudentParliament passes the work descriptions for the STA-board. The

 work descriptions shall be audited by the Student Parliament before 31th of March,

 Changes in the work descriptions demands an absolute majority.

### § 11 STA`s Policy paper

 The policy paper describes STA`s values and political principles. The policy paper

 shall be treated every other year before the 3oth of November. It shall be treated and

 passed by the Student Parliament with an absolute majority.

**§ 12 Political documents**

The political documents describe STA`s political stance. The political documents shall

 revised every third year at the latest. The STA-board and political committees

 considers which documents that shall be revised. When revising, this shall take place

 before 30th of April.

 The political documents are passed by the Student Parliament with a 2/3 majority. The

 STA-board makes propositions on the political documents.

**§13 Plan of action**

The plan of action is a guidance for STA regarding how STA`s work should be prioritized in the upcoming year. The plan of action consists of current cases according to the political document and internal processes of STA.
It is passed by the Student Parliament before 30th of September and is proposed by the STA-board.

### Chapter 4: The Student Parliament

**§ 14 Authority**

The Student Parliament is STA`s highest governing body.

**§ 15 Time of function**

 The Student Parliament is elected by ballot in the spring, and the time of function is

 from 01th of July until 3oth of June.

**§ 16 Electoral system for the Student Parliament**

The Student Parliament is elected by ballots in each faculty and the teacher education unit.

The Student Parliament consist of 25 representatives. Each faculty and the teacher education unit make up a constituency. Each constituency has one (1) representatives.

The remainder of the representatives is divided into election rounds where each constituency receives one representative per a started 750 students. A constituency will not be able to receive more than one student in each election round.

If a constituency does not reach the 750 students mark, it will be taken of the list and will not be able to receive more representatives. The remaining representatives will be divided between the other constituencies according to the rule of started 750 students.

In the last election round the representatives will be divided between the constituencies with the highest number of students. They are divided until there are no more representatives left.

**§ 17 Supplementation of representatives in the Student Parliament**

If necessary, the Student Parliament and the STA-board can agree to start a

 supplementation process. An unanimous general meeting in STA must approve

 the start of a supplementation process.
 If there are submitted more candidate schemes than needed during a supplementation

 process, a drawing lots will take place.

**§ 18Quorum**

The Student Parliament has a quorum when all the representatives have been summoned according to the regulations, and a minimum of 50 % is present at the meeting.

**§ 19 Deadlines**

All cases must be sent to the STA-board a minimum of three (3) weeks before the Student Parliament meeting. Under special circumstances, the STA-board can make an exception of this rule.

Concerning ordinary meetings, the summons and case papers shall be sent to the Student Parliament one (1) week at the latest before the meeting.

The summons for the election meeting shall be sent out to the Student Parliament two (2) weeks at the latest before the meeting.

**§ 20 Election**

The Student Parliament is the election assembly for student representatives to STA`s

boards and committees, and UiA`s boards and committees. The election assembly shall take place in May.

The elections take places in accordance with STA`s Election regulations.

**§ 21 Meetings of the Student Parliament**

The first meeting of the function period shall take place in September. At this meeting a meeting plan for the whole year shall be passed.

The rules of procedure shall be passed at the first meeting in September, with a 2/3 majority, and is applied for the function time of the Student Parliament who passed it.

 The following cases shall be treated at every meeting of the Student Parliament:

* Election of moderators
* Roll- call
* Approvement of the summons, subject order and agenda
* Approvement of the protocol from the last meeting
* Updates
* Miscellaneous

 The Student Parliament is not able to treat a decision case during miscellaneous.

 The meetings of the Student Parliament are open to all unless something else is

 passed. A protocol from all the meetings shall be written.

 A discussion about closing a meeting shall take place in a closed meeting. To close

 a meeting an absolute majority is demanded. A passing that concerns closing of a

 meeting only applies to the case in question. A protocol shall be taken from a closed

 meeting.

 The STA-board can invite observes to cases of special concern to the meeting.

**§ 22 Obligations and rights**

The representatives of the Student Parliament are obligated to appear.

 The president of the Student Organization is also the leader of the Student Parliament with the status as an observer.

The STA-board has an observer status and their attendance at the meetings are compulsory.

The organizational consultant is the note taker at the meetings and has an observer status with a compulsory attendance.

In addition, the following student representatives has an observer status: STA`s Election committee, STA`s Control committee, the leader of the SiA-board, the leader of the Welfare Counsel of Agder and the UiA-board.

The Student Parliament can, with a simple majority, take away the observer status of these student representatives, in cases concerning closing of the meeting. This does not

regard the STA-board and note taker.

The STA-board can invite observes to cases of special concern for the closed case.

**Chapter 5: The STA-board**

**§ 23 Authority**

The STA-board is responsible for the daily operations and dealings of STA and treat cases between the meetings of the Student Parliament. The STA-board is the highest governing body between to meetings of the Student Parliament. The STA-board treat cases, appoint students and make strategic decisions on behalf of STA, in accordance with guidelines and authorities given by the Student Parliament.

The STA-board is STA`s executive body and is responsible towards the Student Parliament. The STA –board shall propose cases to the Student Parliament.

The president of STA has the employer’s liability towards the STA-board, and the Student Parliament has the same liability towards the president.

**§ 24 Composition**

The STA-board consist of five (5) members elected by the Student Parliament.

**§ 25 The right to sign**

The president and vice president of STA has the right to sign on behalf of the

 organization.

**§ 26 Quorum and voting**

The STA-board has a quorum when all the board members is summoned and a minimum of three (3) is present. The president or vice president must be present for the board to have a quorum.

If there is an equality of votes, the presidents` casting vote will decide the matter. If the president is not present, the casting vote of the vice president will decide the matter.

**§ 27 Employment**

The STA- board employs new personnel and has employer`s vicarious liability towards the personnel. The Student Parliament must approve the work description and the establishment of a new position.

**§ 28 Responsibility with a president`s defection**

If a president is to defect from the organization, the vice president takes over all the

 duties, tasks and salary until a new president is elected. A new president is elected by

 the Student Parliament as soon as possible. The new president starts the position when

 the meeting is over.

**Chapter 6: The Student activities**

**§ 29Rules**

The student activities that are a part of the Student Organization of Agder (STA), can

 not have regulations that are in opposition to STA`s regulations.

 The student activities must always follow the rules for the student activities.

**Chapter 7: Student representatives and student spokesmen**

**§ 30 Student representatives and student spokesmen**

STA shall follow up the University of Agder`s Quality Assurance System, and make

sure that the University of Agder facilitate meeting places for the student spokesmen

 at the faculty and study program levels.

 STA shall follow up the student representatives in central boards and committees

 at the University of Agder and in STA.

**Chapter 8: Lack of confidence and resignation**

**§ 31 Lack of confidence**

 Proposal concerning lack of confidence towards representatives elected by the

 Student Parliament, must be treated by the Student Parliament and passed by a 2/3

 majority. All suggestions concerning a lack of confidence must be in writing and given

 to the STA-board. The president of STA makes the case papers and present the case to

 the Student Parliament. If the lack of confidence is directed towards the president of

 STA, the vice president of STA will handle the case.

 All students` at the University of Agder who pays their student fee can hand in a

 notion for vote of no confidence.

**§ 32 Announcement**

Cases concerning a lack of confidence must be announced to the concerning party as

soon as possible after the notion has been handed in.

**§ 33 Resignation**

If a student representative, elected by the Student Parliament, resigns during the

 period he is elected for, the Student Parliament elects a new representative for the

 remaining period. If requirement for representation means that the decision cannot

 wait, the STA-board and the Election committee can supplement the missing

 representatives. The Student Parliament approves the supplement at the next meeting.

 The Student Parliament must always make a supplement when it comes to the STA-

 board.

**§ 34 In general**

Members of the STA-board and the student representatives in the UiA-board has a duty to inform the president of STA if they start a new job outside the organization. The president will thereafter consider the given information and if there are any grounds for a no-confidence notion.

The receiver of the no-confidence notion can make a statement to the Student Parliament, either by himself or from a representative.

Cases consenting a lack of confidences will be treated in a closed meeting.

Non-confidence notions that are anonymous will be discarded.

**Chapter 9: The Control committee**

**§ 35 Composition**

The Student Parliament shall elect their own control committee. The Student

 Parliament regulates the mandate for the control committee, through STA`s

 Election rules.

 The committee consist of one leader and two members. The leader is elected on its

 own.

 Students cannot be a representative in both the Student Parliament and the Control

 Committee.

**Chapter 10: General stipulations**

**§ 36Finances**

STA`s finances should be managed according to the organizations` economy rules.

**§ 37 Report**

The STA-board will present an annual report depicting what STA has done, at the last meeting of their election period. The annual report will thereafter be sent to the University of Agder and the Student Welfare Organization of Agder with the audited accounts.

**§ 38 Confidentiality requirements**

All boards and committees of STA is subjected to confidentiality requirements in cases concerning people.

The Student Parliament can in some cases instruct themselves or other boards and committees confidentiality requirements.

**§ 39 Editorial changes in the documents**

The STA-board and the secretariat can make editorial changes of STA`s documents.

**§ 40 Revision of documents**

The last date of revision of STA`s documents shall always be written at the end of

 the document.

**§ 41 Definitions**

 The following conceptions are being used as a basis for definitions:

**Simple majority vote**: Means that more representatives vote for a proposal than against. There will be a new voting round if there is an equality of votes. If the proposal does not receive a majority, it will fall regardless of the recommendations.

**Absolute majority vote**: Over half of the representatives who are entitled to vote votes for the proposal (abstained and rejected votes do not count)

**2/3 majority vote**: 2/3 of the representatives’ vote for the proposal, abstained votes will not be counted

A simple majority vote applies if nothings else is decided.

Representatives who are entitled to vote: Representatives who are present at the meeting during voting.

**Representative of the Student Parliament:** A person with compulsory attendance who has the right to speak, make proposals and vote in the Student Parliament.

 **Observer status in the Student Parliament**: A person with the right to meet, speak

 and make proposals in the Student Parliament.

 **A student spokesman:** an elected student who has gained the confidence from its

 fellow students at the University of Agder to represent them in processes, meetings

 and gatherings where the student voice is being lifted.

 **A student representative:** The students elected representatives in boards and

 committees at UiA and in STA, in addition to appointments made by the

 STA-board for lift the student voice.

 **Revised 20th of March 2019**