

# **George-Marshall-Gesellschaft (e.V.)**

## **George Marshall Society (membership association)**

An association to promote German - American relations  
and the twinning of MTK with Loudoun

Address:

Main-Taunus-Kreis – County authorities office

Am Kreishaus 1-5, D-65719 Hofheim

### **Preamble**

The George Marshall Association (membership association) has, in order

to further develop German-American relations in the Main-Taunus County and in the Frankfurt/Rhein-Main region,

to act as a reminder of George C. Marshall's historical achievements regarding the reconstruction of Germany after the Second World War („Marshall Plan“) and

to strengthen the Main-Taunus County's partnership with Loudoun County (Virginia, USA),

agreed to the following statutes to develop German-American relations and the county partnership between MTK-Loudoun:

### **§ 1 Name, Headquarters, Financial year**

The association shall be called „George-Marshall-Gesellschaft (membership corporation) an association to promote German - American relations and the twinning of the MTK (Main Taunus Kreis) with Loudoun“. It is registered in the official register of societies and associations and has its headquarters in Hofheim am Taunus. The financial year is the calendar year.

### **§ 2 Objectives**

The association's objectives are:

- (1) the promotion of an international way of thinking and of an international understanding
- (2) support for education and upbringing
- (3) support for science and research
- (4) support for art and culture

These objectives will be pursued through:

- a) the development of contacts and the exchange of experiences between German and American citizens and other groups of people, especially in the Frankfurt/Rhein-Main and Greater Washington regions. At the same time, presentations, seminars, conferences, forums, talks and publications will be prepared and carried out. Through these means, questions about transatlantic co-operation will be discussed as well as the political, cultural, political-economic and social situation of both nations being represented as well as knowledge regarding their economic systems being given. In doing this, a mutual understanding of both nations, as well as respect for existing differences will be promoted.
- b) the support and promotion of cultural projects, for example artistic exchanges, as well as their further development
- c) the awarding of scholarships or other benefits to encourage education or study plans or research projects as well as further projects in the spirit of George C. Marshall, that serve the purpose of this association
- d) the support and carrying out of international meetings, especially between pupils and other groups of people within the Main Taunus County/Loudoun County's framework

### **§ 3 Selflessness, Allocation of resources**

- (1) This is a non-profit-making association. It does not primarily pursue goals serving its own financial interest.
- (2) The association's means should only be used for purposes stated in the rules. Members receive no donations from the association's funds.
- (3) All members work in an honorary capacity.
- (4) No person is allowed, through expenditure, which is foreign to the statutory corporation's aims or through disproportionately high rewards, to be favored.

### **§ 4 Bodies**

The association's bodies consist of the general meetings and the committee.

### **§ 5 General meeting**

- (1) The general meeting takes place, at least, once a year. The meeting is called for, in the cases that are specified by the statutes, when the association's interests call for it or if one tenth of the members request it.
- (2) The general meeting accepts financial reports and cash statements. It supports the committee, holds elections, determines statute amendments or the dissolution of the association and elects an auditor. Members can file further motions.
- (3) The chair will invite the membership to the general meeting by announcing the agenda, via e-mail (if the member's e-mail address is known) or in written form, at

least four weeks in advance. The agenda may be amended or changed by a majority vote of the assembly. This does not apply for amendments to the charter.

(4) An amendment to the charter requires a two-thirds majority of the members present. The same applies to changes to the association's aims or to its dissolution. Other decisions will have an ordinary resolution.

(5) Decisions made in the general meetings are to be recorded in written form and signed by a committee member.

### **§ 6 Committee**

(1) The committee consists of a chairperson, a managerial chairperson and a further four elected members.

(2) The committee members are elected every three years. They remain until the statutable appointment of the next committee in office. Incidentally, the time in office of an elected member of the committee ends because of being absent without sufficient reason or resigning as an association member. In this case the remaining committee members take over the tasks of the withdrawn member temporarily until the next general meeting.

(3) The committee, according to § 26 BGB (German code of civil law), are the chairperson and the managerial chairperson, who individually represent the association, judicially and extra-judicially (exclusive agency).

(4) The committee conducts business dealings in line with the association's objectives. It can give itself rules of procedure. The committee is quorate if, in addition to the chairperson and managerial chairperson, at least two other committee members are present. Decisions will be made with a majority of the votes and they will be recorded in writing.

### **§ 7 Trustees**

The committee can form and summon a board of trustees. People, whose purposes are linked in a special way to the George Marshall association MTK - Loudoun and who act in a favorable way in public for the association should be members of the board.

### **§ 8 Audit**

The general meeting elects two auditors, each working for a period of three years. They present their audit results at the general meeting.

### **§ 9 Membership**

(1) Any natural person or corporate body can be a member. Admissions are decided by the committee after consideration of written applications.

2) Membership expires in the event of death, resignation, expulsion or dissolution of the association.

3) A resignation must be explained in written form to the committee, giving three months notice to the end of the membership year.

4) Whoever, through gross negligence or premeditated intent, acts in opposition to the association's interest or fails to pay dues may have membership suspended. The committee decides. The member is entitled to appeal against the decision at the general meeting. The appeal against the decision has to be made to the committee within one month. The next general meeting decides the matter conclusively.

### **§ 10 Membership fees, donations and sponsorship**

(1) The George Marshall Society raises membership dues. The levels of these dues are officially set by the General Meeting. Additional details are specified by the Committee through rules governing contributions.

(2) In order to fulfill its aims, the association is open to donations and sponsorship.

### **§ 11 Use of association's funds**

In the case of the association's dissolution or suspension or in the case of a disappearance of the present objectives, taxed at a lower rate, the complete funds would be handed over to the Main-Taunus County, which could use the money immediately and exclusively for charitable objectives.

### **§ 12 Coming into effect**

The rules come into effect on the day of the association's registration into the official register of societies and associations.

(The charter was adopted at the general meeting on July 7, 2009, at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Amendments were adopted at the general meetings in the DaVinci House at Frankfurt Airport on August 31, 2010, in the Oldtimer Garage at Opel, Rüsselsheim on March 14, 2011, and in the George Marshall House at the Konrad Adenauer School, Kriftel on June 19, 2012.)