

# **pirate**party

Two chamber hyrid model for PP-EU

Pirate Party Switzerland 20.05.2012

This paper describes the idea of a two chamber hybrid membership model for PP-EU. It is far from complete but outlines the basic workings of such a model. It deals with membership, decisions process and financing as these issues are tightly connected.

The hybrid model with both individual and party membership is both compatibles with the pirate ideal of political participation on every level and the reality that most work is and will be done at the country level.

It binds together the European pirate parties to form a powerful party at the European level but allows also for the cultural differences thereby following the motto Ünited in diversity.



Basics	2
Membership	
Full membership for parties	3
Full membership for individuals	4
Observer membership for pirate parties	5
Observer membership for NGOs	5
Organization	6
	6
Chamber of Parties	6
Decisions process	7
Election process	
Financing	

#### **Basics**

The full members of PP-EU are both the individual European pirates and the European pirate parties. To decide both the individual pirates and the pirate parties need to agree.

We all want to promote the initiatve and decision power of all individual pirates. At the same time PP-EU exists to support national and regional pirate parties in getting their members elected to European Parliament. Therefore the parties must also consent to the decisions. This concept also keeps the many small parties from constantly overruling the larger ones and vice versa.

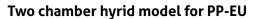
## Membership

#### Full membership for parties

Pirate parties are eligable for full membership if they are a full member of PPI and are based in a EU member, EFTA member or EU acceding member country.

EFTA countries are already heavily impacted by EU decisions. They all have extensive treaties with the EU and its member countries. Acceding EU members will soon become EU members and thus be impacted too. Candidate members on the other hand may remain candidates for a long time and perhaps never join. Some of them do not fullfill some important prerequisites for joining the EU.

This would make pirate parties from the following countries eligable for full membership:





Austria EU member EU member Belgium Bulgaria EU member Cyprus EU member EU member Czech Republic EU member Denmark EU member Estonia Finland EU member France EU member Germany EU member EU member Greece Hungary EU member Ireland EU member Italy EU member EU member Latvia Lithuania EU member Luxembourg EU member EU member Malta Netherlands EU member Poland EU member Portugal EU member Romania EU member Slovakia EU member Slovenia EU member EU member Spain Sweden EU member United Kingdom EU member Iceland EFTA member Liechtenstein EFTA member Norway EFTA member Switzerland EFTA member

Croatia acceding EU member

### Full membership for individuals

# All individuals from the countries mentioned above are eligible for full membership.

Individuals should be allowed to join as full members whether or not they are in a pirate

Pirate Party Switzerland | Pirate Party Switzerland | 20.05.2012





party which is a member.

#### Observer membership for pirate parties

Pirate parties are eligable for observer membership if they are a full or observer member of PPI and are based in an EU candidate country or a country which has a land boarder with any EU member, EFTA member or EU acceding member country or a sea boarder with the mediterranian sea.

This allowes reginal pirate parties as well as pirate parties from bordering countries to join as observer members.

#### **Observer membership for NGOs**

NGOs are eligable for observer membership if at least two full members are a member in that NGO.

This allows NGOs which are close to the pirate movement to join as observer members.



### **Organization**

#### **Chamber of Pirates**

All individual pirates form together the Chamber of Pirates. Everyone has exactly one vote. The Chamber of Pirates generally convenes in a decentralized manner either life or in a ballot voting form.

One general assembly for the whole of Europe is not feasable in both time any money. Therefore the individual members will meet in many locations and connect to each other over the internet. Votings will be tallied locally and summed up or conducted online. This enables members from all over Europe to vote on all issues.

The Chamber of Pirates works through its standing committees on both organisational and programmatical issues. Each committee is made up of 53 pirates. These are elected by the full Chamber of Pirates.

While input from all members is extremely important, the work itself cannot be done in too large a forum. The number of seats on the commissions is deliberatly choosen high so many voices can be heard.

#### **Chamber of Parties**

All full member pirate parties form together the Chamber of Parties. Every party has one vote. The chamber generally convenes physically or online in a life session. Each pirate party determines their two representatives and positions in their own may.

Even when gathering the opinions of all parties we must respect our differences and let each party determine its vote in its own way.

The Chamber of Parties also works through its standing committees on both organisational and programmatical issues. Each party can send two representatives to each committee but they get but one vote.

The Chamber of Parties can best gather all ideas from all parties if each party can speak out on all issues.

#### **Decisions process**

Every pirate can put forward a proposal to any Chamber of Pirates committee, where it is discussed, improved and integrated with similar proposals. Also every party can put forward a proposal to any Chamber of Parties committee.

Initiatives should come from all interested pirates but be gathered, refined and compared at one point. We also want to gather the ideas and ways of each party and integrate them with the ideas of all individuals to the best possible proposals.

If a quorum of one third of committee members suffices to bring a proposal into the corresponding committee of the other chamber. It a proposal can reach a quorum of one third in the committees of both chambers it then voted in both chambers.

The quorum is deliberatly chosen low so even minorty proposals can be discussed broadly and be voted on in the chambers.

Depending on the nature of the proposal it either needs a simple majority in both chambers or a two-thirds majority if it's a binding programmatical item or statute amendment.

Any binding programmatical decisions will only be accepted by the pirates and the parties if an overwhelming majority.

#### **Election process**

For the elections of the officers both chambers act together and both chambers have the same total weight. In the Chamber of Pirates each pirate has the same weight while in the Chamber of Parties each party has the same weight.

Like in the decisions process both parties and individual members should be included in the elections. Since election followed by approval is impractical as it can last forever, both chambers elect jointly.

Example: There are 3 candidates for chairman Hans, Jean and John. They get votes as follows:

	Pirates		Parties		Total
Hans	1000	50%	2	20%	35%
Jean	600	30%	5	50%	40%
John	400	20%	3	30%	25%

Therefore Jean is elected chairman.

Pirate Party Switzerland | Pirate Party Switzerland | 20.05.2012



## **Financing**

The annual membership fee is 1/5000 of nominal GNP per capita rounded down for individual members and 1% of total budget for member parties.

The newly founded PP-EU will need financing to get pirates into the European Parliament. All individual members and all parties should contribute to its success according to their economic ability. A member from Greece simply cannot affort to pay as much as one from Switzerland. The same goes for the parties. Those who are successfull and attract many members can contribute more than others.

These are the above numbers calculated for some countries. The number are computed using the 2011 numbers of GNP per captia from IWF and declared party expenses.

Country	EUR/pirate	EUR/party
Germany	8	5782
Switzerland	13	426
Luxemburg	22	?
Sweden	11	?
Spain	6	?
Greece	5	?

Pirate Party Switzerland | Pirate Party Switzerland | 20.05.2012