



# PP-EU

## Rules of Procedure of the PP-EU Conference in Barcelona

Organization Team September 1st 2012

### Contents

#### **Art. 1 General**

- 1 All references to titles or persons in the masculine form in this document apply by analogy to the feminine form as well.
- 2 This procedure governs the course of the PP-EU Conference in Barcelona.
- 3 The Conferences is formed out of the Pirate Parties, henceforth called parties that
  - a. are politically active within the geographical Europe,
  - b. are not subordinate to any other party in this country or state,
  - c. are represented locally or remotely.
- 4 All parties are eligible to vote and put forward motions.
- 5 Each party has but one vote.
- 6 Motions to amend these procedures must made before their adoption, motions for variance must be voted on immediately after discussion. Changes to the procedure require an absolute majority vote of the entitled voters.
- 7 The rules of procedure must be adopted by an absolute majority and is then immediately in force.
- 8 The rules of procedure may be changed by a two-thirds majority during the debate. The changes enter immediately in force.

#### **Art. 2 Hearing Process**

- 1 The chairman of the conference shall be elected by the assembly.
  - a. The chairman leads the proceedings, recognizes speakers, and maintains decorum and order during the meeting.
  - b. The chairman announces the election and referendum results.





2 requests for the floor are made or lodged in the course of the debate, the chairman decides.

- a. The chairman can yield the floor to speakers and the person who made the motion also out of turn.
- b. If a speaker deviates too much from the motion at hand, the chairman admonishes him to speak to the subject.
- c. If a speaker disregards the warnings and calls to order of the chairman, the chairman may deny him the opportunity to speak.
- d. At least one secretary shall be elected by the conference.

### **Art. 3      Agenda**

- 1 The organizers propose an initial agenda draft.
- 2 Each party may propose changes or additions to the agenda.
- 3 Changes to the agenda must be proposed in writing.
- 4 The agenda must be approved by an absolute majority before the debate starts.
- 5 The agenda may be changed by a two-thirds majority during the debate.

### **Art. 4      Motions and countermotions**

- 1 The parties may make motions to the currently discussed agenda items.
- 2 The parties may make countermotions to the motions on the table.
- 3 Motions and countermotions must be proposed in writing.
- 4 The movant may present his motion.
- 7 Every motion or countermotion must come with a justification.
- 8 Every motion or countermotion must have a question.
- 9 Every countermotion has to point out clearly the difference to the original motion.

### **Art. 4      Votes**

- 1 The tabulation of votes is performed by a tabulator elected after the acceptance of these procedural rules by the Assembly.
- 2 Motions independent from others are voted on one after the other.
- 3 Motions subsidiary to others are voted on before the main motion.
- 4 Before a vote, the chairman states the motion at hand and suggests the method of voting.
- 5 A relative majority is achieved when one position has more votes than another. Abstentions are not counted.





- 6 A simple majority is achieved when the nays are fewer than the ayes in all other positions. Absentions are not counted.
- 7 A absolute majority is achieved when the nays and abstentions are less than the sum of the ayes.
- 8 The simple two-thirds majority is achieved when the number of ayes is equal to or larger than twice the nays. Abstentions are not counted.
- 9 The voting occurs openly unless a previous decision for secret ballot has been made.
- 10 By obvious results counting may be dispensed with. Any voter may demand a counting.

#### **Art. 5 Procedural Motions**

- 1 Procedural motions (on debating, voting, or electing) can be made and justified at any time out of normal speaking order. Request for a procedural motion is made by members with a time-out signal (hands in the form of a "T") to differentiate from a request for the floor.
- 2 Procedural motions are the following:
  - a. Procedural motion to alter the order of the agenda;
  - b. Procedural motion to alter the order of the voting;
  - c. Procedural motion to table an agenda item;
  - d. Procedural motion to table a motion;
  - e. Procedural motion to suspend the meeting;
  - f. Procedural motion to limit floor time for speakers;
  - g. Procedural motion to close debate;
  - h. Procedural motion to call for a straw poll;
  - i. Procedural motion to modify a motion;
  - j. Procedural motion to re-elect the chairman;
  - k. Procedural motion to re-elect the vote tabulators;
  - m. Procedural motion to re-elect the recorders;
  - n. Procedural motion to return to an agenda item;
- 3 This enumeration is conclusive.
- 4 In the event nothing else is ordained, in all these cases the debate shall be suspended until the motion is handled and the vote taken.





## Art. 6

### Majorities for Procedural Motions

4

- 1 A simple majority is required to alter the order of the agenda or elections, to close debate on a motion, to request a break, to create a general time limit for speakers, to amend a motion, to ask for a straw vote, to request secret counsel before an election.
- 2 A simple two-thirds majority is necessary for motions not to take up an item of the agenda, to table an agenda item, to re-elect the chairman, to re-elect a vote tabulator, to re-elect a recorder, and to re-open an agenda item.

## Art. 7 Handling of Procedural Motions

- 1 Amending the order of the agenda: A parties moves to amend the order of the agenda items which have not yet been debated. Upon passing of the motion, the new order is in force.
- 2 Amending the order of elections: A party moves to amend the order of votes which have not yet been decided. Upon passing of the motion, the new order is in force.
- 3 Tabling of business: A member moves to postpone one or more items of business until the next Pirate Assembly. Upon passing of the motion, the items in question shall not be further debated and the chairman must schedule them for the next Pirate Assembly.
- 4 Postpone indefinitely a motion: A member moves to postpone indefinitely debate on one or more motions. On passing, the item(s) in question shall not be debated further.
- 5 Recess: A member moves a specific timespan in minutes for a break in the meeting. The chairman may agree without a vote. If he is not in agreement, there follows a vote on the motion. If the motion is passed, the meeting shall recess immediately for the suggested number of minutes and resume the order of speakers afterwards.
- 6 General limitation of debate: A member moves a time limit for a speaker to have the floor. An exception can be made for the movant, a candidate, or the sitting chairman. Upon passing of the motions the chairman ensures that the limit is observed. The time limit can be changed at any time by another motion to limit debate.
- 7 Cloture: A member moves to end discussion. The chairman announces the speakers currently on the list before calling for the vote. Upon passing of the motion, the existing requests for the floor are recognized and the speaker list closed. The movant is allowed a closing argument and thereafter follows the vote on the motion in question.





- 8      straw votes: A member moves that a straw vote be taken on the motions for which the Assembly desires a general opinion. As long as the motion to adjourn is not being made the the questions must directly relate to the question at hand. In elections, the question may not be directed at identifiable persons. Upon passing of the motion, the questions suggested shall undergo a straw vote. The results shall be recorded, but in no case have an immediate subsequent effect.
- 9      Re-election of the chairman: A member moves to replace the current chairman with another present member. If the motion passes the nominated member takes the chair.
- 10     Re-electin of the note tabulator: A member moves to replace the current vote tabulator with another present member. If the motion passes the nominated person assumes the function of the vote tabulator in question.
- 11     Motion to re-elect the recorder: A member moves to replace the current recorder with another present member. If the motion passes the nominated person assumes the function of the recorder in question.
- 12     Return to an item of business A member may move to reopen an agenda item already decided by the assembly. A short justification is heard, followed by the vote. On passing of the motion the reopened item shall interrupt any ongoing deliberations until the reopened one is resolved. If amendment motions are passed which change the previously passed main motion that motion must be voted on again as well. A motion to return to an election of a non-vacant seat is not allowed.

