

Articles

German Speaking Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis Europe (SRA-E: DACHL)

1. NAME AND DEFINITIONS

The International non-profit SRA-E: DACHL is organized in accordance with the present Articles of Association. SRA-E: DACHL is a regional chapter of Society for Risk Analysis Europe. SRA-E: DACHL is a network node with no financial responsibilities.

SRA-E: DACHL comprises German speaking countries and regions like Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and South Tyrol.

2. OBJECTIVES

The SRA-E: DACHL Chapter shares the aim with SRA-E “to bring together individuals and organisations interested in risk assessment, risk management and risk communication in Europe”.

2.1 The special objectives of the SRA-E: DACHL are:

- a) To promote risk research and knowledge and understanding of risk analysis techniques within the German speaking countries and regions.
- b) To identify and address specifically issues common to German speaking countries and regions in the field of risk, to promote debate, and to impress upon decision-makers the usefulness of risk research, critical analyses and risk analysis in dealing with such issues.
- c) To act as a focal point for communication with risk researchers and analysts in other parts of the world.
- d) To facilitate exchanges of information and opinion between professionals in industry, government, universities, research institutes, and consultancies, with the aim of furthering research and improving the practical application of risk analysis and risk management.
- e) To convene and promote scientific and educational meetings on risk research, risk analysis and risk management in the German speaking countries and regions.
- f) To support PhD students and young researchers in their development.

2.2 The general objectives of the SRA-E: DACHL shall be to foster and promote:

- a) Knowledge and understanding of risk analysis techniques and their applications.
- b) Communication and interaction among individuals engaged in risk analysis.
- c) Application of risk analysis and risk management techniques to the hazards and risks to which individuals and populations are exposed.
- d) Advancement of the state-of-the-art in all aspects of risk analysis.
- e) Integration and interaction of the various disciplines involved in risk analysis.

3. DURATION

The SRA-E: DACHL is formed for an indefinite period. However, it can be voluntarily dissolved by its General Assembly.

4. FINANCES

SRA-E: DACHL will have no financial responsibilities. Expenses for its activities will be kept by other parties.

The SRA-E: DACHL does not pursue a profit-making object. Any income resulting from its activities or other sources shall exclusively be used to pursue its corporate purpose.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Any member of SRA-E resident or working in one of the German speaking countries or regions, as generally understood, has automatic default membership. Furthermore, membership of the SRA-E: DACHL shall be open to all other SRA members by admission of the Board of Directors of the SRA-E: DACHL. The Board of Directors may admit other persons or legal entities to membership or to participation in its events, at its sole discretion. Terms of membership are according to the rules established by the Board of Directors of the SRA-E: DACHL.

Members are eligible to vote on any matter subjected to a vote of the membership and shall be eligible to hold office, they are also eligible to attend meetings, receive information, and otherwise to participate in the affairs of the SRA-E: DACHL. All Members shall be free to resign if they want so.

6. STRUCTURE OF SRA-E: DACHL

For purposes of performing the duties set forth in these Articles of SRA-E: DACHL, the SRA-E: DACHL shall have:

- a General Assembly
- a Board of Directors with
 - a President,
 - a Secretary, who will act as Vice-President,
 - a Treasurer,
 - up to three Officials,
 - and up to three Student Representatives
- a Nomination Committee

In addition, the Board of Directors may set up one or more special bodies or committees to which it may delegate well-defined powers.

7. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7.1. Composition and Representation

The General Assembly shall consist of all members and the 'General Assembly Meeting' is the highest decision-making body of SRA-E: DACHL. All members have voting rights. The Board may invite other (third) parties as guests to attend the meetings of the General Assembly. These guests will not have voting rights.

If a Member is prevented from attending the General Assembly Meeting, he or she may issue a special power of attorney to appoint another Member for representing the absent Member at the meeting. Such power of attorney shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Board of Directors before the meeting. A Member cannot represent more than two other Members.

It is aimed to hold a General Assembly Meeting every year. However, a General Assembly Meeting shall be held at least every second year at a place, date and time determined by the Board.

7.2 Voting Procedures

Resolutions of the General Assembly shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes of the Members present or represented.

7.3 Notification of Decisions to the Members

The Minutes of the General Assembly Meetings shall be signed by the President and the Secretary. Members shall be provided with the Minutes by post or by electronic mail or by posting on the SRA-E: DACHL website no later than 4 weeks after the meeting.

7.4 The General Assembly Meeting

The General Assembly Meeting shall discuss and resolve on, and its agenda shall include the following items:

- I. Reporting of the previous and planned activities/resolutions in the SRA-E: DACHL
- II. Elect members of the Board of Directors
- III. Elect members of the Nomination Committee
- IV. To discuss suggestions of future activities/resolutions

8. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

8.1 Term of Office of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of four years to enable rotation. Mandate can be extended for a period of two years. The limit of consecutive mandates is six years.

A member of the Board of Directors of the SRA-E: DACHL may resign by notifying the President and Secretary in writing.

8.2 Nomination and Election

A committee composed of at least two representatives of the General Assembly is constituted to nominate the member of the Board of Directors, (the 'Nomination Committee').

Nominations for election as a Member of the Boards of Directors may be made by the Nomination Committee or by any Member of the SRA-E: DACHL, delivered to the Nomination Committee in advance of the General Assembly or during the course of the General Assembly.

All nominees must be Members of the SRA-E: DACHL. The Nomination Committee must use its best endeavors to ensure that all elections are contested and must have regard to the need for nominees representing a broad range of scientific disciplines, types of organizations and countries. It must inform the candidates of the rights and duties of members of the Board of Directors, and it must verify that they have the will and ability to take an active role in the Board of Directors.

The Board will announce the number of mandates to be filled at least two weeks before the General Assembly. Election shall take place by a ballot of all Members of the SRA-E: DACHL Chapter, which shall

be held by acclamation at the General Assembly meeting where the latter is conducted using the following voting procedure:

- I. one single list of eligible candidates, where
- II. each voter indicates his/her choice for as many candidates as he/she likes, with as maximum the number of mandates, by marking the names of the candidates on the ballot list.

Up to the number of mandates, the candidates obtaining the highest number of votes will be the elected.

The elected members of the Board may appoint among themselves replacements for the position of at least the President and the Secretary to ensure continuity of proceedings should a member be temporarily unable to fulfill his obligations.

8.3 Powers

The Board of Directors is vested with the most extended powers in order to make any acts of management which are necessary or useful for the achievement of the objectives of the SRA-E: DACHL and is (given that appropriate resources are available) bound to enforce decisions adopted by the General Assembly.

The Board of Directors shall be executive and have, amongst others, the responsibility to:

- a) Prepare proposals to be presented for the approval of the General Assembly;
- b) Establish an opt-in register of Members;
- c) Create permanent committees and ad-hoc bodies as required to promote the goals and activities of the SRA-E: DACHL and monitor actions and performance of these bodies; appoint the members of such committees and bodies;
- d) Prepare and organize the elections of the members of the Board;
- e) Convene General Assembly Meetings and report on its activities at General Assembly Meetings;
- f) Prepare the financial statements and activity report for the General Assembly;
- g) Draft and approve the budget;
- h) Inform the SRA-E committee of planned events so that the committee can help promote it and coordinate with other activities.

8.4 Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet when convened by the President of the Board of Directors or by a majority of Elected Directors and at least two times per year in accordance with a predefined notice sent to all Elected Directors. Each Elected Director may submit topics to be discussed by the Board to the Secretary.

The Notice of Meetings shall be sent to the Members of the Board of Directors by ordinary letter, telecopy or email/web, at least three weeks before the date scheduled for the meeting.

The Board of Directors can only validly deliberate if at least three (3) Elected Directors are present. Each Elected Director has one vote.

9. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nomination Committee should consist of at least two members that are elected at the General Assembly meeting. The Nomination Committee is responsible for the nomination of the members of the

Board of Directors.

10. RESOURCES

The SRA-E: DACHL's resources shall consist of the balance from the conference accounts and other activities initiated by the Board of Directors, subsidies and donations.

The SRA-E: DACHL can also be supported by means of sponsorship in kind, such as but not limited to use of offices or facilities, free secretariat. Such sponsorship in kind will be subject to a specific agreement to be entered into between the SRA-E: DACHL and one or more sponsors.

11. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS AND AUDITORS

11.1 Financial Year

The financial year shall start on January 1 and terminate on December 31.

11.2 Annual Accounts

Board of Directors must submit for approval to the General Assembly the annual accounts of the past financial year and a provisional budget for the next financial year.

Together with the accounts, the Board of Directors submits a report of the General Assembly that comments on (i) the accounts and (ii) the SRA-E: DACHL's activities during that financial year.

After approval by the General Assembly, the SRA-E: DACHL's accounts shall be filed.

11.3 Auditor

The General Assembly shall appoint one Auditor. The Auditor shall be appointed for a term of three years.

12. WINDING UP - LIQUIDATION

In the event the SRA-E: DACHL is dissolved by the vote of the General Assembly, the General Assembly shall appoint liquidators and specify their powers and determine how they are dismissed and how their functions cease to exist. The General Assembly Meeting shall, in the same decision, decide on the allocation of the SRA-E: DACHL's net assets remaining after the liquidation, which shall be allocated to one or more non-profit organization(s) with similar objectives, or to a non-profit goal determined by the General Assembly. The SRA-E: DACHL is not allowed to distribute its property among its Members.

These decisions, as well as the name, address and occupation of the liquidator(s) shall be filed.