

# Constitution

## Ukrainian Studies Organization at Indiana University

### ***Preamble***

The Ukrainian Studies Organization at Indiana University (UkrSO) exists to promote and celebrate Ukraine's language, culture and history at Indiana University and in the wider Bloomington and Indiana community. In addition, this organization will provide students with opportunities to showcase their work on these topics and to interact with other students, faculty, and staff who share their interest in Ukraine.

### ***Article I: Membership***

Participation in the Ukrainian Studies Organization must be without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. (See section I.D.3(c) on page 6 of the Code.)

There are no limitations to membership. There are three elected officers: President, Vice President, and Treasurer. A member is defined as a regular participant in the Ukrainian Studies Organization. At the present, there is to be no collection of dues required among members.

### ***Article II: University Compliance***

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

### ***Article III: Executive Officers***

a) There are three officers in the Ukrainian Studies Organization, the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

The President is in charge of:

- The organization of events and promotion of the organization
- Keeping advisor current on organization activities
- Calling general and executive meetings
- Supervising officers and/or committees
- Completing required University paperwork

The Vice President is in charge of:

- Presiding in the absence of the President
- Developing meeting agendas
- Taking & distributing meeting minutes
- Maintaining lists of organization members

The Treasurer is in charge of:

- Developing and maintaining organization budget

- Maintaining records of organization spending
  - Responsible for the Student Organization Account
- b) Executive officers must be current Indiana University students and have a proven interest in Ukraine.
- c) Officers serve for one year. Elections are held in October, and those elected take office immediately. They turn over their office at the end of their term. In case of a prolonged absence, an executive officer can appoint a temporary officer to fulfill the position.
- d) Officer vacancies are filled through elections. Members can nominate themselves for office or be nominated by other members of the group. Officers must submit resignations to the members at least one month in advance of departure from elected office. In these instances, special elections will be held.
- e) Executive Officer meetings will be held on an as needed basis. The advisor of the group has the same rights and privileges as an Executive Officer. Decisions are made by consensus.
- f) Officers are elected by the members. A vacant office can be filled only through an election by the members.
- g) A person may be removed from office in a special membership vote. If 2/3 of the membership believes this person is derelict in his/her duties, this person will be removed.

#### ***Article IV: Advisor***

The responsibilities of the Advisor are as follows:

- Attendance at meetings when possible
- Attendance at all Executive Officer meetings
- Attendance at special events when possible
- Gives support and suggestions to the Executive Officers

#### ***Article V: Meetings and Events***

- a) Executive Officer meetings are held monthly as determined by the officers. Officers may decide to meet more frequently if necessary.
- b) The agenda is set for the meetings by a combined effort of the Executive Officers and members—members may contact officers with suggestions/ideas they would like to see brought up.
- c) Members will be notified through the Ukrainian Studies Organization list-serve of events that will take place. Subscription to this list-serve is voluntary for members.

#### ***Article VI: Elections***

- a) Elections are held annually in October, unless a special election is required to fill an unexpected vacancy.
- b) Members may nominate themselves or be nominated by other members.
- c) Voting will be conducted by secret ballot at a special meeting called by the Executive Officers.
- d) Members will be notified by email at least one week in advance of an upcoming election.

#### ***Article VII: Non-Hazing***

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

#### ***Article VIII: Dues & Budgets***

Dues are not to be collected at this time, but can be in the future if approved by a majority of the members present at a meeting scheduled to decide this issue.

#### ***Article IX: Finances***

- a) Financial affairs are handled by the Treasurer.
- b) The Indiana University Ukrainian Studies Organization will be applying for a Student Organization Account.
- c) The Indiana University Ukrainian Studies Organization acts in accordance with the Student Organization Accounts office policies and procedures.
- d) If the group dissolves, any remaining funds will be returned to the University.

#### ***Article X: Personal Gain Clause***

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

#### ***Article XI: Amendments***

- a) All regular members will be notified of proposed amendments via the email list-serve.
- b) A 2/3 majority vote of members present at the meeting called to decide the issue is required for passing all procedures.
- c) Once approved by the organization, all constitutional amendments must be submitted to the Student Activities Office for approval.

#### ***Article XII: Ratification***

A 2/3 majority vote of members present at the meeting called to ratify the constitution is required for ratification of this constitution. Once ratified, this constitution will immediately become effective.