

## General Anthroposophical Society

### **Comparison** ‹Statutes 1923› and ‹Statue Design 2026›

The statutes of the Anthroposophical Society of 1923 and the proposed statutes of the Convention Group 2026, which are to be amended, are combined here and color-coded:

1923 green

2026 red

§ 1. The Anthroposophical Society is intended to be an association of people who wish to cultivate the spiritual life in the individual human being and in human society on the basis of a true knowledge of the spiritual world.

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§ 2. The foundation of this society consists of the individuals gathered at the Goetheanum in Dornach during the Christmas season of 1923, both the individuals themselves and the groups who were represented. They are convinced that a genuine science of the spiritual world already exists and that present-day civilization lacks the cultivation of such a science. The Anthroposophical Society is to make this cultivation its mission. It will strive to accomplish this mission by making the anthroposophical spiritual science cultivated at the Goetheanum in Dornach, with its findings for brotherhood in human coexistence, for moral and religious life, as well as for artistic and general spiritual life in human beings, the focus of its endeavors.

The members gathered at the Goetheanum for the 2027 General Assembly, along with those participating worldwide, resolved to undertake a constitutional renewal of the Society founded at the Christmas Conference of 1923/1924. They are deeply convinced that Anthroposophy offers a science of the spiritual world. This science originated with the work of Rudolf Steiner and is available to all interested individuals as a starting point for embarking on their own path of knowledge through education and research. The members see Anthroposophy as a source from which to contribute necessary impulses to the challenges of contemporary civilization. They consider this a task of the Society. The Society will strive to fulfill this task by making the anthroposophical spiritual science cultivated at the Goetheanum in Dornach and throughout the world, with its findings for social, practical, religious, artistic, and general spiritual life within human beings, the central focus of its endeavors.

**This newsletter has been translated digitally from the German**

§ 3. The individuals gathered in Dornach as the core group of the society acknowledge and approve the Goetheanum leadership's view on the following: "The anthroposophy cultivated at the Goetheanum leads to results that can serve as inspiration for the spiritual life of every person, regardless of nation, social class, or religion. It can lead to a truly fraternal social life. Its adoption as a foundation for life is not contingent upon a certain level of scientific education, but only upon an open and unbiased human nature. However, its research and the proper evaluation of its findings are subject to spiritual-scientific training, which is to be acquired gradually. These results are, in their own way, as precise as the results of true natural science. If they achieve general recognition in the same manner as natural science, they will bring about the same progress in all areas of life, not only in the spiritual but also in the practical sphere."

The members affirm the view expressed in the founding statutes of 1923 that anthroposophy leads to results that can serve as inspiration for the spiritual life of every person, regardless of origin, nation, or religion. Its adoption as a foundation for life is contingent only on an unbiased human nature and not on any other prerequisites. Its application leads to precise results that expand upon those of other sciences. If it achieves general recognition in the same way as these other sciences, it will bring about the same progress in all areas of life, not only in the spiritual but also in the artistic and practical spheres.

§ 4. The Anthroposophical Society is not a secret society but a thoroughly public one. Anyone can become a member, regardless of nationality, social standing, religion, or scientific or artistic conviction, who sees merit in the existence of an institution like the Goetheanum in Dornach, a Free University for Spiritual Science. The Society rejects all sectarian tendencies. It does not consider politics to be within its purview.

The Anthroposophical Society seeks exchange and public engagement in its activities. Membership is open to anyone who recognizes the value of an institution like the Goetheanum in Dornach, a Free University for Spiritual Science. The Society rejects all sectarian tendencies. Its social engagement is politically non-partisan.

§ 5. The Anthroposophical Society sees the Free University of Spiritual Science in Dornach as a center of its activities. This university will consist of three classes. Members of the Society will be admitted to it upon application, after having held membership for a period to be determined by the leadership of the Goetheanum. They thereby gain entry into the first class of the Free University of Spiritual Science. Admission to the second and third classes occurs when applicants are deemed suitable by the leadership of the Goetheanum.

The Anthroposophical Society sees a center of its activity in the Free University for Spiritual Science, which operates worldwide at the Goetheanum.

§ 6. Every member of the Anthroposophical Society has the right to participate in all lectures, other presentations and meetings organized by it, under the conditions to be announced by the Executive Committee.

To further develop and deepen Anthroposophy, and to develop contributions arising from the challenges of our time, the Anthroposophical Society creates spaces where its members and the interested public can meet, take initiative, and shape spiritual, mental, and social life. can.

§ 7. The establishment of the Free University for Spiritual Science is initially the responsibility of Rudolf Steiner, who is to appoint his staff and his possible successor.

The Free University for Spiritual Science was founded by Rudolf Steiner. Today it is run by a self-governing university society.

§ 8. All publications of the Society will be public in the same manner as those of other public societies. The publications of the Free School for Spiritual Science will be no exception to this publicity; however, the School's leadership asserts that it categorically denies the legitimacy of any judgment concerning these writings that is not based on the training from which they originated. In this sense, it will not recognize the legitimacy of any judgment not based on appropriate preliminary studies, as is customary in the recognized scientific world. Therefore, the writings of the Free School for Spiritual Science will bear the following inscription: "Printed as a manuscript for the members of the Free School for Spiritual Science, Goetheanum, Class .... No one will be granted a competent judgment on these writings who has not acquired the prior knowledge claimed by this School through it or in a manner deemed equivalent by the School itself. Other assessments are rejected insofar as the authors of the corresponding writings do not engage in any discussion concerning them."

The publications of the Society and the Free University for the Humanities are public.

§ 9. The aim of the Anthroposophical Society is to promote research in the spiritual field, while the aim of the Free University for Spiritual Science is this research itself. Dogmatics in any field is to be excluded from the Anthroposophical Society.

The aim of the Anthroposophical Society is to promote research in spiritual fields, while the aim of the Free University for Spiritual Science is to conduct this research itself. Dogmatics is to be excluded from the Anthroposophical Society.

§ 10. The Anthroposophical Society holds its Annual General Meeting at the Goetheanum around the beginning of each year, during which the Executive Committee presents a full report. The agenda for this meeting is announced by the Executive Committee along with the invitation to all members three weeks prior to the meeting. The Executive Committee may convene Extraordinary General Meetings and set the agenda for them. Invitations to these meetings should be sent to members three weeks in advance. Motions from individual members or groups of members must be submitted one week before the meeting.

The Anthroposophical Society holds an annual meeting each year at the Goetheanum and/or other locations, during which the Executive Board presents a report on its activities. The annual meeting is intended as a space for intellectual exchange, encounters among members, and experiencing anthroposophical initiatives in and for the world.

§ 11. Members may form smaller or larger groups in any local or subject area. The Anthroposophical Society is headquartered at the Goetheanum. From there, the Executive Board communicates to the members or member groups what it considers to be the Society's mission. It liaises with the officers elected or appointed by the individual groups. The individual groups are responsible for admitting new members; however, the confirmations of admission should be submitted to the Executive Board in Dornach and signed by them in confidence on behalf of the group officers. In general, every member should join a group; only those for whom it is entirely impossible to find admission to a group should apply for membership in Dornach itself.

The operation of the Goetheanum and the administration of the Anthroposophical Society are based on the "Association for the Promotion of the Goetheanum and Anthroposophy." Every member of the worldwide Anthroposophical Society simultaneously becomes a contributing member of this association. The Anthroposophical Society grants the board of the association the right to use the name "Anthroposophical Society."

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§ 12. The membership fee is determined by the individual groups; however, each group must pay the fee for each of its members ... to the central administration at the Goetheanum.

To obtain membership in the Anthroposophical Society and simultaneously in the Association for the Promotion of the Goetheanum and Anthroposophy, an application for membership must be submitted.

The individual national societies and groups usually handle the membership application. The membership confirmations, both for the society and the association, are submitted to the board and signed by them in confidence on behalf of the groups. In exceptional cases, direct membership at the Goetheanum is possible.

Resignation or expulsion from the association results in the termination of membership in the Anthroposophical Society. The groups are generally responsible for raising membership fees.

§ 13. Each working group draws up its own statutes; however, these should not contradict the statutes of the Anthroposophical Society.

Members can form smaller or larger groups in any regional and thematic area. Corresponding subdivisions can be formed within specific countries, languages, and cultures (e.g., national societies).

§ 14. The official publication of the Society is the "Goetheanum," which is supplemented with an insert containing the Society's official communications. This enlarged edition of the "Goetheanum" is distributed only to members of the Anthroposophical Society.

The affairs of the Anthroposophical Society are regularly reported in "Anthroposophy Worldwide. What is happening in the Anthroposophical Society".

§ 15. The formation and expansion of the Executive Board is based on a proposal from within the Board, subject to approval by the Goetheanum Management, the Conference of National Representatives, and the Annual Meeting of the Anthroposophical Society, and is confirmed at the General Assembly of the "Association for the Promotion of the Goetheanum and Anthroposophy." The Executive Board communicates its initiatives to the members, observes the activities of the membership and the groups, and contributes to their networking and connection. Together with the "Circle of Representatives of the Countries and Cultural Regions," the Executive Board forms a body for the Anthroposophical Society as a global organization. It may expand to include additional representatives of the anthroposophical movement and its various fields of work as needed.

*Compiled by a member of the Anthroposophical Society – with heartfelt thanks!*