Constitution of the Feminist Theory and Gender Studies Section of the International Studies Association, as of April 2013

Article I: Name
This section shall be known as the section on Feminist Theory and Gender Studies of the International Studies Association.

Article II: Purposes
This section will provide a formal structure for scholars who apply feminist theory to International Relations. In addition, those whose interests focus on gender-related topics throughout the field of international studies and other relevant interdisciplinary areas of study are encouraged to participate. The section will provide mechanisms for discussion and exchange about the international dimension of the growing scholarship on gender.

Article III: Relationships
The section on Feminist Theory and Gender Studies encourages cooperative interactions with caucuses and research groups in other organizations which share its interests or seek its assistance.

Article IV: Membership
Any member of the ISA who shares the purposes of this section may become a member upon payment of dues. Members are entitled to attend annual meetings, nominate candidates for administrative responsibilities in the section, stand for election for these posts, participate in the formation of consensus, vote, sponsor amendments to this charter, and have access to the all venues of the section including the FTGS website and its services.

Article V: Officers
1) Section and Program Chair, Section and Program Chair Elect, and Past Section and Program Chair are members of the Executive Committee. Each of these positions will be a one-year term, where the Chair-Elect becomes the Chair and then the Past Chair and the Program Chair has a similar cycle. Section and Program Chairs cannot be re-elected within a time period of 10 years.
2) The Executive Committee will consist of the Officers enumerated in Article V, Clause 1, plus six additional faculty members (at-large members) and at least one and if possible, two graduate student members. The six faculty members are elected to two-year terms with three elected each
year. Student members are elected to one-year terms. At-large members may be re-elected once in the same position. Student members may be re-elected once either in the same position or as at-large member.

3) The Section Chair will preside at the annual business meeting, coordinate Section activities, appoint the chair of the Nominating Committee, convene the Executive Committee as needed, and serve as the Section's spokesperson. The Program Chair will arrange panels for the annual meeting. One member of the Executive Committee will chair the Section's communication and outreach activities while another will manage the Committee for the Section’s Graduate Student Paper Award.

4) The Executive Committee may, upon request from Section members or as it sees fit, create further committees dedicated to issues conducive to the Section’s purposes.

5) No Section member can serve in more than one officer’s function simultaneously.

Article VI: Nominations and Elections

1) A Nominating Committee of at least three members will be constituted each year. It will be chaired by the designated member of the Executive Committee who will, in turn, select the other members. The Committee will seek nominations and conduct elections.

2) Nominations for vacant positions should be submitted to the Nominating Committee by December 1 or as announced. Each nomination requires the endorsement of two Section members.

3) Every effort will be undertaken to ensure that the nominees represent different geographic areas and research perspectives within the Section.

4) Elections shall be conducted by electronic ballot which shall be distributed to the membership at least two months before the Section’s annual business meeting. The deadline for returning ballots shall be at least one month before the annual meeting. If not all positions are filled by electronic ballot, vacant positions will be voted on at the annual business meeting. All positions will be filled by simple majority. The chair of the nominating committee will announce the results of the electronic ballot and organize elections at the annual meeting if necessary.

Article VII: Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the section will be held at the annual meeting of the ISA. It shall propose and consider activities for the section, decide on policy for the section, and, if necessary, select new members of the Executive Committee.

Members are entitled at these meetings to receive reports on the activities of the section and the state of its finances, and to participate in the selection of members for administrative responsibilities and to represent the section in other organizations.
Article VIII: Finances

The basic requirements of the section shall be met through member dues and contributions. Dues shall be set by the Executive Committee.

The section may solicit and receive outside funding, but may use the name of the ISA only with the agreement of its (ISA's) officers.

Members are encouraged to write proposals for outside funding for collaborative research, faculty development, or conference projects consonant with the interests of the section.

Article IX: Amendments

Proposals to amend this charter may be submitted by any section member. Proposals should be in writing and available to the membership for consideration at least one month before the annual meeting. The executive committee shall coordinate this process.

Amendments will be considered at the annual meeting. They will be adopted if approved by at least 2/3 of the members present at the annual meeting. Amendments shall be forwarded to ISA officers upon adoption.