CHARTER OF THE SOUTH ASIA IN WORLD POLITICS (SAWP) SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Article I Name

This organization shall be known as the South Asia in World Politics (SAWP) section of the International Studies Association (ISA).

Article II Affiliation

The SAWP Section is one of the sections of the International Studies Association and as such subscribes to its purposes and supports its activities.

Article III Purposes

The purposes of the SAWP section are to:

1. Highlight South Asia as an important source of knowledge production in International Studies by sharing innovating epistemological, methodological, analytical and theoretical perspectives that emerge from its study.
2. Encourage research on the international engagements between South Asian states and/or non-state actors within the region and/or with the rest of the world.
3. Facilitate the development of vigorous networks of communication and collaborative research among scholars of South Asia across disciplinary, methodological and geographical boundaries.
4. Provide a common platform for scholars located in different parts of the world, who are working on South Asia and actively seek members from a wide range of disciplines.
5. Strengthen research, training and new pedagogical approaches and practices to the study of South Asian international relations.
6. Encourage and disseminate scholarly work on IR and from the South Asia region.

Article IV Relationships

The SAWP Section will encourage cooperative relations with other organizations within and outside the ISA which share its interests.

Article V Membership

1. Every ISA member sharing the purposes of this section and meeting the additional requirements established by the Section or its Council may become a member of the SAWP section.
2. Members are entitled to attend the annual meeting, to run for elective office, to nominate and vote for officers, to participate in SAWP section activities, to sponsor amendments to this charter, and to receive SAWP section-sponsored publications.
Article VI Officers

1. The elected officers of the SAWP section are the executive officers and the officers at-large of the Executive Committee. The Executive officers will consist of a Chair, Treasurer, Program Chair and the Secretary. There is also the open possibility that executive officers position can be shared by two officers (co-chair, co-Program chair…).

2. The Chair will preside over meetings, coordinate section activities, act as liaison with the ISA, and authorize expenditure of funds in consultation with the treasurer. The Chair has the responsibility to prepare an annual report for the ISA Governing Council and to prepare a review document in the fifth year of the Section’s existence for the purpose of re-chartering.

3. The Program Chair will be responsible for organizing the SAWP section-sponsored panels at the ISA annual conference in collaboration with the Chair, and with support from the Secretary.

4. The Treasurer will be responsible for raising funds and approving their expenditure in consultation with the chair, keeping accurate financial records, and for drawing up an annual balance sheet to be presented at the annual meeting.

5. The Secretary will conduct the correspondence of the section, update and maintain the section website, newsletter and mailing, assist the vice-chair in organizing the SAWP section panels, and take the minutes of the annual meeting and other business meetings (in collaboration with other officers). Minutes of the annual meeting shall be published in the Section Newsletter.

Article VII Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Program Chair and the Secretary along with 6-13 further elected Officers at Large who will support the work of the section, including but not limited to participating in special committees and projects furthering the various missions of the Section.

2. The Executive Committee will meet at the ISA annual convention and at such other reasonable times and places as the chair in consultation with the executive committee shall deem appropriate. Its duties are to review the annual budget, and consider the overall policy of the section, including ideas for panels and other relevant activities. Attendance of such meetings may be in person or through electronic means.

3. The Executive Committee will set rules and agenda for the annual meeting and conduct the business of the section at times between the annual meetings. Its duties will involve reviewing the annual budget, setting membership dues, and considering the overall policy of the Section, including ideas for panels and other relevant activities.

Article VIII Elections to Office

1. Nominations for office shall come from members following the call for nominations by the Executive Committee and will be submitted via e-mail to the Secretary.
2. The Executive Committee shall present to the membership by e-mail the names of one or more nominees for each vacant position at least four weeks prior to the annual meeting.
3. Following a notice of elections from the Executive Committee, elections shall be decided by a secret electronic ballot to all members which will be returned to the Secretary at least one week prior to the annual meeting in order to be counted.
4. Elected Officers will be announced at the annual meeting of the section held in conjunction with the ISA annual convention. Officers shall serve for a term of two years in their designated positions.
5. The initial Officers and Executive Committee members shall be appointed by petition and serve one year. Thereafter, the Officers and Executive Committee shall be elected by general election and serve for a term of two years in their designated positions. Elected officers can only serve up to two terms.
6. If one of the officers resigns or is indisposed before the end of his or her term of office, the other officers shall designate a replacement to act until the next annual meeting, when an election for that office will take place.

Article IX Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of section members shall be held in conjunction with the ISA annual convention. The chair or her/his designated representative will preside over all business meetings and programs of the section. The meeting shall conduct the business of the section, as well as carrying out any other activity consistent with the purposes of the section.

Article X Amendments

Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee or upon petition of 25 or more members of the SAWP section. The membership shall be informed of proposed amendments either through the Section Newsletter or by special mailing. Amendments shall be considered at the annual meeting and adopted if approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

Article XI Diversity Statement

The South Asia in World Politics (SAWP) section strongly encourages diverse and interdisciplinary research, collaboration and study of South Asia in World Politics by scholars in the global North and South and by underrepresented groups at ISA. Its diverse and interdisciplinary aims will be reflected in its professional endeavours such as the organization of panels, roundtables and papers supported at ISA’s Annual Conference and other activities at the general and regional meetings of ISA; in reaching out to other professional organizations across disciplines, countries and sections of ISA; and in any prizes and publications it may sponsor.