

# **CHARTER OF THE GLOBAL HEALTH SECTION (GHS) OF THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (ISA)**

## **Article I: Name**

This Section shall be known as the Global Health Section (GHS) of the International Studies Association (ISA).

## **Article II: Affiliation**

The GHS is one of the Sections of the ISA and as such subscribes to its purposes and activities.

## **Article III: Purposes**

The aim of the GHS is to encourage and promote research on the international politics of health. The objectives of the ISA Global Health Section are:

1. To facilitate disciplinary and interdisciplinary research collaboration on the politics of global health between ISA members from around the world.
2. To promote global health as an important area of study in the discipline of International Relations, and as one that sheds light on the changing nature of international politics.
3. To disseminate global health research being conducted in International Studies to policymakers and other practitioner audiences.
4. To offer scholars from other disciplines a clear hub and means of organization for strengthening and advancing their work on global health politics.
5. To actively collaborate with other research networks, associations and programmes focusing on the global politics of health.

## **Article IV: Relationships**

The GHS will encourage cooperative relations with other organizations within or outside the ISA which share its interests.

## **Article V: Membership**

1. Any ISA member sharing the purposes of this section may become a member of the GHS upon payment of whatever dues shall be established.

2. Members are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting, are eligible for nomination to elective office, may nominate and vote for officers, sponsor and vote on amendments to this charter, participate in GHS activities, and receive copies of the GHS newsletter via e-mail.

### **Article VI: Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of section members shall be held in conjunction with the ISA annual convention. 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 VII: Officers**

The officers of the GHS shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and the Secretary.

1. The Chairperson shall call meetings and preside at them, coordinate section activities, act as liaison with the ISA and shall be the official spokesperson of the GHS unless the Executive Committee determines otherwise. The Chairperson shall be responsible for preparing and presenting the annual report at the AGM in collaboration with the other officers.

2. The Vice-chairperson shall be responsible for organizing the GHS-sponsored panels at the ISA annual convention in collaboration with the chairperson, and with support from the Secretary.

3. The Treasurer shall be responsible for raising funds and approving their expenditure in consultation with the chairperson, keeping accurate financial records, and for drawing up an annual balance sheet to be presented at the AGM.

4. The Secretary shall be responsible for outreach, such as through preparation and circulation of a Section Newsletter at least once a year (in collaboration with other officers), for maintaining the section website (in conjunction with the webmaster), for preparing minutes of the AGM, and for assisting the Vice-Chairperson in organizing GHS-sponsored panels.

5. The officers will form part of the Executive Committee of the GHS, along with up to six further members who will support the work of the GHS.

### **Article VIII: Elections to Office**

1. Officers and members of the Executive Committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

2. Nominations for office shall come from members following the call for nominations by the Executive Committee and can be submitted via e-mail to the Executive Committee.

3. The Executive Committee shall present to the membership by e-mail the names of one or more nominees for each vacant position at

least two weeks prior to the AGM.

4. Additional nominations sponsored by at least five (5) members may be made at the AGM and shall be eligible for election.

5. Elections will be held at the AGM. Members will be able to vote (i) by email, received by the Executive Committee at least five (5) days prior to the AGM and (ii) in person, given by members present at the AGM.

5. Officers and Executive Committee members shall serve for a term of three years in their designated positions and may be re-elected once.

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 AGM, when an election for that office will take place.

### **Article IX: Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee consists of the officers of the GHS along with up to six further elected members who will support the work of the GHS.

1. The Executive Committee shall meet at the ISA annual convention and at such other reasonable times and places designated by the chairperson.

2. The Executive Committee shall set rules and agenda for the AGM and conduct the business of the section at times between the AGMs. Its duties are to review the annual budget, set membership dues, and consider the overall policy of the Section, including ideas for panels and other relevant activities.

3. The Executive Committee shall appoint from within itself the office of webmaster.

4. The Executive Committee recognizes that the Section has a responsibility to prepare an annual report for the ISA Governing Council and a review document in the fifth (5) year of the Section's existence for the purpose of re-chartering.

### **Article X: Advisory Board**

The GHS shall have an Advisory Board comprised of about fifteen (15) senior scholars in the field with a recognized expertise in the realm of global health.

1. The Advisory Board shall be a resource for the Executive Committee seeking support and advice in developing and promoting section activities.

2. Members of the Advisory Board may propose section activities and are invited to participate in workshops organised by the section.

3. Members of the Advisory Board shall be invited by the Executive Committee to serve for a period of initially three (3) years, after which composition of the Board shall be reviewed by the Executive

Committee.

**Article XI: Amendments**

1. Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee, or by petition of at least ten (10) members of the GHS. Members shall be informed of proposed amendments either through the Section Newsletter or by special email.
2. Amendments shall be considered at the AGM and adopted if approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting.