

## **LOCAL SECTIONS CHARTER**

### **Chapter 1: Characteristics of a local section**

1. Each local section of JEF Belgium must have board of members composed, as a minimum, of the following 3 positions: President, Secretary General, and Treasurer.
2. Local sections are free to elect as many additional board members holding any function as they see fit.
3. A board of members will be (re)elected by a general assembly once a year.
4. When a new board of members has been elected, it should present a provisional schedule for the following working year at the first or second JEF Belgium board meeting following its election.

### **Chapter 2: Official recognition of local sections**

1. A newly founded local section is officially recognised by JEF Belgium when it has fulfilled the conditions set out in Chapter 1 and when the elected President, Secretary General and Treasurer of an unrecognised local section have signed the Local Sections Charter.
2. A newly elected board of a recognised local section will be notified about the existence of the Local Sections Charter by JEF Belgium. This notification will serve as the official cognizance of the Local Sections Charter.
3. Only local sections who have been recognised are legally allowed to use the JEF brand, name and logo.

### **Chapter 3: Mission**

1. The local sections are the most important link between the federalist ideas of JEF and the European citizens. The local section promotes the visibility, political framework and organisational goals of JEF Belgium and JEF Europe. They bring Europe, JEF Europe and JEF Belgium closer to the local citizen, and the citizen closer to JEF Belgium, JEF Europe and Europe.
2. They aim to achieve this goal mainly through recruiting members, organising events, local activism and networking on a local level. Doing so, they promote our common values and ideas and let JEF Belgium grow as an association.
3. The local sections are free to organise activities with other organisations and political parties as long as they keep the core values of JEF in mind.

### **Chapter 4: Membership & insurance**

1. Local sections do their very best to motivate their activists to pay the annual membership fee.



2. Members of each local section are automatically members of JEF Belgium, the European Movement Belgium and JEF Europe.

## **Chapter 5: Relationship between JEF Belgium and the local section**

1. Each local section is free in the scope of organising its activities, as long as it respects the statutes of JEF Belgium and JEF Europe.
2. Each local section keeps JEF Belgium informed about their organisational activities.
3. JEF Belgium keeps the local sections informed about essential news concerning national, European and international issues that is of interest to or might affect the local sections and their members. JEF Belgium is the first liaison between the local sections and (inter)national partners and will be consulted when a local section wishes to work together with a national or international partner.
4. Local section representatives shall sit at regularly organised JEF Belgium's Federal Committee meetings.
5. JEF Belgium's board meetings being open to all its members, local sections representatives are also welcome to attend them if they wish to.
6. The JEF Belgium board member(s) in charge of local sections should function as a first contact in communication between the different local sections and JEF Belgium for any questions, remarks, comments or conflicts, in which case they can function as a mediator upon request of any member of a local section. They shall also encourage cross-local section initiatives and activities in cooperation with the local sections.

## **Chapter 6: Finances**

1. Each local section is responsible for funding its own activities and finding the means to do so.
2. Each local section gets financial support from JEF Belgium in the following way:
  - 2.1. Each local section receives funding in the form of a percentage of the membership fee, as defined in the Internal Regulation of the association;
  - 2.2. Local sections can apply for grants for certain activities. The JEF Belgium board will consider each grant on an ad-hoc basis and decide on it by means of a vote with two thirds majority;
  - 2.3. JEF Belgium can grant a loan to local sections for certain activities, which has to be paid back within the duration of the local board's mandate or within one year at most. This period can be extended if necessary after due discussion with the treasurer of JEF Belgium and approval of the JEF Belgium board. The JEF Belgium board will consider each loan application on an ad-hoc basis and decide on it by means of simple majority voting.



## Chapter 7: External representation

1. JEF Belgium represents the interests of each local section in its relations with JEF Europe, the European Movement Belgium and any other organisation with which it has contacts.
2. Local sections can submit resolutions or amendments to resolutions for the JEF Europe Federal Committee to JEF Belgium and are encouraged to participate in the discussions regarding JEF Belgium positions in resolutions submitted to JEF Europe's Federal Committee.
3. JEF Belgium will help local sections organise international activities and other partnership projects after consideration by the JEF Belgium board – particularly within the JEF Cross Border Network.

## Chapter 7: Sanctioning and exclusion of a local section

1. When a local section fails severely to comply with the general principles as stated in the Statutes and/or the Local Sections Charter, there is the possibility to be sanctioned or to be excluded from any connection to JEF Belgium if no other solutions could be found.
2. The JEF Belgium Federal Committee can sanction or exclude a local section. The Federal Committee is led by the President of JEF Belgium, hears the local section's position, and proceeds to a vote. It needs a 2/3 majority to sanction or exclude a recognized local section. The representatives of the local section under investigation are excluded from voting in this procedure.
3. Sanctions can include the withdrawal of the voting rights of the sections delegates, the withdrawal of financial support, and/or the obligation to organise a new General Assembly to elect a new local section board.
4. The exclusion or sanctions have to be thoroughly motivated by the JEF Belgium Federal Committee.
5. All or some of the sanctions can be withdrawn by a simple majority vote in the JEF Belgium Federal Committee.
6. If the excluded local section wants to become part of JEF Belgium again, it has to follow the procedure as described in Chapter 2.

Name Local Section: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY-GENERAL

TREASURER