

BYLAWS OF
THE STALIN SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

The undersigned incorporator(s) is an (are) individual(s) 18 years of age or older and adopt the following articles of incorporation to form a nonprofit corporation (Chapter 317A).

ARTICLE I — NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1: Name: The name of the organization shall be The Stalin Society of North America. It shall be a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois.

Section 2: Purpose: The Stalin Society of North America is organized exclusively for charitable, scientific and education purposes.

The purpose of this society is:

To serve as an educational and research organization devoted to studying and popularizing the life, work, and legacy of Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin. Our aim is to engage the American and Canadian public with an end to countering anti-Stalin myths and propaganda; and with the goal of restoring, in the public eye, Stalin to his rightful place as Lenin's most distinguished pupil and defender.

ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Eligibility for membership: Application for membership shall be open to any current resident of the United States or Canada, 18 years of age or older, that supports the mission statement in Article I, Section 2. Membership is granted after completion and receipt of a membership application and annual dues.

Section 2 - Annual dues: The amount required for annual dues shall be \$36 each year, unless changed by a majority vote of the members at an annual meeting. Continued membership is contingent upon being up-to-date on membership dues; and a lower membership rate for specific individuals will be determined on a case by case basis.

Section 3 - Rights of members: Each member shall be eligible to cast a vote in Society elections.

Section 4 - Resignation and termination: Any member may resign by filing a written resignation, via letter or email, with the secretary. Resignation shall not relieve a member of unpaid dues, or other charges previously accrued. A member can have their membership terminated by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 5 - Non-voting membership: The Committee shall have the authority to establish and define non-voting categories of membership.

ARTICLE III — MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1 - Regular meetings: Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held quarterly, at a time and place designated by the Chair.

Section 2 - Annual meetings: An annual meeting of the members shall take place at a specific date, time and location which will be designated by the Executive Committee. At the annual meeting the members shall elect officers, receive reports on the activities of the Society, and determine the direction of the Society for the coming year.

Section 3 - Special meetings: Special meetings may be called by the Chair, the Executive Committee, or a simple majority of the Committee.

Section 4 - Notice of meetings: written notice of each meeting shall be given to each Committee member, by mail or email, not less than one week prior to the meeting.

Section 5 - Quorum: A simple majority of the Executive Committee present at any properly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6 - Voting: All issues to be voted on shall be decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place.

ARTICLE IV — Executive Committee

Section 1 - Committee role, size, and compensation: The Committee is responsible for overall policy and direction of the Society, and delegates responsibility of day-to-day operations to the members and sub-committees. The Committee shall have up to 20, but not fewer than 10 members. The Committee receives no compensation other than reasonable expenses.

Section 2 - Terms: All Committee members shall serve two-year terms, but are eligible for indefinite re-election.

Section 3 - Committee elections: New Chairperson and current Chairperson shall be elected or re-elected by the voting representatives of members at the annual meeting.

Section 4 - Election procedures: An Electoral Committee shall be responsible for nominating a slate of prospective Committee members representing the Society's constituency. In addition, any member can nominate a candidate to the slate of nominees. All voting must be done in person. Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

Section 6 - Officers and Duties: There shall be four officers of the Executive Committee, consisting of a Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Their duties are as follows:

The Chair shall convene regularly scheduled meetings, shall preside or arrange for other members of the Executive Committee to preside at each meeting in the following order: Vice-chair, Secretary, Treasurer.

The Vice-chair shall chair heads committees on special subjects as designated by the Executive Committee.

The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping records of Executive Committee actions, including overseeing the taking of minutes at all meetings, sending out meeting announcements, distributing copies of minutes and the agenda to each committee member, and assuring that official records are maintained.

The Treasurer shall make a report at each Committee meeting. The treasurer shall chair the finance committee, assist in the preparation of the budget, help develop fundraising plans, and make financial information available to Committee members.

Section 8 - Vacancies: When a vacancy on the committee exists mid-term, the Secretary must receive nominations for new members from present committee members two weeks in advance of a committee meeting. These nominations shall be sent out to committee members with the regular committee meeting announcement, to be voted upon at the next committee meeting. These vacancies will be filled only to the end of the particular committee member's term.

Section 9 - Resignation, termination, and absences: Resignation from the committee must be in writing and received by the Secretary. A committee member shall be terminated from the committee due to excess absences, more than two unexcused absences from committee meetings in a year. A committee member may be removed for other reasons by a two-thirds majority vote of the remaining members.

Section 10 - Special meetings: Special meetings of the committee shall be called upon the request of the Chair, or one-third of the committee. Notices of special meetings shall be sent out by the Secretary to each committee member at least two weeks in advance.

ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Committee formation: The Executive Committee may create Sub-committees as needed, such as Finance and Fundraising, Education, Publishing, Media Relations, etc. The Executive Committee Chair appoints all Sub-committee Chairs.

ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - Amendments: These bylaws may be amended when necessary by two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Secretary to be sent out with regular committee announcements.

Certification

These bylaws were approved at a meeting of the committee by a two-thirds majority vote on 03/08/2014.

Secretary _____ Date _____