

Internal Network Rules

Internal Network Rules of the Greek Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation

The Greek Network is hereinafter referred to as the National Network or the Network.

I. THE HEAD OF NETWORK

The Hellenic Foundation for Culture is appointed as the Head of the Greek National Network by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Head of Network:

1. Acts as the national coordinator of the Greek National Network.
2. Acts as the official national representative of the Foundation in the country, as well as the representative of the Anna Lindh Foundation in Greece.
3. Promotes the Foundation's image as a Euro-Mediterranean institution established to strengthen the regional dimension of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership – Union for the Mediterranean in social, cultural, and human affairs (the Third Chapter of the Barcelona Declaration).
4. Manages Network membership and identifies potential active civil society actors in the country who may join the Network;
5. Contributes to the development of the ALF annual and triennial programmes. In doing so, the Head takes into consideration the interests of the National Network;
6. Supports and supervises training and capacity-building activities for the National Network;
7. Acts as a public relations representative, producing information materials for dissemination and contributing to the ALF website (mini-website);
8. Informs Network members about calls for proposals, the co-organisation of events, and the relevant application modalities and procedures;
9. Facilitates the search for project partners for Network members. In developing partnerships with foreign partners, the Head of the Network may pay particular attention to members facing organisational or other difficulties in participating in ALF activities;

10. Assists Network members or other international partners with project development and project financial management, or directs interested parties to members better equipped to provide such assistance.
11. Encourages Network members to apply for project funding;
12. Participates in the annual meeting of the ALF Heads of Network. Before this meeting, the Head shall organise a meeting of Network members or ensure other appropriate forms of consultation and discussion at the national level;
13. Coordinates regularly with the ALF Headquarters.

II. NATIONAL NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

1. The Greek National Network is independent and autonomous;
2. The Greek National Network is a permanent structure and forms part of the Anna Lindh Foundation Network operating within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership;
3. The Network is open to all institutions, organisations, and other partners that adhere to the principles and mission of the Anna Lindh Foundation, as defined in Article II.1 of the ALF Statutes, and that operate on the basis of democratic, pluralistic, and multilateral values. First and foremost, the Network represents civil society actors;
4. As a rule, its members may belong to the following categories: CSOs; public institutions, including local and regional authorities; public and private not-for-profit foundations; other for-profit partners promoting not-for-profit activities and corporate social responsibility policies; universities; research institutions; educational institutes; social enterprises; networks; associations; and informal groups. The Greek National Network consists exclusively of members with full membership status.
5. The National Network reflects the diversity of civil society and is invited to associate partners involved in the ALF thematic fields, including: international and cultural relations; heritage; religion; universities and research institutes; human rights; democracy and community development; arts; youth; education; gender; environment and sustainable development; media; and creative and social entrepreneurship;
6. To be accepted as a member, an applicant must not engage exclusively in commercial activities, demonstrate the capacity to contribute to intercultural dialogue, and align with the vision of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

7. Established rules and criteria govern decisions on the acceptance of membership applications. Any objection raised by the focal points is communicated during the evaluation process.
8. Once an application for membership has been accepted, the new member is notified by official email confirming the approval of the application. The email is accompanied by an information document outlining the operation of the Greek Network, its regulations, and the rights, roles, and responsibilities of its members.
9. New members are required to provide additional information and/or supporting documents to the Greek Network. If they do not respond within the specified deadline, their application is suspended for two months. If they remain unresponsive, their application is declined.
10. The Head of the Network reserves the right to reject membership applications when the organisations concerned do not comply with the mission of the Anna Lindh Foundation or fail to meet the eligibility requirements and categories set out in the National Network rules. In the event of rejection, the applicant is informed by email and provided with detailed reasons for the decision.
11. The Head of the Network reserves the right to exclude existing members when the organisations concerned no longer comply with the principles of the Anna Lindh Foundation, cease to exist, remain unresponsive or unreachable for more than two years, or request their own removal. The member concerned is notified of the decision by email.
12. Membership applications are addressed to the Greek Head of Network, with a copy to the ALF Network Coordination Unit;
13. The Network can be considered valid if it includes at least 5 members;
14. The Head of the Network is entitled to provisionally limit the maximum size of the Network in order to consolidate it and improve its performance;
15. The Head of the Network asks members to reaffirm their membership every three years and reserves the right to exclude members for inactive participation in the Network, following consultation with the focal points of the National Network. The reconfirmation process is carried out by completing the relevant online form.

III. NATIONAL NETWORK STRUCTURE

- a) It may establish either ad hoc or thematic committees that operate as consultative bodies for the Head of the Network.

- b) It establishes geographical focal points that assist in the operation and management of the Network and function at the regional level to which they belong.
- c) Following consultation with and approval by the members, the Head of the Network may delegate some of these responsibilities to individual members. However, the Head of the Network retains responsibility for activities delegated to the ALF Secretariat and to Network members.

Since 2013, the NGO United Societies of the Balkans has been appointed by the Hellenic Foundation for Culture as Co-Head of the Network and confirmed by a vote of the members. The Co-Head shares with the Head all responsibilities related to the internal management of the Network.

The Co-Head:

1. Manages Network membership;
2. Contributes to the development of the ALF annual and triennial programmes;
3. Organises and supports training programmes and capacity-building activities;
4. Assists Network members with project development and project financial management;
5. Disseminates information (including news from members and the Network, Anna Lindh Foundation activities, and announcements of calls for proposals) by email, newsletters, posts on the websites of the Foundation and the Network, and social media;
6. Is responsible for the financial management of the Network.

Due to the wide geographical distribution of Network members across Greece, three focal points were established in the North, South-West, and East regions to support more efficient management, with a Head for each region. The Heads of the Focal Points are members of the Greek Network and are either elected by the members of their respective regions or directly appointed, depending on the circumstances. They serve a three-year term, with the possibility of extension. Their rights, obligations, and tasks arise from the needs of the Network and the respective contract with the Foundation and are defined in the mutual Agreement of Good Cooperation between the Heads of the Network and the Heads of the Focal Points.

The governance body, consisting of the Co-Heads and the three focal points, holds at least one regular online meeting every two months. Additional extraordinary meetings may be held as necessary. All decisions are made by consensus.

Under the Dynamic Governance methodology (Sociocracy) followed by the Greek Network, the Circle of National Actions was established in 2024. The Circle has a purely advisory role and provides recommendations for the organisation of the national meeting, the cultural event "Kaiti Emmanouilidou," and other joint actions of the National Network. It consists of three members, one from each focal point area, elected by the members of the respective area. The Head and Co-Head also participate in the meetings, which are held at least once every three months.

IV. NATIONAL NETWORK MISSION

1. The National Network promotes the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership at the national and international levels;
2. The National Network contributes to the development of the Foundation's priorities and programmes, sharing its vision with other National Networks and with the ALF Headquarters;
3. The Network promotes joint activities among Network members at the national level, in line with the objectives of the Network Development and Action Plan, developed within the framework of the ALF Network Support Scheme;
4. The Network uses the Anna Lindh Foundation label in its activities;
5. Network members may participate in ALF calls for proposals;
6. Network members are entitled to receive regular information from the Head of the Network about calls for proposals and other calls. The Head is solely responsible for the Development Support Scheme and may and should consult members on the Development Plan, which must be approved by the Network before it is submitted and implemented.