❖ EUROPEAN MASONIC CONFEDERATION OF GREAT RI-BUILDERS OSIRIS – HIRAM ABIF ❖

INTERNATIONAL STATUTE

Ordo ab Chao – Lux ex Tenebris

Approval date stated in the Italian source: 12 October 2025

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TITLE I – IDENTITY, NATURE AND PRINCIPLES

Article 1 – Name and identity

1. The Confederation shall bear the name “European Masonic Confederation of Great Ri-Builders Osiris – Hiram Abif”, hereinafter referred to as the “Confederation”.

2. The Confederation is a free framework for international Masonic cooperation and coordination among Masonic Obediences and, in the cases provided for by these Statutes, autonomous Lodges.

3. The Confederation motto is “Ordo ab Chao – Lux ex Tenebris”. The abbreviated name, emblem, seal and distinctive signs shall be those officially approved by the competent bodies.

Article 2 – Confederative nature and independence from legal form

1. These Statutes define the identity, principles, bodies, powers and procedures of the Confederation at an institutional and Masonic level, as a coordinating structure among its participating entities.

2. The Confederation does not intend to establish itself as an autonomous legal entity or to acquire legal personality of its own. It is an institutional and Masonic confederative structure founded on free cooperation among the Obediences and other admitted entities.

3. Each participating Obedience remains distinct from the Confederation and retains its own rules and its own legal entity, where one exists. Membership does not transfer to the Confederation ownership, legal representation or responsibility for the entities of the Obediences.

4. The Confederation shall not establish a registered legal seat, autonomous assets, a common fund held in the name of a confederative entity, or an administrative structure intended to act as a separate legal entity. Any operational requirements shall be governed by specific agreements among the participating Obediences, in compliance with applicable rules.

5. The Confederation shall not replace its members or exercise powers over them beyond those expressly assigned to it by these Statutes. No provision may be interpreted as automatically creating a legal entity or a legal representation relationship between the Confederation and the entities of the Obediences.

6. The Confederation has no legal entity of its own; each Obedience participates through its own bodies and representatives and remains the holder of its own rights, obligations and legal relationships.

Article 3 – Fundamental principles

The Confederation is founded on brotherhood, human dignity, freedom of conscience, tolerance, solidarity, loyalty, mutual respect, dialogue, ethical responsibility, international cooperation and the autonomy of its participating entities.

Article 4 – Aims

The Confederation pursues the following aims:

a) to foster fraternal relations and cooperation among members;

b) to promote international Masonic dialogue, study, culture and the exchange of experiences;

c) to support shared ethical, cultural, educational and philanthropic initiatives;

d) to facilitate treaties of friendship and cooperation protocols, without imposing them on members;

e) to enhance Masonic traditions while respecting the sovereignty of each Obedience;

f) to promote conciliation and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

g) to represent common positions only within the limits of the mandates granted.

Article 5 – Autonomy of Obediences and Lodges

1. Each participating Obedience retains its ritual, initiatic, doctrinal, administrative, disciplinary and organisational autonomy.

2. Membership does not entail hierarchical subordination or the transfer of sovereignty to the Confederation.

3. The Confederation shall not impose rites, degrees, offices, recognitions or internal decisions on participating entities.

4. Confederative resolutions shall be binding on members only in matters assigned to the Confederation by these Statutes and within the limits of the commitments freely undertaken through membership.

TITLE II – MEMBERS, ADMISSION AND STATUS

Article 6 – Categories of members

1. Masonic Obediences and autonomous Lodges that share the confederative principles and are admitted in accordance with these Statutes may become full members.

2. Associate members, observers or partner entities may be admitted under a distinct status, according to criteria established by the Internal Regulations. Such status shall not confer voting rights unless expressly provided for in the Statutes.

3. The admission of an autonomous Lodge shall not entail the recognition or establishment of an Obedience, nor restrict the autonomy of other entities.

Article 7 – Application and admission procedure

1. The application shall be submitted in writing to the Confederative Secretariat by the applicant's authorised representative.

2. The application shall state the name, institutional contact details, representative, nature of the applicant entity and declaration of adherence to the confederative principles; it shall include its statutes or equivalent documents, where available, and any information reasonably necessary for assessment.

3. The Confederative Council shall verify that the application is complete, may request further information and shall formulate a reasoned proposal.

4. Admission shall be decided by the General Assembly. If the Regulations delegate to the Council the power to grant provisional admissions, the decision must be submitted for ratification at the next General Assembly.

5. The decision shall be communicated in writing. Any refusal shall be accompanied by a concise statement of reasons.

Article 8 – Rights of full members

Full members shall have the right to participate in the General Assembly through delegates; submit proposals and nominations; receive information on activities and resolutions; participate in confederative initiatives; request a review of decisions affecting their status; and withdraw in accordance with Article 12.

Article 9 – Duties of members

Members undertake to comply with the Statutes and duly adopted regulations; act loyally and fairly; notify changes to their representatives; pay any approved contributions; refrain from making commitments or issuing statements in the name of the Confederation without authorisation; and respect the dignity, autonomy and traditions of other members.

Article 10 – Precautionary suspension

1. Where concrete evidence indicates a serious violation and a current risk to the Confederation or its members, the Council may order a proportionate and temporary precautionary suspension, giving written reasons.

2. The member concerned shall be promptly informed of the reasons and may submit observations within thirty days. The measure shall be submitted to the Assembly at its first available meeting and shall lapse if not confirmed.

3. A precautionary suspension does not constitute a final finding of responsibility and must be reviewed when the grounds for it cease to exist.

Article 11 – Disciplinary procedure and expulsion

1. Permanent suspension or expulsion may be proposed in cases of serious or repeated breach of the Statutes, unauthorised use of confederative signs, conduct seriously incompatible with the common principles, or persistent failure to fulfil duly adopted obligations.

2. The right to be heard shall be guaranteed: written notification of the alleged facts, access to relevant material subject to confidentiality requirements, and a period of no less than thirty days to prepare a defence.

3. The final decision shall be made by the Assembly, with a two-thirds majority of the votes validly cast. The member concerned may present its reasons but shall not vote on its own case.

4. Anyone with a direct personal interest in the matter shall abstain from the decision. The measure shall state its reasons and be communicated in writing.

5. The member may request a review by the next Assembly or initiate the safeguard procedure provided for in Title VI.

Article 12 – Withdrawal

1. Any member may withdraw by written notice to the Confederative Secretariat. Withdrawal shall take effect on the date specified or, if no date is specified, thirty days after receipt.

2. Obligations already accrued shall remain in force, and the member shall cease using the Confederation's name, seal and distinctive signs unless written authorisation is granted.

TITLE III – BODIES AND OPERATION

Article 13 – Confederative bodies

The bodies of the Confederation are: (a) the General Assembly; (b) the Confederative Council; (c) the President; (d) the Vice-President or Vice-Presidents; (e) the Confederative Secretariat; (f) the High Confederative Ethical Court; and (g) committees and advisory bodies established in accordance with these Statutes.

Article 14 – General Assembly: powers

1. The General Assembly is the Confederation's highest deliberative body.

2. Its powers include setting general policy; approving and amending the Statutes; electing and removing elected officers; deciding on admissions and expulsions; approving the accounts and financial guidelines; establishing permanent committees; approving agreements of particular importance; and deciding on dissolution.

3. The Assembly shall not decide on ritual, doctrinal or internal matters reserved to the autonomy of members.

4. The Assembly may deliberate only on matters listed on the agenda, unless all members present and entitled to vote agree otherwise unanimously.

Article 15 – Composition and voting rights

1. Each full Obedience may accredit up to three delegates and shall have a maximum of three votes in total. Each full autonomous Lodge may accredit one delegate with one vote.

2. Delegates shall be appointed by the respective members in accordance with their internal rules. Credentials shall be submitted to the Secretariat before the meeting opens.

3. Each member shall indicate which delegate or delegates are authorised to cast its votes. No vote may be cast twice; the allocation of votes among delegates shall be governed by the electoral regulations.

4. Associate members, observers and partners shall participate without voting rights, unless their status is expressly changed in accordance with the Statutes.

5. Any dispute concerning credentials shall be decided by the Assembly before voting begins.

Article 16 – Convening and meeting procedures

1. The ordinary Assembly shall meet at least once a year. An extraordinary Assembly shall be convened by the President, by a majority of the Council members, or at the request of at least one third of the full members entitled to vote.

2. Notice of the meeting shall normally be sent at least thirty days in advance and shall state the date, time, arrangements, place or platform, agenda and documents. In a duly justified urgent case, the notice period may be reduced to ten days.

3. Meetings may be held in person, remotely or in hybrid form, provided that identification, participation, the opportunity to speak and the verifiability of voting are ensured.

4. The minutes shall record attendance, proxies, agenda, resolutions and voting results and shall be kept by the Secretariat.

Article 17 – Quorum and Assembly resolutions

1. At the first call, the Assembly shall be duly constituted when a majority of the full members entitled to vote are present or represented. At the second call, it shall be valid with the members present or represented, provided this possibility was stated in the notice and the agenda remains unchanged.

2. Unless otherwise provided, resolutions shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes validly cast.

3. Amendments to the Statutes require a two-thirds majority of the votes validly cast and participation in the vote by at least half of the full members entitled to vote.

4. Expulsion requires the majority provided for in Article 11. Dissolution requires at least three quarters of the votes allocated to full members.

5. Elections and personal matters shall be decided by secret ballot when requested by at least one fifth of the votes present or when required by the Regulations.

6. Abstentions shall not be counted among votes validly cast but shall be recorded in the minutes.

Article 18 – Confederative Council

1. The Council shall implement the Assembly's policy and manage ordinary coordination.

2. It shall consist of the President, the Vice-President or Vice-Presidents, and the councillors elected by the Assembly. The number of councillors and nomination procedures shall be determined by the Assembly before each election and recorded in the minutes.

3. The Council shall prepare the annual programme and accounts; implement Assembly resolutions; examine membership applications; coordinate committees and representatives; authorise initiatives and commitments within approved limits; and propose safeguard or disciplinary measures in the cases provided for.

4. It shall meet at least twice a year and whenever requested by the President or one third of the councillors. Meetings may be held electronically.

5. Resolutions shall be adopted by a majority of those present; in the event of a tie, the proposal shall be rejected. Minutes shall be kept by the Secretariat.

Article 19 – Terms of office and elections

1. Unless otherwise decided before the election, the term of office of the President, Vice-President and elected councillors shall be four years and may be renewed once consecutively.

2. Nominations shall be communicated to members sufficiently in advance. Elections shall be held by secret ballot. The candidate receiving a majority of the votes validly cast shall be elected; if no candidate obtains such majority, a second round shall be held between the two candidates with the highest number of votes.

3. If an office becomes vacant before the end of the term, the competent body shall arrange a replacement or by-election. The replacement shall serve the remainder of the term unless the Assembly decides otherwise.

4. Removal for just cause requires notification of the grounds, an opportunity to defend oneself and a resolution by the competent body.

Article 20 – President

1. The President represents the Confederation institutionally within the limits of these Statutes and the mandates received.

2. The President convenes and chairs the Assembly and Council, coordinates the implementation of resolutions and presents an annual report.

3. The President may not assume financial obligations, conclude binding agreements or issue recognitions in the name of the Confederation outside the powers assigned or without the required authorisations.

4. In the event of absence or impediment, the designated Vice-President shall act.

Article 21 – Vice-Presidency and Secretariat

1. The Vice-President assists the President and performs the President's functions in the event of absence, impediment or written delegation.

2. The Secretariat handles notices, minutes, the membership register, archives, correspondence and official communications.

3. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Council unless the Assembly decides otherwise, and shall act under a written mandate.

4. At the end of a term of office, the outgoing officer shall hand over documents, archives, credentials and confederative property to the successor or the Secretariat.

TITLE IV – REPRESENTATION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Article 22 – Confederative ambassadors and representatives

1. The Confederation may appoint ambassadors, delegates or representatives for individual States, geographical areas or international bodies.

2. The appointment instrument shall specify the territory, functions, term, limits of the mandate, reporting duties and conditions for revocation. The appointment shall be decided by the Council or the Assembly according to the importance of the assignment.

3. Ambassadors shall promote dialogue, institutional contacts and cooperation. They may not sign treaties, assume financial commitments or issue recognitions in the name of the Confederation without a written mandate.

4. The title of Ambassador is internal to the Confederation and does not constitute diplomatic accreditation by a State.

Article 23 – Commission for European and International Relations

1. The Commission for European and International Relations is hereby established as a confederative coordination body, unless the Assembly decides otherwise.

2. The Commission coordinates representatives, prepares cooperation proposals, fosters relations with Obediences and Confederations, and reports periodically to the Council.

3. The head of the Commission, who may be titled High Commissioner for European and International Relations, shall act within a written mandate and shall not replace the President in general representation.

Article 24 – Treaties of friendship and protocols

1. The Confederation may promote treaties of friendship, cooperation protocols and joint declarations with Obediences, Confederations and entities compatible with its aims.

2. Such instruments shall be approved by the competent body and signed by the President or a delegate holding a written mandate.

3. Unless expressly agreed otherwise by the parties, such instruments shall not entail merger, subordination, transfer of sovereignty or automatic recognition of ritual prerogatives.

TITLE V – TRADITION AND COOPERATION

Article 25 – Cultural and Masonic activities

1. The Confederation promotes meetings, studies, conferences, publications, seminars and philanthropic initiatives consistent with its aims.

2. Participation in ritual activities, visits, exchanges of recognition or initiatic initiatives remains subject to the rules and autonomous decisions of the Obediences concerned.

3. The Confederation does not confer Masonic degrees and does not alter the ritual systems of its members.

Article 26 – Ritual Chambers, Chapters and working groups

1. The Assembly may establish Ritual Chambers, Chapters, committees or study groups, defining their purpose, composition, powers, duration and relationship with the confederative bodies in a specific instrument.

2. Such bodies shall operate in accordance with the autonomy of the Obediences and may not confer degrees, impose rituals or make commitments on behalf of the Confederation without a mandate.

3. Advisory bodies shall report to the body that established them and may not exercise powers reserved to the Assembly or the Council.

TITLE VI – ETHICS, SAFEGUARDS AND DISPUTES

Article 27 – Integrity and conflicts of interest

1. The bodies, representatives and members shall act loyally, impartially, with respect for personal dignity and with institutional propriety.

2. Anyone with a direct personal interest in a resolution must disclose it and abstain from the discussion and vote, unless invited to provide clarification.

3. Minutes shall record abstentions due to conflicts of interest.

Article 28 – High Confederative Ethical Court

1. The High Confederative Ethical Court is an independent safeguard body for institutional disputes and ethical matters within the Confederation’s competence.

2. It shall consist of three or five members appointed by the Assembly for a four-year term, renewable once. Members may not simultaneously serve on the Confederative Council and must disclose any conflicts of interest.

3. The High Court shall adopt rules guaranteeing impartiality, clear notice of allegations, the right of defence, reasoned decisions and procedures for abstention.

4. It shall not exercise civil or criminal jurisdiction, replace State judicial authorities, or intervene in the internal ritual discipline of Obediences, except with their express consent and within the limits accepted by the parties.

Article 29 – Ethical procedure and review

1. Proceedings may be initiated by a reasoned application from a member or by referral from the Council, in accordance with the Regulations.

2. The parties shall be informed of the alleged facts and given a reasonable period of no less than thirty days, except in a duly justified urgent case, to submit observations and documents.

3. The decision shall state its reasons, be communicated to the parties and be kept on record. Any publication, including partial publication, requires an assessment of necessity and must protect confidentiality.

4. The Regulations may provide for internal review by members who were not involved in the initial decision.

Article 30 – Conciliation of disputes

1. Disputes between members or between a member and a confederative body shall first be addressed through dialogue and an attempt at conciliation.

2. If no agreement is reached, the matter may be referred to the High Ethical Court if it falls within its competence and the parties have accepted the procedure.

3. Rights and remedies provided by applicable law shall remain unaffected.

TITLE VII – RESOURCES, ARCHIVES AND TRANSPARENCY

Article 31 – Common expenses and agreed contributions

1. The Confederation has no autonomous assets and does not collect funds in the name of a confederative legal entity. The Obediences may agree on voluntary contributions or the allocation of expenses for common initiatives, setting out the arrangements in writing in advance.

2. The Assembly may propose contributions and approve expenditure plans; implementation requires the express acceptance of the Obediences concerned and identification of the entity that will bear and document each expense.

3. Any sums paid remain under the ownership and management of the entity receiving or advancing them, in accordance with the written agreement, and may be used exclusively for the agreed common purpose. This does not, in itself, create confederative assets.

4. No confederative officer may assume financial obligations in the name of the Confederation. Commitments shall be undertaken exclusively by the entity that expressly accepts them and is authorised to do so under its own rules and applicable law.

Article 32 – Documentation of common expenses

1. Each year, the Council shall present the Assembly with a report on any authorised common expenses and on how they were incurred and documented by the Obediences entrusted with them.

2. The Assembly may appoint an internal review committee to examine documentation relating to common expenses, without thereby creating a supervisory body for a confederative legal entity.

3. Participating Obediences may consult the documentation relating to common expenses under procedures that protect personal data, confidentiality and the integrity of the archives.

4. Each Obedience or legal entity that incurs expenses or assumes obligations in its own name remains responsible for the relevant records and for compliance with the law applicable to it.

Article 33 – Name, seal, communications and archives

1. The name, seal, logo and other distinctive signs may be used only for confederative purposes and in accordance with the approved rules.

2. No member or representative may make commitments or issue official statements in the name of the Confederation without authorisation.

3. The Secretariat shall keep the archives and ensure the preservation of resolutions, treaties, appointments and official documents.

4. Access to the archives shall be governed by rules balancing transparency, confidentiality, data protection and the preservation of historical documents.

TITLE VIII – FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 34 – Implementing regulations and hierarchy of rules

1. The Assembly shall approve the necessary regulations, including the Internal Regulations, Electoral Regulations, Financial Regulations and Regulations of the High Ethical Court.

2. Regulations and resolutions must comply with these Statutes. In the event of a conflict, the Statutes shall prevail.

3. Confederative instruments shall be interpreted consistently with the Confederative Charter approved on 12 October 2025, while respecting the distinct role and purpose of each document.

Article 35 – Amendments to the Statutes

1. Proposed amendments shall be sent to members with the notice of the meeting and, as a rule, at least thirty days before the meeting.

2. Amendments shall be approved in accordance with Article 17 and recorded in the minutes, specifying the amended text and the effective date.

Article 36 – Duration and dissolution

1. The Confederation shall operate for an indefinite period as an institutional structure for coordination and cooperation, without thereby establishing an autonomous legal entity.

2. Dissolution shall be decided by the Assembly with the majority required under Article 17.

3. The resolution shall govern the cessation of common activities, the custody and preservation of the confederative archives, and the closure of any operational commitments undertaken by participating Obediences under signed agreements. It shall not dispose of the assets of the Obediences' legal entities.

4. The cessation of the Confederation shall not entail the dissolution, merger or amendment of the legal entities of participating Obediences, nor affect their assets, statutes or obligations, which shall continue to be governed by their respective instruments and applicable law.

Article 37 – Official languages and interpretation

1. Official versions may be adopted in Italian, English and other languages by resolution of the Assembly.

2. The Assembly shall determine which version prevails in the event of discrepancies between translations. Until such a resolution is adopted, the approved Italian text shall be the reference text.

3. These Statutes shall be interpreted in good faith, in accordance with confederative loyalty, the autonomy of members and consistency with the institutional aims.

Article 38 – Entry into force and transitional provisions

1. These Statutes shall enter into force at the confederative level on the date of their approval by the competent body, as recorded in the minutes.

2. At the first Assembly following approval, the bodies provided for in these Statutes shall be confirmed or appointed and, where necessary, implementing regulations shall be adopted.

3. Existing appointments shall remain effective until expiry or confirmation in accordance with transitional provisions approved by the Assembly.

4. These Statutes bear the approval date of 12 October 2025, in keeping with the approval date of the Confederative Charter. This date indication does not replace any additional formalities required by the applicable legal system.