

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF THE NON-PROFIT CIVIL SOCIETY
UNDER THE NAME
“HELLENIC BALINT SOCIETY”**

Article 1: Society’s Name

The Greek name of the society is "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΙΑ ΒΑΛΙΝΤ". For its international relations, the society's name shall be "HELLENIC BALINT SOCIETY".

Article 2: Registered Office

The Society's registered office is in Athens, Greece. The Society may establish branches and offices throughout Greece and abroad, as well as transfer its registered office by decision of the partners

Article 3: Purpose

3.1. The Society's purposes are:

3.1.a) The primary purpose of the Society is to promote, with the help of Balint Group work, the research and knowledge of the psychological aspects of the relationship between physician-patient, psychologist-patient and other healthcare and social workers, helping to promote the cooperation with the patient/client, by examining their relationship using the Balint method.

3.1.b) The implementation of the Balint method, its further development and promotion, particularly in the context of healthcare and psychotherapy services.

3.1.c) The introduction of Balint group work method into healthcare structures and in the training of healthcare faculty students to promote psychosomatic thinking and actions for the positive outcome of treatment.

3.1.d) The promotion of scientific research into the development of Balint group work.

3.1.e) The training of people who will act as "Balint Group Leaders" and their supervision on the basis of the International Balint Federation standards.

3.1.f) The support of doctoral training programs, and in particular of a program called "Primary Psychosomatic Care", in which Balint groups play an essential part.

3.1.g) The development of a criteria and data framework for the education and training certification of Balint groups, corresponding to those set by the International Balint Federation, which individual Balint groups in Greece can use as reference.

3.2. To achieve its purpose, the Society:

3.2.a) Organizes educational conferences at national level where physicians, psychologists, other health professionals, medicine and psychology students and students of other health and social professions can take part for the completion of their studies.

3.2.b) Establishes frameworks for planning and developing training program procedures and "Balint Group Leaders" training, and issues certificates after completing these programs.

3.2.c) Supports and supervises the training of trainees of "Balint Group Leaders".

3.2.d) Organizes conferences having as a special feature the unifying interconnection of lectures with the classic Balint small group work technique and issues the relevant attendance certificate.

3.2.e) Collaborates with the International Balint Federation and with other Balint Societies.

3.2.f) Promotes and supports the research and the collection of experiences on the Balint method in collaboration with educational institutions and in particular Health Sciences Schools by offering special programs and groups to support their work.

3.2.g) Publishes a newsletter and printed material related to the issues and purposes of the society.

3.3. The purposes and means are only indicatively mentioned in this article and the non-profit civil society can alter them respectively according to the prevailing conditions.

3.4. The Society follows the standards of the International Balint Federation.

Article 4: Duration

The Society is of unlimited duration and commences upon the publication of its Articles of Association in the registers of the Greek General Electronic Commercial Registry (GEMI).

Article 5: Partners contribution

5.1. The Society's capital is set at€ and the partners agree to contribute.

5.2. The participation percentage of each partner in the losses is limited and corresponds to the amount of the partner's contribution.

5.3. Given that the Society is non-profit, the Society's revenue will not be distributed among the partners, but it will remain in the Society's fund in order to form a reserve for the achievement of its purposes.

5.4. The members of the company shall receive no remuneration or compensation and they are only entitled to receive a sum to cover their expenses resulting from the fulfilment of their duties for the achievement of the company's objectives and the tasks assigned to them.

Article 6: Resources

Apart from the above contribution of the partners, for the accumulation of the Society's capital, the Society's resources may be as follows:

(a) The standard annual contribution of the partners;

(b) The regular subscriptions or extraordinary contributions of members, subscribers or friends of the Society;

(c) The funding from the European Union or from Greece for the implementation of subsidized programs;

(d) The emergency aid, grants, donations from state bodies, international organizations and natural or legal persons;

(e) The revenue from sales of printed material and the organization of events; and

(f) Any other revenue that may reasonably be derived from the operation and activities of the Society.

Article 7: Obligations of Partners

7.1. Each partner has to contribute his/her personal work and scientific and technical knowledge for the achievement and promotion of corporate purposes.

7.2. Partners cannot transfer their corporate share or assign their rights or obligations to a third party without the written consent of the Society's Board of Directors.

7.3. Under no circumstances may outgoing partners be able to receive any amount of the Society's property resulting either from third party benefits to the Society or from corporate activities or for other reasons.

7.4. It is agreed that the partner's withdrawal from the Society is free. In case of a partner's withdrawal, the share of the outgoing member is transferred to the remaining members. The right of withdrawal must be exercised with a declaration of the partner communicated to the BoD. of the Society.

7.5. New entrant partners are required to accept the provisions of these Articles of Association, the Code of Ethics and are fully equal as regards their corporate obligations and rights with other partners.

7.6. The decease of a partner does not result in the Society's dissolution, which will continue to exist with the rest of the partners, who will equally share the corporate share of the deceased person.

Article 8: Members of the Society

By choosing to participate in the Hellenic Balint Society, each member agrees to behave and act professionally in accordance with its current Code of Ethics.

The members of the Society are distinguished in:

- a) Regular members – partners;
- b) Honorary Members; and
- c) Candidate members.

8.1. Regular members - partners of the Society are the signatories of these Articles of Association - founders of the Society, who are also automatically considered to be its regular members. Regular members of the society have the right to be present and participate at the General Meetings and have the right to vote and stand for election.

The admission of new members is made by decision of the Board of Directors of the Society at the request of the person concerned, who must be a doctor of any speciality or psychologist and meet the following conditions:

(a) Specialization in an area of psychotherapy or psychoanalysis, as evidenced by a certificate from a recognized Greek or foreign Society or other recognized Greek or foreign institution; and

(b) have completed the training as Balint Group Leader, evidenced by the relevant certificate issued by the Hellenic Balint Society or a similar recognized Society abroad.

Also, the candidate members can become regular members of the Society after the completion of their training in the subject of the Society.

8.2. As **honorary members** of the Society, by decision of the Board of Directors, are appointed personalities who have provided moral or material assistance or other excellent services for the promotion of the Society's purposes. The honorary members of the society have the right to be present and participate at the General Meetings without having the right to vote and stand for election.

8.3. As **candidate members** of the Society are appointed, upon request to the Board of Directors, the following persons:

a) Physicians and psychologists who wish to follow Balint Group Leader training and complete their training.

b) Physicians, psychologists and other persons of the social professions who, without fulfilling the conditions for joining the Society, wish to participate in its activities and events, to be trained in Balint method, to assist the Society's work and complete their training.

c) Trainees wishing to certify their work in a Balint group and complete their training.

d) Students wishing to participate in the activities and events of the Society and to complete their studies in the Society's subject.

Candidate members are required to pay an annual subscription fee, have the right to attend and speak at General Meetings, without though having the right to vote and to stand for election. After completing their studies on the subject of the Society, the candidate members can become regular members of the Society upon their request.

Article 9: Deleting Members

The Board of Directors may remove a regular or other member from the Society in the following cases:

9.1. Upon request of a member for his voluntary withdrawal from the Society and deletion from the Members' Register, which is approved in the BoD meeting immediately following his/her request.

9.2. When the member fails to pay his annual subscription and has received three (3)-month notice in writing by the Society.

9.3. If the member acts against the interests of the Society.

9.4. If the member violates important provisions of the Law or of the Articles of Association.

9.5. If the member has been irrevocably convicted by a criminal court with a custodial sentence for an offence concerning his activities which are the object of the Society.

9.6. If it violates the principles of the Code of Ethics of the Society

Article 10: General Meeting (GM)

10.1. The GM of the partners is the supreme body of the Society where all the members of the Society who have paid their subscriptions in full, and it has the competence to decide on every issue.

10.2. The GM is always convened after an invitation of the Board of Directors and meets at least once (1) every financial year, and it is convened by the Chair or his/her alternates.

The invitation by the Board of Directors must be sent at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the General Meeting. and must mention the agenda. The Board of Directors is entitled to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting for important reason and whenever it deems necessary.

10.3. In the responsibilities of the General Meeting pertain all matters which fall outside the remit of another body, and in particular:

a) The election of the BoD members;

b) The approval of the Annual Report on the Activities and the Financial Statement of the BoD;

c) The monitoring of the proper function of the Society's bodies;

d) The decision to amend the provisions of the Articles of Association, the dissolution of the Society, the winding-up, the appointment of the liquidators and the disposal of its assets.

10.4. The GM is in quorum and can decide on each subject when at least 2/3 of the partners are present. If no quorum is reached, a repetitive GM is re-convened within seven

(7) days, which is in quorum with the presence of at least 1/2 of the members. If a quorum is not reached again, a repetitive GM is called again within seven (7) days, which is in quorum with the members who are present, regardless their number.

10.5. The decisions of the GM shall be taken by a majority of more than the half of the members present, unless a greater majority is required by the Articles of Association or by the law.

10.6. More specifically, regarding the decision-making on the amendment of the Articles of Association, the dissolution of the Society, the liquidation, the appointment of the liquidators and the disposal of its property, a quorum of 3/4 and a majority of 2/3 of the members present is required. If a quorum is not reached, a repetitive GM shall be convened again within seven (7) days, which shall be in quorum with the presence of at least 2/3 of the members and a decision shall be reached by a majority of more than half of the members present.

10.7. The GM is chaired by the Chair of the Board of Directors and minutes are kept by a Secretary appointed by the Chair.

Article 11: Board of Directors

11.1. The Society is governed by the Board of Directors, which handles all administrative cases and executes the decisions of the General Meeting.

11.2. The Board of Directors consists of 5 members and its term of office is 3 years. Its members are eligible for re-election. The members of the Board must be regular members of the Society for at least one (1) year and have proven to promote the purposes of the Society. Within eight (8) days of its election, the Board of Directors meets at the initiative of the member who has acquired most of the votes and is set up as a body. The Chair, the First Vice-Chair, the Second Vice-Chair, the Administrative Advisor and the Financial Officer are elected by open ballot.

The Board of Directors meets regularly once (1) per month and extraordinarily whenever it deems necessary. The Board of Directors is convened after an invitation of its Chair or three (3) members. The invitations and the agenda are sent to the members of the Board of Directors 48 hours after the call was sent by fax or e-mail or by post or by telephone.

11.3. The Board of Directors is in quorum and decides on each issue when 3/5 of the members participates and decides by a simple majority. If the required quorum is not

reached, then the meeting is repeated within three (3) days and is considered valid irrespective of the number of attendees.

11.4. The Board of Directors generally deals with all the affairs of the Society and indicatively:

a) Informs and makes recommendations to the General Meeting on any matter related to the achievement of corporate purposes.

b) Monitors the management of the Society's property.

c) Decides on any matter related to the achievement of the corporate purposes other than those which fall within the competence of the General Meeting.

d) Decides on the amounts of annual subscriptions - contributions from members.

e) Decides on the entry of new regular members - partners.

f) Decides on the selection of "honorary members" proposed as such by the BoD.

11.5. The minutes are recorded in the minutes of the Board of Directors for all decisions taken.

11.6. Chair of the Board of Directors

The Chair manages corporate affairs, represents the Society before any Authority and can implement any management action to achieve the corporate purpose. Indicatively:

a) Represents the Society vis-a- vis any third natural or legal person, private or public, domestic or foreign, before the Greek or foreign State, before any Bank, domestic or foreign, before any Court of any competence, jurisdiction and instance (civil, criminal, fiscal or administrative);

b) Concludes all kinds of contracts on behalf of the Society;

c) Decides on the recruitment of employees and all kinds of consultants (legal, financial, tax, etc.);

d) Performs financial manager duties and pays and collects money from any public fund, financial service, legal person, private or public law, from any Bank, pays or receives checks, remittances and any other type of credit; makes deposits of Society's money to any Bank or Savings Bank, makes withdrawals and deposits, issues bills and checks and accepts bills of exchange, transfers them by endorsement or assignment to any third party, makes the opening of credit and overdraft accounts.

e) Commits the Society by signing any document, public or private or other, under the society's name, thus producing rights and obligations for the Society.

f) To cover the expenses of the Chair, the Board of Directors shall decide to grant him a monthly amount recorded in its minutes.

11.7. First Vice-Chair:

Replaces the Chair when he is unable to fulfil his duties or when the Chair entrusts him with specific duties or responsibilities.

11.8. Second Vice-Chair:

Replaces the Chair or the First Vice-Chair when they are unable to fulfil their duties or when they delegate to him/her specific duties or responsibilities.

11.9. The Administrative Advisor:

(a) Keeps records of the BoD meetings;

b) Sends invitations for the convening of the BoD meetings and the General Meeting.

c) Keeps records, registers of members and generally all registers of the Society, except for accounting and cash accounts.

d) Completes the current mail.

e) Orders the printed material.

f) Sends newsletters to members.

The BoD may also designate a "Special Administrative Advisor" to handle specific matters, or to replace the Administrative Advisor.

11.10. The Financial Officer:

He is responsible for the sound financial management of the Society, he keeps the Society's Fund and all statutory books and records provided by the Law and the Articles of Association. More specifically:

a) Receives any amount given to the Society for any reason and issues special, duplicate, numbered and sealed receipts;

b) Receives money from any Public Treasury, Financial Service, legal person, private or public law, any Bank, pays or receives checks, remittances and any other type of credit; deposits Society's money to any Bank or Savings Bank, makes withdrawals and deposits, issues bills and checks and accepts bills of exchange, transfers them by endorsement or assignment to any third party, makes the opening of credit and overdraft accounts;

c) Pays and repays all the Society's liabilities, based on the payment orders bearing the signature of the Chair and the Secretary;

d) Updates the book of the Fund;

e) Keeps the relevant books provided by law;

A person of the Board of Directors may be entrusted with the exercise of more than one of the above roles.

The alternates of the members of the Board of Directors are appointed among the regular members of the Society and are recorded in the Society's minutes.

Article 12: Society's Records

The records kept by the Society are as follows:

a) Register of Members

b) Incoming and Outgoing Documents Protocol with the relevant files

c) Book of minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors

d) Book of minutes of the General Meetings

e) Book of revenue and expenditure

f) Book of Donors and Benefactors

Article 13: Balance Sheet - Distribution of profits

13.1. The financial year begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st every year. The first financial year ends on December 31, 2018.

13.2. At the end of every financial year, the Financial Officer prepares the inventory of all assets and liabilities.

13.3. Given that the Society is non-profit, no distribution of profits is permitted, and the profits are exclusively used to achieve the Society's objectives.

Article 14: Dissolution

The Society is dissolved for great reason with the unanimous decision of its partners.

Article 15: Winding-up

The Society's dissolution follows the winding-up phase. The winding-up is then exercised by the respective BoD, which is designated as Liquidator.

After the contributions are paid to the partners, the Society's entire tax-exempt assets will be assigned to an Association or Society for the purpose of direct and exclusive non-profit use in the promotion of one of the Balint Society's purposes or a related purpose, e.g. Psychosomatic Medicine or Psychotherapy.

The choice of the above Association or Society is determined by the BoD and is voted in the General Meeting.

Article 16: Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising out of this agreement will be settled by the Courts of Athens.

Article 17: Final provisions

17.1. For any matter not provided for in this agreement, the provisions of the Civil Code and other laws shall apply mutatis mutandis.

17.2. Any amendment of any provision hereof requires a decision of the GM by the majority provided for in Article 10.6.

In witness whereof, this document has been drawn up in three (3) identical copies, which, after being read and certified by the parties, are signed by them as follows:

CODE OF ETHICS

The Hellenic Balint Society endorses the Guidelines on Professional Ethics and professional standards in accordance with the Law 3418 (Government Gazette A287/28-11-2005 - **Code of Medical Ethics**), in line with the **European Association for Psychotherapy** [Ethical Guidelines of the European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP), 1995], and the four principles (1.Respect for a Person's Rights and Dignity, 2.Competence, 3.Responsibility and 4.Integrity) of the **Meta Code of Ethics of the European Federation of Psychologists Associations (EFPA)**.

By choosing to participate in the Hellenic Balint Society, each member commits to behave and act professionally in accordance with its applicable Code of Ethics and to accept any decision taken by the Society pursuant to this Code.

The members are expected to act with honesty and integrity throughout their professional work and have the responsibility to be familiar with and comply with this Code of Ethics.

General Values

1. The Society does not discriminate its members on the basis of origin, nationality, ideology, colour, gender, age, or religion. It is self-evident that the members of the Society shall behave according to these principles in the course of all their therapeutic, educational and cooperative relationships.

2. The members shall act with respect for human beings, their relationships shall be consistent with the human values of the therapeutic, supervisory and educational function, thereby supporting the Society's prestige and solemnity, and shall be conscious of the effect they may have upon the lives of their patients and trainees.

More specifically:

- 1.The members shall always act in a way that they reasonably believe to be in their patients' best interests. At all times their patients' well-being shall be of paramount importance and every care shall be taken to ensure that the patient is not exploited in any way.
- 2.The members shall be familiar with the Access to Health Records Act 1991, the Data Protection Act, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applicable from 25 May 2018, and their impact on their work.
- 3.The members shall take all reasonable steps to protect the confidentiality of information acquired as a result of their professional practice and protect the privacy of individuals and organizations whose information is kept.
- 4.The members shall be open to cooperation with their colleagues and other members of the Society.
- 5.The members exhibit only true qualifications. They do not provide, advertise, or promise services nor do they use methods on which they have no training or experience.
- 6.The members shall behave and exercise their professional activities in a way that does not harm their patients or trainees' interests.
- 7.If a member is convicted of a criminal offense in any court in Greece, or elsewhere, or any proceedings, civil, criminal or by a professional body, are commenced against him, he/she must inform the Chair of the Board. Similarly, members have the duty to inform the Chair of the Board about such information pertaining to a fellow member.
- 8.The members are required to maintain a sufficient level of professional competence by meeting the relevant requirements and by participating in any necessary education and training.
- 9.The members must restrict their professional activities within the limits of their own competences and apply for professional advice or supervision regarding any case reaching this limit. The members must rely on their medical opinion as to whether they should ask for advice about a patient or client.
- 10.The members although they come from different professional backgrounds must work within the limits of their own specialty and cooperate in an interdisciplinary manner with others or, if it is

deemed necessary, turn to a colleague of other specialty either from within the Society or elsewhere.

11. The members must refuse to provide psychotherapeutic care if they know that the patient is already being treated by another psychotherapist, unless all parties have agreed to cooperate for scientifically sound reasons.
12. The members terminate the treatment when, at their best clinical judgment, the patient no longer needs it or when he does not wish to continue being treated. However, if the patient wishes to discontinue the therapy, although he/she needs it, the member is obliged to inform him/her that he/she may need to continue in a different therapeutic context.
13. The members shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that those working under their direct supervision adhere to this code and do not attempt to practice beyond their competence.
14. The members must limit their work or refrain from practice when their physical or psychological health is seriously impaired or if in doubt about their ability to perform competently and they must seek appropriate advice, to care about their personal development and to ask for help and supervision for personal matters which may negatively impact their professional activity.
15. The members shall, during all their professional work, value integrity, impartiality and respect of patients, to seek to establish the highest ethical and clinical standards in their work and not to exceed the appropriate and professional limits with patients at all times, so that the patients are not exploited in any way.
16. The members do not engage, promise or imply any loving relationship with their patients or close relatives. This also applies for a reasonable time after the termination of the treatment.
17. The members neither receive nor pay commissions to third parties for referrals or diagnostic tests.
18. In the case of the assignment of a scientific investigation to a member, the Society is entitled to publish the research results with the member's name, or names of the contributors in full respect of their contribution and their intellectual property.
19. The research done by the Society's members is based on international research principles such as credibility, ethics, informed consensus, etc.

20. The members acknowledge the contribution of their colleagues, and if they use their ideas and work, they make sure that they refer to them appropriately in the bibliography.
21. If publishing or presenting clinical or supervisory material either orally, written or film/video form, the members must make every effort to ensure the anonymity of patients and where clinically appropriate seek the patient's permission.
22. The members who take part in any media or other public event must exercise caution, particularly with regard to confidentiality.
23. Registrants who have reservations, objections or conflicts with other registrants about matters of professional ethics, scientific methodology or intellectual property must avoid any public criticism or defamation and seek the support of society in resolving their issue.

Note: In matters relating to advertisement for members, publications and media appearances, management of psychological tests (for example, if delivered to the patient), as in other matter not expressly referred to in the articles of this Code, FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CORRESPONDING PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES/ASSOCIATIONS.

This Code of Ethics is included as an annex to the Articles of Association of Hellenic Balint Society.

I, the undersigned, official translator, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true translation of the attached Greek document.

Chania, 15/09/2017