# INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERATION OF GREEN PARTIES OF THE AMERICAS (FPVA)

## PRELIMINARY TITLE

Article 1. The purpose of these Internal Regulations of the FPVA is to clarify or regulate matters not expressly established in the Federation's organizational Statute.

Article 2. The provisions of these Regulations shall be understood according to the natural and obvious meaning of the words. Technical terms shall be interpreted according to the meaning given to them by those who practice the technique or art to which they belong. In case of doubt, the dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy shall be consulted, along with its equivalent translation in an English dictionary, or the legal definition thereof, if available.

## NAME AND PRINCIPLES

Article 3. The Federation of Green Parties of the Americas is recognized as one of the four founding Federations of the Global Greens world organization, and therefore its members may also belong to said political organization.

## MEMBERSHIP

Article 4. Political parties or movements wishing to join the FPVA may not simultaneously belong to any other international political organization, except for the Global Greens organization. To obtain membership, they must meet the requirements established in the statutes by submitting the following documentation to the Executive Secretariat at least 30 days prior to the annual General Assembly:

- Letter of introduction from a full member of the FPVA
- Current registration with the electoral authority of their country
- Programmatic platform consistent with the Earth Charter
- Summary of electoral results obtained to date

With this documentation in hand, the General Assembly will accept or reject, by simple majority, the full membership of the applicant party. If rejected, the General Assembly may accept the party as an affiliated member, which status will be maintained until they meet the requirements for admission as a full member.

In particular circumstances, when an affiliated member has demonstrated consistent partisan and electoral work through alliances with registered political parties, but has been unable to obtain electoral registration due to the political conditions in their country, and when the FPVA recognizes that they have made significant contributions to the organization, the General Assembly may, on the basis of merit, vote to grant them full membership status, pending the acquisition of official electoral registration.

To participate in the Federation as an Observer, the following documentation must be submitted:

- Letter of introduction from a Full Member of the FPVA
- Formal registration of the organization
- Founding documents or work program

The General Assembly will accept or reject the application for Observer status by a simple majority vote.

Article 5. Full membership shall be lost under the following circumstances, and the party will be downgraded to Affiliate Member status:

• Loss of registration with the electoral authority for a period exceeding 3 years.
• Failure to attend the annual General Assembly in person for two consecutive years, unless otherwise decided by the Assembly due to exceptional circumstances.
• Being in arrears in the payment of membership dues for two or more years.
• Repeated, flagrant, and manifest transgression of the Federation's principles.

This decision regarding transgression may only be made by a ruling of an arbitration commission and subsequent ratification by two-thirds of the voting members of the General Assembly, excluding the party in question.

Article 6. Affiliate membership shall be lost under the following circumstances:
• Loss of registration with the electoral authority for a period exceeding 5 years.
• Failure to attend the annual General Assembly in person for two consecutive years.
• Being in arrears in the payment of membership dues for two or more years.
• Repeated, flagrant, and manifest transgression of the Federation's principles.

This decision regarding transgression may only be made by a ruling of an arbitration commission and subsequent ratification by two-thirds of the voting members of the General Assembly, excluding the party in question.

Article 7. Participation in the Federation as an Observer shall be lost under the following circumstances:
• Failure to attend the annual General Assembly in person for two consecutive years.
• Being in arrears in the payment of membership dues for two or more years.
• Repeated, flagrant, and manifest transgression of the Federation's principles.
• The decision to terminate Observer status shall be made by a simple majority vote in the General Assembly.

Article 8. The loss of full membership may be revoked by the General Assembly at the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, where the affected party may demonstrate that it has remedied the cause for the loss of full membership.

Article 9. The loss of membership as an Affiliate Member may only be reversed if the party, movement, or political organization reapplies for membership at the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

Article 10. The loss of Observer status may only be reversed by a decision of the General Assembly with a three-quarters vote of its full members present.

Article 11. The rights of full members shall be:
• To publicly communicate their membership in the Federation as full members.
• To participate with the right to speak and vote in the General Assembly sessions.
• To propose and elect representatives to all the Federation's bodies.

• To be recognized as a member by the Global Greens organization and have access to its information and activities.
• To know and request any political, administrative, or financial information from the Federation.
• To have access to publish their activities or resolutions in the Federation's media. This is subject to the sole restriction of not harming the functioning or image of the Federation, nor violating its principles.

Article 12. The rights of Affiliate Members shall be:
• To publicly communicate their membership in the Federation as observer members.
• To participate with the right to speak in the General Assembly sessions.
• To be recognized as a member by the Global Greens organization and have access to its information and activities.
• To know and request any political, administrative, or financial information from the Federation.
• To have access to publish their activities or resolutions in the Federation's media. This is subject to the sole restriction of not harming the functioning or image of the Federation, nor violating its principles.

Article 13. The rights of observers shall be:
• To publicly announce their participation in the Federation as Observers.
• To participate with the right to speak in the open session of the General Assembly and in the closed session if invited by the General Assembly to participate.
• To have access to publish in the Federation's media outlets, with the sole restriction of not damaging the functioning or image of the Federation, nor violating its principles.

Article 14. The obligations of all members shall be:
• To participate in the meetings of the General Assembly.
• To promptly inform the Executive Secretariat of any changes in the leadership positions of their party, as well as in their representation to the Federation.
• To contribute financially to the functioning of the Federation according to the financial policy proposed by the finance secretariat and approved by the General Assembly.
• To comply with the commitments made within the General Assembly or any other body of the Federation.
• To inform the Executive Committee of any projects undertaken with external organizations that involve the name of the Federation or Global Greens.
• To communicate to the Executive Secretariat in a timely manner the list of delegates attending the General Assembly.
• In case of inability to attend the General Assembly, the member party must send an official communication to the Executive Secretariat 30 days in advance, explaining the force majeure reason justifying their absence. The General Assembly, at the request of the affected host member, will proceed to establish a sanction against those who do not comply with this requirement.

**ORGANIZATION**

Article 15. The General Assembly.

The General Assembly shall meet in person for its ordinary meetings and may do so virtually through online platforms for its extraordinary meetings. In the case of in-person meetings, the quorum shall be half of the full members, and in the case of electronic meetings, it shall be three-quarters of the full members.

The country that will host the ordinary meeting of the General Assembly will be chosen at the previous ordinary Assembly, following nominations by the members. A primary host country and an alternate host country will be selected, the latter to act in case the primary country is unable to hold the meeting. To this end, the host country must inform the Executive Secretariat, at least ninety days in advance, of the city and specific location that will host the meeting, accommodation options for the delegates, and a proposed program for the meeting. If this information is not provided, the Executive Co-Presidency will contact the leader of the host party in writing requesting the information, and if no response is received within five days or if the response is unsatisfactory, the alternate host country will be informed that the meeting will be held in their country.

Extraordinary meetings will be convened by email at least 72 hours in advance by the Executive Secretariat at the request of the Executive Co-Presidency or by at least three members of the Executive Committee.

Each member of the Federation shall be entitled to three official representatives. The highest authority of the party or its international representative must inform the Executive Secretariat of the Federation of the list of their three official representatives at least ten days prior to each ordinary meeting.

The representation of each member party may only be modified by the highest party authority, its international representative, or by a ruling of an investigative or arbitration committee and ratified by two-thirds of the full members of the General Assembly. In this case, the Executive Secretariat must inform the leader of the party in the country involved about the results of the investigation and the ratification by the Assembly, requesting the replacement of the delegate(s) in question.

The ordinary meetings will be divided into two sessions, one public and one private. The public session will include a political report from each member of the Federation, the Executive Committee, and the Technical Commissions, as well as promoting training and outreach activities on environmental matters. Representatives from other Federations and/or Global Greens may also attend with the right to speak, unless any full member objects. This session will be open to the public. In the private session, applications for new members and changes in membership status will be analyzed, elections for the Federation's bodies will be held, the results of the mediation and investigation commissions will be reviewed, and modifications to the Federation's statutes or its eventual dissolution will be discussed. In this session, only the delegates of full members will have the right to vote, while delegates of affiliated members and members of the Executive Committee who are not delegates from their countries, the Green Mediator, and those in charge of the technical or thematic commissions will have the right to speak. Observers may participate in each meeting only if the Assembly so decides.

Voting in ordinary meetings will be by show of hands, and each full member will have the right to one vote.

In the case of extraordinary meetings, voting will be by voice vote, and each full member will have the right to one vote.

In both ordinary and extraordinary meetings, the Executive Secretariat must keep minutes indicating the date, time, and place of the meeting, as well as the attendees and resolutions adopted, with details of the respective votes. These minutes will be available to all official delegates to the Federation.

Article 16. The Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of three Co-Presidents, three Vice-Presidents, an Executive Secretary, and a Secretary of Finance.

All these elections shall be held within the General Assembly and shall begin with the oral nomination of candidates for the various positions. Once the candidacies have been accepted by the nominated individuals, voting will proceed for Co-Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Executive Secretary, and Secretary of Finance.

In the case of the election of the Co-Presidents, the three candidates receiving the most votes will occupy the positions, and immediately thereafter, a vote will be held among the three top candidates for the position of Executive Co-President.
In the case of the election of the Vice-Presidents, the candidate receiving the most votes will occupy the position of First Vice-President, the second highest vote-getter will be the Second Vice-President, and the third highest vote-getter will be the Third Vice-President.

In case of resignation, death, permanent disability, loss of membership in the Federation by their party, loss of their status as a member of their own party, or by a ruling of an arbitration committee, ratified by the general assembly, a general replacement mechanism will be implemented, consisting of the election by simple majority of the vacant position by the General Assembly, for which an extraordinary meeting will be called.

The replacement will be for the remainder of the respective term.

Only if the vacant position is that of Executive Co-President, will the replacement be the Co-President who obtained the second highest number of votes in the respective election. The resulting vacant Co-President position will be filled by the First Vice-President, while that position will be filled by the general replacement mechanism.

Article 17. The functions of the Executive Co-Presidency shall be:
• To represent the Federation judicially and extrajudicially.
• To represent the Federation before the Global Greens.
• To chair the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly.
• To propose to the General Assembly and implement the Federation's strategic plan.
• To promote the formalization and strengthening of Green parties in the Americas.

Article 18. The functions of the Co-Presidencies shall be:
• To participate in the development and implementation of the Federation's strategic plan.
• To promote the formalization and strengthening of Green parties in the Americas.
• To chair the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly in the absence of the Executive Co-Presidency.

Article 19. The functions of the Executive Secretariat shall be:
• To maintain and manage the Federation's official documentation.
• To respond to requests for information from both Federation members and external organizations.
• To convene the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of both the General Assembly and the Executive Committee.
• To supervise the person in charge of the Federation's online media, ensuring the Federation's image and respect for the principles of democracy and transparency.

Article 20. The functions of the finance secretariat shall be:
• To propose to the General Assembly and implement the Federation's financial plan.
• To maintain and manage the Federation's financial information.
• To propose to the General Assembly the current value and categories for members' dues.
• To carry out collection procedures when necessary.
• To inform the Executive Committee and the General Assembly about the payment status of members' financial obligations.

Solely for the purpose of determining the amount of the monetary contribution of each member of the Federation, a scale of large, medium, and small parties will be used, according to the following:
• Small party: Has no representatives at the local or national parliamentary level, nor in the federal executive government at the ministerial or secretarial level.
• Medium party: Has parliamentary representation of up to 5 senators or national deputies and is not part of the national executive government at the ministerial or secretarial level.
• Large party: Has parliamentary representation of more than 5 senators or national deputies, or is part of the national executive government at the ministerial or secretarial level.

Article 21. The functions of the Green Mediator shall be:
• To mediate in conflicts between members of the Federation.
• To conduct investigations into complaints against one or more members for violating the principles and image of the Federation.
• To conduct investigations into complaints against one or more delegates to the General Assembly for violating the principles and image of the Federation or for serious damage to the functioning of the Federation.
• To advise and propose improvements to the Executive Committee on matters of transparency and integrity.

In the case of mediation, the Green Mediator will propose to the General Assembly a mediation or arbitration commission composed of three people, including himself, belonging to parties that are full members. The impartiality of the selected individuals must be ensured, as well as the representation of different countries on the commission. The mediation will last no less than fifteen nor more than ninety days. Once this period has elapsed, a report will be submitted to the Executive Committee, and an extension of up to sixty additional days may be requested. The Green Mediator will close the mediation, informing the Executive Committee and the General Assembly of the outcome at their next meeting.

In the case of an investigation, the Green Mediator will propose to the General Assembly an investigative commission of three people, including himself, belonging to parties that are full members. If the country or the delegate to which the Green Mediator belongs is one of those under investigation, the proposal will be made by one of the co-chairs belonging to a country not involved. The impartiality of the selected individuals must be ensured, as well as the representation of different countries on the commission. The investigation will last no less than thirty and no more than ninety days. Once this period has elapsed, a report will be submitted to the Executive Committee, and an extension of up to sixty additional days may be requested. The Green Mediator or the responsible co-chair will close the investigation, reporting its results and proposing to the Executive Committee the sanctions deemed appropriate. The Executive Committee will then submit the conclusions of the investigation and the proposed sanctions for consideration by the General Assembly at its next meeting, so that the Assembly can make a ruling if required.

## FUNCTIONS OF THE GREEN AMBASSADOR

Article 22. The General Assembly may grant outstanding members of the Federation who have contributed exceptionally to its strength and international recognition the title of Ambassador of the Greens of the Americas. This position will require carrying out communication and public relations activities at the regional and international levels to strengthen the Federation's image, as well as contributing to the solution of specific issues requested directly by the Executive Committee. The ambassador's position is ratified every two years and will be lost by decision of the Assembly or by resignation from the position.

## FPVA-JVA COORDINATION

Article 23. The Federation will appoint a representative who will act as a liaison with the JVA, and the JVA will also appoint one. Both representatives, at the request of the Assembly, may participate in meetings to maintain coordination and advance joint projects and actions. When the JVA undertakes a project with an external organization, the JVA Executive Committee will meet with the FPVA Executive Committee to inform them of the project's design.

Article 24. Technical or thematic secretariats

There will be at least eight thematic working secretariats, as established in the Federation's statutes. Any other thematic secretariat may be implemented by agreement of the General Assembly.

For its operation, which will preferably be through virtual means, the secretariat must have a coordinator, elected every two years by the General Assembly, and at least two members from member countries. In exceptional cases, external experts who contribute to the functioning of the commission may be invited.

The commissions must meet at least twice a year and must keep minutes of these meetings, indicating the date, place or means of the meeting, attendees, agreements, and tasks undertaken. These minutes will be sent to the Executive Secretariat for registration. The coordinator of each committee, or whoever the committee designates for this purpose, must report on the progress and obstacles encountered to the General Assembly at its regular meetings.

In case of resignation or if the committee ceases to function, the General Assembly may appoint another coordinator for the remainder of the two-year term.

## INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Article 25. Representation before the Global Greens

The Federation is an integral part of the Global Greens organization and therefore has the right to be represented in both the Global Green Coordination (GGC) and its Executive Committee (GGE). The three principal representatives to the GGC will be the three Co-Chairs of the Federation, and the three alternate representatives will be elected by the General Assembly in a manner similar to the election of the Executive Committee members. From among the six representatives, three principal and three alternate, a lead representative will be chosen to represent the Federation on the Global Greens Executive Committee. In case of a tie, the vote of the Executive Co-Chair will be decisive.

The lead representative will be responsible for informing the Executive Committee and the General Assembly, when required, of the activities and status of relations with the Global Greens. This information will be sent to the Executive Secretariat and will be available to the members of the Federation.