

COPE CONSTITUTION

7/20/2000

**CONSTITUTION OF CONGRESS OF POLITICAL
ECONOMISTS (COPE) INTERNATIONAL****ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section 1. The organization, chartered as a non-profit organization under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, shall be named Congress of Political Economists (COPE), International.

Section 2. The purpose, objectives and business for which the COPE, International is formed shall be: (a) the encouragement of policy-oriented economic research and discussion, (b) the encouragement of freedom in economic discussion (the organization, however, as such shall take no partisan attitude, nor will it commit its members to any position on theoretical or practical economic questions), and (c) the issuance of publications for the purposes of disseminating knowledge on economic subjects.

ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATIONAL SET-UP

The Congress of Political Economists consists of the Membership which elects the elected officers of the Association. The elected officers are the President, President-elect, Secretary, and the Executive Director. The elected officers of COPE and the past presidents constitute the Executive Committee which selects five or more Directors with a view to insuring representation for the regions of the world. It may also appoint such other officers as may be appropriate to the functioning of COPE. In the event of a vacancy in any office the executive committee shall appoint an individual to fill such vacancy. An election to fill the unexpired term of that office shall be held at the next annual meeting. The Board of Directors consists of the Executive Committee and the Directors.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members: Any person interested in the theory, principles, and problems of economics, particularly, but not limited to, economic policy including personal freedom, human equality and economic justice may, upon payment of required dues, be enrolled as a member of the organization.

Section 2. Institutional Members: Institutions not engaged primarily in partisan political or propaganda activities may become institutional members upon payment of dues required for this classification.

Section 3. Life Members: Any member may, upon the payment of a sum equal to fifteen times the current annual dues become a Life Member and will thereafter be entitled to all privileges of membership and be exempt from all further dues.

Section 4. Founding Members: Closed

Section 5. Honorary Members: Economists and other social scientists who have made outstanding contributions to their respective fields may be elected Honorary Members of the organization. They shall be elected by the Board of Directors. Honorary members shall pay no dues and shall be entitled to all privileges of membership. The number of Honorary Members shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total membership of the organization.

Section 6. Subscribers: Libraries, research organizations, and other establishments may, upon payment of required subscription fees, become subscribers, having no membership privileges except the receipt of all publications to which they subscribe.

Section 7. Student members: Both graduate and undergraduate students become non-voting members upon payment of fees as prescribed by the Board of Directors..

Section 8. If one member of a family pays the full annual membership fee, additional family members may join by paying one half the annual fee. An additional family member is defined as spouse or child of the member. Family members will have full voting rights. Each family will receive only one copy of each publication

Section 9. The amount of dues and fees payable in the respective classifications listed above shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 10. Membership dues and fees shall be payable at such times and intervals and upon such notice as the Board of Directors may fix and prescribe.

Section 11. Each member shall be entitled to receive, as they appear, all reports and publications of the organization.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1. The Executive Committee is charged with conducting the continuing administrative duties of COPE International.

Section 2. The President-elect shall succeed to the office of the President at the end of the second annual meeting of the Congress after he/she is elected President-elect. The term of President who preceded him/her ends at the same time that the President-elect succeeds to the Presidency. It is expected that the timing of the meetings will make the length of time served approximately two years for both the President and the President-elect. Terms longer than 27 months or less than 21 months resulting from the timing of meetings need the Executive Committee's approval.

Section 3. All officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast. Ballots for this election shall be mailed at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, so as to ensure that all members receive their ballots in a timely manner. All members (those who have paid annual dues, founding members, life members and honorary members) may vote. The Executive committee shall serve as the nominating committee. The ballots shall provide for write-in candidates.

Section 4. The term of office of the Executive Director, and the Secretary shall be three years.

Section 5. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the organization and its official spokesman in dealing with other organizations and with the general public. He/she shall exercise general supervision over all of the activities of the organization, shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall appoint committees as are necessary to the activities of the organization during his/her term of office.

Section 6. The President-elect shall assume the powers and duties of the President in the event of the absence or incapacity of the latter. During such intervals, he/she shall be designated "Acting President".

Section 7. The Executive Director shall be the administrative and fiscal officer of the organization and shall be responsible for the organization of the convention program. The Executive Director shall keep the records and accounts of the organization, shall maintain the mailing list, shall distribute ballots and communications to the membership, and shall process the correspondence of the organization. The Executive Director is responsible for the business aspects of its publications. He/she shall designate such assistants as may be necessary to the conduct of his/her office and shall receive and have the custody of the funds and property of the organization, and make disbursement and transfers thereof as may be required for the efficient operation of the organization. The Executive Director shall keep the records of all official meetings, subject to the rules of the Executive Committee.

Section 8. The Secretary shall cosign disbursements and transfers above a dollar amount limit set by the Executive Committee and keep the records of all official meetings, subject to the rules of the Executive Committee. He/she shall serve as recording secretary and parliamentarian for Board of Directors meetings and for business meetings of the organization.

Section 9. Chair for Meeting Services. The primary duty of this position is to make all local arrangements for the annual meeting. The term of office is one year. The Chair for Meeting Services is appointed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may change the Chair for Meeting Services if circumstances require.

Section 10. The Executive Committee may select an Editor or Editors for such publications of COPE as the Executive Committee may authorize (such as Proceedings, a Newsletter, and a Journal if authorized by the Executive Committee).

Section 11. The Executive Committee shall exercise general supervision and direction over the organization.

Section 12. The Associate Editors shall be selected and appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 13. The Editor, in consultation with the associate editors shall appoint the Editorial Board to assist them in selection of manuscripts for publications approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V: COMPOSITION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The appointment and terms of office of officers of the organization have been described in Article IV above. Directors shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a term of two years. Directors may continue to serve as non-voting, ex officio members of the Board after their term of appointment has expired for so long as they continue to be members of COPE and exhibit an interest in the work of the Board as evaluated by the Executive Committee. In selecting Directors the Executive Committee shall make an effort to include members from continents which would otherwise be unrepresented on the Board.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have such meetings, both regular and special, as it shall fix or call, or as may be called by the President of his/her designee. One-third of the Board membership shall constitute a quorum. Minutes shall be circulated by the recording secretary to all members of the Board within sixty (60) days of the meeting. Meetings may be in person, by telephone, or by electronic means as determined by the President or his/her designee.

Section 3. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to decide on the date and place of the annual meeting and the annual business meeting of the organization; to determine and levy the amount of dues and fees

described in Article III above; if it deems such action necessary to arrange, at its discretion, for the auditing of the books of the Executive Director; to fix the compensation of the officers; and to do whatever else is necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of the organization.

Section 4. The Board shall prescribe the manner of handling the permanent property, trusts, trust and endowment funds of the organization, and no disbursement of funds derived from these sources shall be made without prior approval and authorization of the Board.

Section 5. The Executive Director's keeping accounts and of receiving and disbursement of monies shall be subject to review and approval of the Board.

Section 6. In the event that the organization ceases operation, as determined by a majority of the membership in good standing in a mail ballot election, the Board shall convey any remaining assets to some other organization of social scientists at its discretion.

ARTICLE VI: MEETING AND QUORUMS

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the members of the organization at such time and place as may be fixed by the Board. This shall be announced at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Special meetings of the members of the organization may be called by the Board upon notice thereof, including purpose and agenda of such meeting, no less than sixty (60) days when deemed necessary.

Section 3. A quorum for either a regular or special meeting of the members shall consist of at least ten percent (10%) of the members.

ARTICLE VII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall be the authority in all questions of parliamentary law not covered by the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments, after have been approved by a majority of the Board of Directors may be adopted by a majority of votes cast by membership in a mail ballot.