

**VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

STATUTES

I. GENERAL PART

1.1. Name of the association: Vytautas Magnus University Student Representative Council.

1.2. Abbreviations used in these statutes:

VMU SRC – VMU Student Representative Council;

Student Parliament – VMU SRC Student Parliament;

Parliament Chair – Chair of the VMU SRC Student Parliament;

President – President of the VMU SRC;

Vice President – VMU SRC Vice President;

Chairperson – Chairperson of a VMU SRC division;

Division – VMU SRC division;

Office – VMU SRC Office;

Branch Office – VMU SRC Branch Office;

Board – VMU SRC Management Board;

Chairperson of the Board – Chairperson of the VMU SRC Management Board;

Audit Committee – VMU SRC Audit Committee;

Alumni – VMU SRC Alumni;

Honorary Members – VMU SRC Honorary Members

1.3. VMU SRC is an independent, non-political, non-profit association representing students studying at VMU. Its activities are based on the principles of transparency, self-governance, equality, and other democratic principles.

1.4. VMU SRC is a public legal entity with financial, economic, organizational, and legal independence.

1.5. The legal form of VMU SRC is an association. The legal basis for the activities of VMU SRC is the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Associations of the Republic of Lithuania, the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania, the Statute of VMU, and other legal acts and these Articles of Association.

1.6. The registered office of VMU SRC may be changed by a decision of the Board.

1.7. The territory of VMU SRC's activities is the Republic of Lithuania.

1.8. The duration of VMU SRC's activities is unlimited.

1.9. The financial year of VMU SRC is the calendar year.

II. VMU SRC OBJECTIVES, TASKS AND ACTIVITIES

- 2.1. The vision of VMU SRC is to become a leading non-governmental organization in Lithuania that unites students and is the most attractive student self-government for its members and partners.
- 2.2. The mission of VMU SRC is to represent VMU students at the local, national, and international levels and to strive for their comprehensive well-being.
- 2.3. The goals of VMU SRC are:
 - 2.3.1. to represent VMU students, defend their rights and interests at VMU and beyond;
 - 2.3.2. to care for the academic, social, and cultural well-being of VMU students;
 - 2.3.3. to promote academic community civic awareness and contribute to the preservation of national culture, human values, and traditions;
 - 2.3.4. contribute to the creation and development of the intellectual potential of the VMU community;
- 2.4. The tasks of VMU SRC:
 - 2.4.1. participate in the creation of effective national and VMU study systems that meet the interests of students and guarantee the protection of their rights;
 - 2.4.2. to develop the employment of VMU students;
 - 2.4.3. disseminate information about VMU and VMU SRC activities;
 - 2.4.4. to involve VDU students in the dissemination of civic and democratic values;
- 2.5. VMU SRC carries out the following activities:
 - 2.5.1. participates in organizing the study process at VMU;
 - 2.5.2. The laws established procedure participates in local government institutions activities with the right to vote;
 - 2.5.3. decides on issues related to student housing, scholarship distribution, internal rules and regulations, and compliance with internal rules;
 - 2.5.4. contributes to the organization of student leisure activities;
 - 2.5.5. participates in the process of ensuring the quality of studies at VMU;
 - 2.5.6. provides students with material and non-material assistance, where possible;
 - 2.5.7. establishes and develops contacts with students of other higher education institutions in the Republic of Lithuania and foreign countries, as well as with their and other organizations;
 - 2.5.8. organizes the publication of public information about VMU and VMU SRC through various means of communication.
- 2.6. In order to achieve the goals and objectives set out in its statutes, VMU SRC has the right to:
 - 2.6.1. express its opinion on all issues of concern to students;
 - 2.6.2. obtain information and explanations from the heads and employees of VMU and its departments on all study-related issues;

- 2.6.3. request, in accordance with the procedure established by the VDU Statute, that decisions taken by VMU self-government bodies and the administration relating to study issues be reconsidered;
- 2.6.4. Join with other student councils, unions and associations;
- 2.6.5. purchase and otherwise acquire property necessary for its activities, use, manage, and dispose of it;
- 2.6.6. hire persons to carry out the activities specified in the statutes;
- 2.6.7. receive funds or other property from VDU, Lithuanian and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, foundations, as well as other legal entities or individuals;
- 2.6.8. establish (be a founder of) companies, institutions, and organizations registered and operating in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 2.6.9. carry out other activities that do not conflict with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and these Articles of Association.

III. MEMBERS OF VMU SRC

- 3.1. VMU SRC members are persons studying at VMU and elected to the management bodies of VMU SRC (VMU Student Parliament, Parliament Chairperson, Board, President, Chairperson) or appointed to the executive bodies (Office, Branch Office).
- 3.2. Alumni may also become members of the Board and the Audit Committee
- 3.3. VMU SRC members have the right to:
 - 3.3.1. participate in VMU SRC activities;
 - 3.3.2. receive information about VMU SRC activities;
 - 3.3.3. submit proposals and inquiries to the management and executive bodies of VMU SRC regarding the activities of VMU SRC and receive responses;
 - 3.3.4. freely resign or temporarily suspend their membership by notifying the Board in writing or by ceasing to hold or losing their positions in the management and executive bodies of VMU SRC.
- 3.4. VMU SRC members undertake to:
 - 3.4.1. to perform their duties as members of the management and executive bodies of VMU SRC in good faith;
 - 3.4.2. actively assist in the implementation of the objectives and tasks of VMU SRC;
 - 3.4.3. comply with these Statutes, VMU SRC and VMU regulatory documents, the VMU Statute, and other applicable laws of the Republic of Lithuania;
 - 3.4.4. pay the membership fee, if such a fee is established by a decision of the VMU Student Parliament;
 - 3.4.5. to adhere to the principles of honesty, decency, and justice, and to follow their conscience;

- 3.4.6. not to discredit the name and authority of the Student's Representative council as an organization through their actions or inaction.
- 3.5. A person's membership in VMU SRC shall terminate without additional decision or confirmation from the date on which he or she ceases to be a student of VMU or until the end of the term of office.
- 3.6. Upon the recommendation of the Board and with a majority vote of 2/3 of all elected members of the VMU Student Parliament, a member of the VMU SRC may lose their membership in the VMU SRC for failure to fulfill the obligations set forth in these statutes.
- 3.7. Honorary members:
 - 3.7.1. The VMU Student Parliament approves honorary members upon the recommendation of the President and with the approval of the Board. The Chairperson has the right to propose Honorary members to the President.
 - 3.7.2. The President and Chairperson who have completed their term of office become Honorary members without a decision by the VMU Student Parliament.
- 3.8. Alumni are all former members of VMU SRC.
- 3.9. Honorary members and alumni cherish the traditions and culture of VMU SRC, pass on their experience and knowledge to VMU SRC members, and support VMU SRC in other ways.

IV. STRUCTURE OF VMU SRC

4.1. The governing bodies of VMU SRC are:

- VMU Student Parliament – general meeting of members;
- Parliament Chairperson – chairperson of the general meeting of members;
- President – sole management body;
- Vice-President – assistant to the sole management body;
- Office – executive body;
- Chairperson – sole management body of the division;
- Division Office – executive body of the division;
- Board – collegial management body;
- Audit Committee – collegial internal control body.

VMU Student Parliament

4.2. VMU Student Parliament:

- 4.2.1. is the highest management body of VMU SRC;

- 4.2.2. is composed of representatives of faculties and academic departments, democratically elected in accordance with the VMU SRC Regulations.
- 4.3. Activities of the VMU Student Parliament:
 - 4.3.1. adopts, supplements, and amends the VMU SRC statutes, procedural rules, and regulations;
 - 4.3.2. may introduce an annual membership fee, determine its amount and the procedure for paying this fee;
 - 4.3.3. Upon the recommendation of the President, approves the members of the VMU Council, Senate, faculty councils, academy councils, dispute and ethics committees delegated by the VMU SRC.
 - 4.3.4. In accordance with the VMU SRC Regulations:
 - 4.3.4.1. elects the President;
 - 4.3.4.2. accepts the resignation of the President;
 - 4.3.4.3. elects the President of Parliament;
 - 4.3.4.4. accepts the resignation of the President of Parliament;
 - 4.3.4.5. elects the Chairperson;
 - 4.3.4.6. accepts the resignation of the Chairperson;
 - 4.3.4.7. Upon the recommendation of the Board or at the request of more than half of all members of the VMU Student Parliament, considers and decides on the resignation of the President, the Speaker of Parliament, or the Chairperson;
 - 4.3.4.8. approves the number of Board members, elects and dismisses Board members by secret ballot;
 - 4.3.4.9. approves the number of members of the Audit Committee, elects and dismisses members of the Audit Committee.
 - 4.3.5. accepts the resignation of persons elected and/or delegated by the VMU Student Parliament from the VMU SRC;
 - 4.3.6. proposes, supplements, amends, and approves resolutions, positions, and other public statements of VMU SRC.
 - 4.3.7. may, by a majority vote of all elected members, request a reconsideration of decisions made by VMU self-government bodies relating to students;
 - 4.3.8. considers and approves the activity and financial report of VMU SRC, considers the report of the Audit Committee;
 - 4.3.9. decides on other issues related to VMU SRC and falling within the competence of the VDU Student Parliament, unless these issues are essentially assigned to the functions of other management or executive bodies;
 - 4.3.10. approves the honorary members of VMU SRC.
- 4.4. The meetings of the VMU Student Parliament are open to the public.
- 4.5. The work of the VMU Student Parliament is organized by the President of the Student Parliament;

- 4.6. Meetings of the VMU Student Parliament are convened at least once a quarter and chaired by the President of the Parliament or his/her delegate.
- 4.7. The Chairperson of the Parliament convenes a meeting of the VMU Student Parliament no later than one week in advance, specifying the date, place, and time, and no later than three days in advance, submitting the draft agenda and accompanying documents. Members of the VMU Student Parliament are informed about the meeting by email. The Chairperson of the Parliament sends notifications to the members of the VMU Student Parliament to their specified email addresses.
- 4.8. An extraordinary meeting of the VMU Student Parliament shall be convened by the Chairperson of the Parliament upon receipt of a request signed by at least half of all elected members of the VMU Student Parliament or a request from the Audit Committee.
- 4.9. The Chairperson of the Parliament must convene an extraordinary meeting of the VMU Student Parliament within 10 working days of the date of submission of the request. If the Chairperson of the Parliament fails to convene an extraordinary meeting of the VMU Student Parliament within the specified time limit, they shall automatically lose their powers, and the meeting must be convened by the Chairperson of the Board within 5 working days.
- 4.10. The VMU Student Parliament is legitimate if more than half of the members elected to the VMU Student Parliament participate in it.
- 4.11. If there is no quorum in the VMU Student Parliament, a repeat VMU Student Parliament meeting shall be convened, which shall have the right to take decisions on the agenda items of the failed VMU Student Parliament meeting, regardless of how many members of the VMU Student Parliament participate in it.
- 4.12. A repeat meeting of the VMU Student Parliament shall be convened on the initiative of the Chairperson of the Parliament no later than 10 working days after the failed meeting of the VMU Student Parliament.
- 4.13. Decisions of the VMU Student Parliament shall be adopted:
 - 4.13.1. by a simple majority of the members participating in the meeting, unless these Statutes, the VMU SRC Rules of Procedures, or the VMU Student Parliament provide otherwise;
 - 4.13.2. decisions on the reorganization and liquidation of VMU SRC are adopted by a 2/3 majority vote of all elected members of the VMU Student Parliament;
 - 4.13.3. decisions on amendments and additions to the Statutes and the dismissal of the President are adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members participating in the meeting;
 - 4.13.4. Decisions on the procedural rules and regulations of VMU SRC shall be adopted by a majority of more than 1/2 of all elected members of the VMU Student Parliament.

President

- 4.13. The President is the sole governing body and head of VMU SRC.
- 4.14. The President is elected by the VMU Student Parliament.
- 4.15. Any VMU student who meets the requirements set out in the VMU SRC Regulations may be elected President.
- 4.16. The President is elected for a one-year term, but for no more than two consecutive terms.
- 4.17. The elected President becomes a member of the Board.
- 4.18. The President's rights and duties:
 - 4.18.1. acts on behalf of VMU SRC and represents VMU SRC without special authorization;
 - 4.18.2. participates in meetings of the VMU Rectorate and the VDU Council with the right to vote without additional delegation;
 - 4.18.3. concludes agreements that do not contradict the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and these Statutes, signs legal and financial documents, and is responsible for the activities of VMU SRC;
 - 4.18.4. submits proposals to the Board to hire employees and establish legal entities for the implementation of the goals and objectives of VMU SRC;
 - 4.18.5. submits to the Board for approval student representatives who are appointed with the right to vote to represent the interests of VMU students in Lithuanian and foreign institutions, organizations, and agencies;
 - 4.18.6. delegates VMU SRC members from VMU SRC to VMU institutions with voting rights, except in cases where these persons are delegated from VMU SRC in accordance with the procedure established by these Statutes;
 - 4.18.7. forms working groups (ad hoc committees) to perform certain tasks. The committees operate until they complete their tasks;
 - 4.18.8. submits VMU SRC activity and financial reports to the VMU Student Parliament for consideration and approval;
 - 4.18.9. submits activity plans to the Board for consideration and approval;
 - 4.18.10. submits amendments and additions to the VMU SRC Statutes to the VMU Student Parliament for consideration with the approval of the Board;
 - 4.18.11. submits Honorary Members to the Board for consideration and to the VMU Student Parliament for approval.
- 4.19. If the President is unable to perform his duties, his duties shall be temporarily performed by the Vice-President or a person appointed by the President.
 - 4.19.1. If the President loses his powers or in a force majeure situation where there is no Vice-President or the President is unable to appoint another person, his duties shall be temporarily performed by the Chairman of the Board.
 - 4.19.2. The person temporarily performing the duties of the President shall announce new presidential elections within 10 working days.

Vice President

4.20. The Vice-President is the assistant to the President, the sole governing body of VMU SRC.

4.20.1. The Vice-President is appointed by the President if necessary.

4.21. The Vice-President and his/her functions are approved by the Board upon the recommendation of the President.

Office

4.22. The Office assists the President in carrying out and organizing the activities of VMU SRC and performs other functions specified in the Statutes.

4.23. The Office consists of the coordinators of all VMU SRC committees and an administrator.

4.24. The members of the Office are directly subordinate to and appointed by the President.

Chairperson

4.25. The Chairperson is the sole management body and head of the Division.

4.26. The VMU Student Parliament elects the Chairperson.

4.27. Any VMU student of that academic unit who meets the requirements set out in the VMU SRC Regulations may be elected as Chairperson.

4.28. The Chairperson is elected for a one-year term, but for no more than two consecutive terms.

4.29. The elected Chairperson becomes a member of the Board.

4.30. The Chairperson is directly accountable to the VMU Student Parliament, the Board, and the President.

4.31. The Chairperson's rights and duties:

4.31.1. to organise the work of the Division, convene meetings, and chair them;

4.31.2. coordinate their actions with the President, representing the students within and outside VMU;

4.31.3. be an ex officio (by virtue of office) member of the Council of the academic unit

4.31.4. appoint and dismiss persons responsible for the activities of the Division;

4.31.5. coordinate and organise the Parliament, Board and President resolutions;

4.31.6. ensuring that the Division's annual activity plan is prepared and implemented in accordance with the objectives set out in the VMU SRC Statutes;

4.31.7. submit the annual activity plan to the Board for consideration and approval;

4.31.8. propose honorary members to the President;

4.32. If the Chairperson loses their authority or in a force majeure situation where the Chairperson is unable to appoint another person, their duties shall be performed by a person authorised by the Board.

- 4.32.1. The person temporarily performing the duties of the Chairperson shall announce the election of a new Chairperson within 10 working days.

Branch office

- 4.33. The Branch Office shall assist the Chairperson in carrying out and organizing the activities of VMU SRC and shall perform other functions specified in the Statutes.
- 4.34. The Branch Office consists of the coordinators and administrator of all VMU SRC branch committees.
- 4.35. The members of the Branch Office are directly subordinate to and appointed by the Chairperson.

Management Board

- 4.36. The Board consists of 7 members who are elected by the VMU Student Parliament in accordance with the VMU SRC Rules of Procedures.
- 4.37. The Board is elected for a one-year term, and there is no limit to the number of terms that the same person may serve.
- 4.38. Members of the Board may not simultaneously serve as heads of legal entities established by VMU SRC.
- 4.39. The Management Board:
 - 4.39.1. ensures the implementation of resolutions adopted by the VMU Student Parliament;
 - 4.39.2. considers and adopts resolutions on all matters within the competence of VMU SRC:
 - 4.39.2.1. considers existing regulatory documents governing the legal status of students and their organizations, and prepares recommendations for their improvement;
 - 4.39.2.2. upon the recommendation of the President, approves student representatives who are appointed with the right to vote to represent the interests of VMU students in Lithuanian and foreign institutions, organizations, and agencies;
 - 4.39.2.3. organizes elections for the VMU Student Parliament and President, supervises their conduct, and announces the results;
 - 4.39.2.4. participates in the preparation and consideration of draft documents and acts related to student rights, duties, and legitimate interests;
 - 4.39.2.5. discusses cooperation with other organizations and movements, participation in national and international organizations, membership, and other issues;

- 4.39.2.6. upon the recommendation of the President, makes decisions on the establishment and termination of branches and representative offices;
 - 4.39.2.7. Upon the recommendation of the President and the Chairperson, considers the awarding of honorary membership;
 - 4.39.2.8. considers issues related to the creation of other legal entities;
 - 4.39.2.9. considers issues related to the activities and finances of VMU SRC;
 - 4.39.2.10. creates VMU SRC executive bodies to meet student needs and submits proposals for the implementation of their activities;
 - 4.39.2.11. Establishes commissions to address relevant issues;
 - 4.39.2.12. decides on strategic issues related to the implementation of VMU SRC activities.
- 4.40. The work of the Board is regulated by the VMU SRC Rules of Procedures.
- 4.41. Board meetings are convened at least once per quarter. An extraordinary Board meeting is convened by the President at the initiative of at least half of the Board members or the Audit Committee. Board members are informed about the meeting by e-mail. The President sends notifications to Board members to their specified e-mail addresses.
- 4.42. A Board meeting shall be considered valid if more than half of the Board members are present. Board decisions shall be adopted by a majority vote of the Board members present at the meeting. If the votes are evenly divided, the person chairing the Board meeting shall have the casting vote.
- 4.43. Board meetings are open unless the Board decides otherwise.
- 4.44. The chairperson of the Board shall be elected from among the existing members of the Board at the first meeting of the Board.
- 4.45. The Chairperson of the Board:
- 4.45.1. leads the Board and organizes its work;
 - 4.45.2. reports to the VMU Student Parliament on the activities of the Board;
 - 4.45.3. assumes the duties of the President if the President loses his or her powers or in a force majeure situation where the President is unable to appoint another person;
 - 4.45.4. If the Chairperson of the Parliament fails to convene a repeat meeting of the VMU Student Parliament, convenes an extraordinary meeting of the VMU Student Parliament and chairs it.

Audit Committee

- 4.46. The Audit Committee carries out financial and operational oversight of VMU SRC, its divisions, and legal entities.
- 4.47. The Audit Committee consists of 5 members. The Audit Committee is elected for a one-year term by the VMU Student Parliament. The Chair of the Audit Committee is elected from among its members by the members of the Audit Committee.

- 4.48. Members of the Audit Committee may not simultaneously be the President, Chairperson, members of the Board, or heads of the management and executive bodies of legal entities established by VMU SRC.
- 4.49. All decisions of the Audit Committee shall be taken unanimously.
- 4.50. The Audit Committee:
 - 4.50.1. checks and evaluates the legality of VMU SRC and its divisions and established legal entities, appropriateness and effectiveness, provides relevant institutions with related conclusions and recommendations;
 - 4.50.2. exercises financial control over VMU SRC and its divisions and established legal entities;
 - 4.50.3. conducts audits of VMU SRC and its divisions and established legal entities on its own initiative, on behalf of the VMU Student Parliament, or at the request of the Board;
 - 4.50.4. after conducting an inspection, the Audit Committee submits recommendations and conclusions;
 - 4.50.5. if financial and/or operational violations are identified, the Audit Committee has the right to initiate an extraordinary meeting of the VMU Student Parliament.
- 4.51. Members of the Audit Committee shall have the right to participate in all meetings of the VMU Student Parliament and the Board as observers.
- 4.52. At the request of the Audit Committee, VMU SRC, its divisions, and established legal entities must submit the requested documents and other data no later than within 10 working days from the date of receipt of the request.
- 4.53. The Audit Committee shall present its report to the VMU Student Parliament during the reporting session of the VMU Student Parliament.
- 4.54. If the Audit Committee fails to submit a financial and/or activity report to the VMU Student Parliament, an independent financial and/or activity audit must be carried out at VMU SRC within 30 days of the reporting session of the VMU Student Parliament.
- 4.55. The President or his authorized representative shall, no later than 14 days after the presentation of the independent audit findings, inform the VMU Student Parliament of the findings of the financial audit.
- 4.56. The powers of a member of the Audit Committee shall expire when he or she completes his or her term of office, resigns, is dismissed, and/or when a new member of the Audit Committee is elected to replace him or her.

V. VMU SRC ASSETS AND FUNDS

- 5.1. VMU SRC funds consist of:
 - 5.1.1. VMU SRC membership fee, if determined by the VMU Student Parliament by its own decision;

- 5.1.2. Funds allocated by the Republic of Lithuania or foreign states to individuals and legal entities (charitable organizations and foundations, non-governmental organizations, state institutions, and private companies) and other donated (contributed) funds;
- 5.1.3. Support received in accordance with the procedures established by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 5.1.4. income from publishing;
- 5.1.5. funds obtained from organized events and projects;
- 5.1.6. funds received from VMU;
- 5.1.7. other funds obtained through legal means.
- 5.2. VMU SRC may own buildings, equipment, publishing houses, printing houses, vehicles, social and charitable facilities, as well as other property necessary to achieve the objectives set out in the Statutes. It can be acquired using funds belonging to VMU SRC, as well as through donation, inheritance, or other legal means.
- 5.3. VMU SRC funds are used in accordance with the procedure established by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania to achieve the goals set out in the VMU SRC Statute, to support organizational structures, and to maintain hired personnel.
- 5.4. Once a year, VMU SRC accounts for the funds provided by the University in the manner established by the University Council.
- 5.5. The financial activities of VMU SRC are overseen by the Audit Committee.

VI. PUBLIC NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 6.1. Information about upcoming VMU Student Parliament meetings, Board meetings, and other information related to VMU SRC activities is published on the VMU SRC website (www.vdusa.lt) and sent to members via email. If it is not possible to publish information through these channels, or when legislation requires it to be published in another way, it is published in other ways determined by the President, the Board, or the VMU Student Parliament.
- 6.2. The VMU SRC website publishes information about the composition of all VMU SRC and its subsidiary bodies.
- 6.3. When VMU SRC announcements must be published publicly, they are published in the electronic publication "Public Announcements of Legal Entities" issued by the State Enterprise Centre of Registers.

VII. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE STATUTES

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 - 7.1. The VMU SRC Statutes may be amended and supplemented at any meeting of the VMU Student Parliament by a majority vote of 2/3 of the members of the VMU Student Parliament present.
 - 7.2. The draft amendments to the Statutes shall be submitted to the VMU Student Parliament by the President.
 - 7.3. Amendments and additions to the Statutes shall come into force upon their registration in accordance with the procedure established by law.

VIII. PROCEDURE FOR TERMINATING THE ACTIVITIES OF VMU SRC

- 8.1. VMU SRC may be reorganized or liquidated by a resolution of the VMU Student Parliament, adopted by a majority of 2/3 of all elected members of the VMU Student Parliament.
- 8.2. VMU SRC shall be reorganized or liquidated in accordance with the procedure established by the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania, by a court decision or in accordance with the procedure established by other laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Vytautas Magnus University
Student Representative Council's President

Paulius Vaitiekus