



PES WOMEN'S STANDING COMMITTEE

STANDING ORDERS

(Last revised on June 2012)

Annex: list of members and procedures for elections

1. Identity

The PES Women's Standing Committee is an organisation within the Party of European Socialists (PES).

2. Name

The name of the Committee is the 'PES Women's Standing Committee'. However, for communication purposes the committee may be referred to as 'PES Women'.

3. PES Women Members

In line with article 12 of PES Statutes (Prague, 2009), PES Women consists of Representatives from (one per party):

- PES Full Members : Full member parties and full member organisations
- PES Associate Members: Associate parties and associate organisations + CEE Network for Gender Issues.
- PES Observer members : Observer parties and observer organisations

Socialist International Women remains Associate Member within PES Women, unlike their position within the PES Statutes.

See annex for list of members

PES Women full members have the right to vote with one vote per full member. Associate members and observer members have no right to vote.

4. Objectives

The PES Women's Standing Committee works to promote gender equality in Europe and within the PES and PES member parties. It seeks to fulfil this objective among others through:

- Information sharing about European and national policies, initiatives and studies
- Campaigns and common actions
- Common reactions to European policy and legislation
- Development of policies within the field of gender equality
- Adoptions of resolutions
- Press activities

- Putting pressure on national parties to give priority to gender equality
- Increasing and strengthening women's engagement and representation in the EU and ensuring their visibility in elections
- Bringing women citizens closer to European and social democratic values

5. President and Vice-Presidents

The PES Women's Standing Committee elects a President and up to 4 vice-Presidents for a period of two and a half years. Their election coincides with each constituent election of the PES Congress..

6. Bureau

The PES Women's Standing Committee elects a Bureau from among its members.

The Bureau comprises up to 12 members. The term of office of Bureau members covers a period of two and a half years and their elections are held in the same period as the election of the President and Vice-Presidents.

7. The Executive

The Executive is comprised of the President, Vice Presidents, Bureau and 3 ex officio members; one for SIW President, one for the Committee of the Regions and one for ECOSY. It meets as regularly as necessary to implement the decisions taken at meetings of PES Women.

It also meets to prepare PES Women's contributions to the meetings of other PES bodies, in particular the PES Presidency and the PES Congress.

The Executive ensures that the vote of PES Women in these bodies reflects thorough consultation with members and takes into account the objectives of PES Women as stated in these standing orders.

The Executive undertakes to convene meetings of PES Women with a minimum notice of one month and to circulate preparatory documents in good time.

The Executive Members designate members to the different PES thematic configurations with the aim to have a division of portfolios and ensuring gender mainstreaming in the PES structures. Each designated member to the thematic responsibility will have to report back to the Executive.

8. Meetings

Members of the PES Women's Standing Committee must meet no less than three times a year for ordinary members' meetings.

9. Voting procedure

Wherever possible, decisions will be made on the basis of consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached, the voting procedure in article 17 of the PES Statutes will be used. Only full members (as stated above) have the right to vote. The voting procedures for electing PES Women President, Vice-Presidents and Bureau Members have been adopted according to the rules established in ANNEX 2.

10. Yearly Conference

The President, Vice-Presidents and the Bureau undertakes to organise one theme-based conference a year for representatives from member parties, members of the PES Group of the European Parliament and affiliated women's organisations.

11. Role of PES Women's Standing Committee in PES bodies

The PES Women's Standing Committee can submit proposals to the PES Congress and defend them before it.

The President and one of the Vice- Presidents are delegated ex officio to the PES Congress, where they each have a right of vote.

The members of the Bureau of the PES Women's Standing Committee are delegated with consultative status to the PES Congress.

The President or one of the Vice-Presidents has a right of vote for the PES Presidency.

The President or President's delegate attends meetings of the PES Coordination Committee.

The vote of the delegates of PES Women in PES bodies must pay strict reference to the objectives of PES Women (as stated above).

12. Financing

Each member or associate party will be asked to set aside an annual amount for the purpose of financing the travel and accommodation costs of delegates to the PES Women's Standing Committee to enable it at least to attend the meetings fixed in the annual calendar.

ANNEX 1 - ARTICLE 7 OF THE PES STATUTES

A 1.1. FULL MEMBER PARTIES

Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs (Austria)
Parti Socialiste (Belgium)
Sociaal Progressief Alternatief (Belgium)
Bulgarska Sotsialisticheska Partiya (Bulgaria)
Kinima Sosialdemokraton EDEK (Cyprus)
Ceská strana sociálně demokratická (Czech Republic)
Socialdemokratiet (Denmark)
Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond (Estonia)
Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue (Finland)
Parti Socialiste (France)
Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (Germany)
The Labour Party (Great Britain)
Panellinio Sosialistiko Kinima (Greece)
Magyar Szocialista Párt (Hungary)
Magyarországi Szociáldemokrata Párt (Hungary)
An Lucht Oibre / The Labour Party (Ireland)
Democratici di Sinistra (Italy)
Partito Socialisto (Italy)
Latvijas Socialdemokratiska Stradnieku Partija (Latvia)
Lietuvos Socialdemokratu Partija (Lithuania)
Lëtzebuurger Sozialistesche Arbechterpartei (Luxembourg)
Partit Laburista (Malta)
Partij van de Arbeid (The Netherlands)
Social Democratic and Labour Party (Northern Ireland)
Det Norske Arbeiderparti (Norway)
Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (Poland)
Unia Pracy (Poland)
Partido Socialista (Portugal)
Partidul Social Democrat (Romania)
SMER - sociálna demokracia (Slovakia)
Socialni Demokrati (Slovenia)
Partido Socialista Obrero Español (Spain)
Sveriges Socialdemokratiska Arbetareparti (Sweden)

A 1.2. – FULL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

A 1.2.1. Political groups in EU institutions

Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialist & Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D)
PES Group in the Committee of the Regions

A 1.2.2. Sectoral organisations of the PES

PES Women

ECOSY

A 1.2.3. Political Foundation

Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)

A 1.3. - ASSOCIATE PARTIES

Partiya Bulgarski Socialdemokrati (Bulgaria)

Socijaldemokratska Partija Hrvatske (Croatia)

Socijaldemokratski Sojuz na Makedonija (FYR Macedonia)

Sozialdemokratische Partei der Schweiz/Parti Socialiste Suisse (Switzerland)

Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi (Turkey)

Demokratik Toplum Partisi (Turkey)

Partia Socialiste e Shqipërisë (Albania)

Demokratska Partija Socijalista Crne Gore (Montenegro)

Socijaldemokratska Partija Crne Gore (Montenegro)

Demokratska stranka (Serbia)

Socijaldemokratska partija Bosne i Hercegovine (Bosnia & Herzegovina)

Samfylkingin (Iceland)

A 1.4. – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

Socialist International

Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE

A 1.5. - OBSERVER PARTIES

Partit Socialdemocrata (Andorra)

Israel Labor Party (Israel)

Meretz-Yachad (Israel)

Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (San Marino)

Cumhuriyetçi Türk Partisi (Cyprus)

A 1.6. - OBSERVER ORGANISATIONS

European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity (EFDS)

European Senior Organisation (ESO)

International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International (IFM-SEI)

International Social Democratic Union for Education (ISDUE)

International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)

Joint Committee of the Nordic Social Democratic Labour Movement (SAMAK)

Rainbow Rose, the LGTB network in the PES

Socialist International Women (SIW)

Union of Socialist Local and Regional Representatives in Europe (USLRRE)

ANNEX 2: Procedures and timetable PES Women Elections, September 2012

When:

- Prior to PES Women Annual Conference, 27 September 2012, Bucharest, Romania

Who:

- PES Women members interested in running for President (1), Vice-President¹ (4) or member of the Bureau (8-10) should notify the secretariat (pes.women@pes.eu).
- Incumbents may stand again.

Requirements:

- Each candidate should present a personal programme explaining their motivation for running for the position and what their contribution will be.
- For incumbents, apart from the programme, they should also provide a short written personal activity report outlining how their activity in their current position has contributed towards PES Women's achievements since the last elections in December 2009.
- In both cases, candidates should receive full support from their party in written form.
- Candidates should have a significant role within the party in order to assure an ongoing exchange between PES Women and the member party.

Timeframe:

- PES Women adopted procedures for elections at statutory meeting on 19 June 2012.
- Interested candidates will be requested to send their candidacy and the nomination from their party starting from 19 June 2012 and no later than 4 September to the PES Women Secretariat (pes.women@pes.eu). This will give the PES Women President the opportunity to inform the Presidency on 10 September 2012.
- The list of candidates and their contributions will be circulated from 10 September 2012 amongst PES Women members in preparation for the elections.

Elections:

- All candidates will be listed
- The vote will respect the secret voting system
- Each full member party PRESENT at the statutory meeting on 27 September 2012 will have ONE VOTE.
- The actual vote will take place in 3 parts for the 3 types of positions; President, Vice-Presidents and Bureau members.
- The candidate running for the position of President with the most votes will be elected President of PES Women.
- The candidates running for the positions of Vice-Presidents will be elected according to the 4 highest results. Note that the composition of the Vice-Presidents should represent a geographical balance.
- The candidates running for the positions of Bureau members will be elected according to the 10 highest results.

¹ -Each Vice-President represents a specific region for which she is responsible on the one side within the PES Women Executive and on the other side in coordinating the sister parties of their region and linking them with PES Women
Vice-Presidents have a coordinating and at the same time a reporting role and responsibility. The Coordinating role implies physical and/or electronic contacts and updates with the national socialist women's organizations. The reporting role implies bringing back to the PES Women Executive the national/regional issues that should figure on the Executive and/or Statutory agendas.
-Having four Vice-Presidents would give each Vice-President the responsibility over a different regional area, balancing geographically the PES Women leadership.