

The University of Toronto Turkish Student Association Constitution

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be: The University of Toronto Turkish Student Association. The abbreviation for this association is TSA.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the Turkish Student Association shall be:

- To promote public awareness, appreciation, and enjoyment of Turkish culture and cultural experience.
- To provide a means for the advancement of social, recreational and charitable pursuits of Turks, Canadians of Turkish origin, and Canadians in University of Toronto and community at large.
- To participate in mainstream cultural, civic and social activities promoting visual, performing, literary and culinary arts, as well as language, music and folkloric dances of the Turkish heritage.
- To promote and sponsor conferences, seminars, lectures, workshops, and other exchanges of information and materials concerning all aspects of Turkish arts and literature.
- To co-ordinate and initiate the TSA's activities with like-minded organizations and groups.

Article III – Membership

Section 1 - Membership shall be open equally to all University of Toronto community members, including students, staff, faculty, and alumni. Membership is also open to members from outside of the University of Toronto community but restrictions that are described in Section 2 of this Article apply.

Section 2 – All University of Toronto members (i.e. general members) of the group shall have the following rights: vote on matters pertaining the group, nominate, run and vote in exclusive elections, propose and vote on constitutional amendments. Members from outside of University of Toronto community do not have the aforementioned rights.

Section 3 - The Turkish Student Association will follow Robert's Rules of Order for parliamentary procedures.

Article IV - Officers, Executive Board, and Duties

Section 1 - The titles of the officers of the Turkish Student Association shall be: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President for Programs and Special Events, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee members. These members will constitute the Executive Board of the Turkish Association.

Section 2 - Term of office shall be one academic year beginning from the Annual Meeting in January and ending with the election of new officers at the following annual meeting. Executive Board members will be elected by a 2/3 vote of the membership.

Section 3 - There will be no restriction to the number of times an association member may be elected to an Executive Board position, whether the same office or new office, in consecutive or non-consecutive years.

Section 4 - Duties of the President

- a) The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the association and shall preside at all Turkish Student Association meetings.
- b) The President shall vote at the meetings only in the event of a tie.
- c) The President shall be the official representative of the Turkish Student Association when such representation is necessary.
- d) The President shall appoint such committees as in his/her judgement will benefit the Turkish Student Association when necessary.

Section 5 - Duties of the Executive Vice President

- a) The Executive Vice President shall assume all duties of the President in the President's absence or disability.
- b) The Executive Vice President shall aid the President in his/her duties if called upon to do so.

Section 6 - Duties of the Treasurer

- a) The Treasurer shall maintain accurate financial records and make financial reports to the Executive Board.
- b) The Treasurer, with the approval and signature of the Association Advisor, sign all purchase orders and disburse all funds in accordance with procedures established by the Student Government Association.

Section 7 - Duties of the Vice President for Programs and Special Events

- a) The Vice President of Programs and Special Events is responsible for the planning and implementation of programs and events that meet the goals and purposes of the Turkish Student Association as stated in Article II of the constitution.
- b) The Vice President of Programs and Special Events may assign individual members to special projects related to Association programs or events.

Section 8 – Duties of the Committee Members

- a) The Committee Members shall aid the Executive Board in their duties if called upon to do so.

Section 9 - Duties of the Secretary

- a) The Secretary shall keep complete and accurate records of all Turkish Student Association meetings and submit those minutes to the Executive Vice President of the Student Government Association.
- b) The Secretary shall conduct correspondence as the President determines.
- c) The Secretary shall keep complete and accurate minutes of all executive Board meetings. These minutes shall be made available to any association member upon request.

Article V - Impeachment of Officers

In the case of an impeachment of an executive or general member, the following procedure will be applied: the member-in-question is provided a verbal warning regarding their conduct, the member-in-question is provided a written warning regarding their conduct and future expectations, the member-in-question is asked to attend an executive meeting and provide a defence of their conduct wherein the executive vote to remove the member. The member-in-question may appeal the decision of the executive to the general membership who would cast a final deciding vote (2/3 majority vote is needed). In the event of a vacancy, an executive appointment is permitted, but is only valid once ratified by the general membership (UofT members).

Article VI - Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to the Turkish Student Association constitution may be initiated by any University of Toronto member (general membership). The proposed amendment must be presented at the membership meeting prior to being voted on and may only be amended by a 2/3 vote of the general membership. Approved amendments to the Turkish Student Association constitution must be ratified by the Student Government Association Constitution Committee.

Article VII - Creation and Dissolution of Standing and Non-Standing Committees

The Executive Board may only create a standing committee. Upon approval of a proposed standing committee by the Executive Board, the President must present the proposal to the general membership at two consecutive general membership meetings. The proposal must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the association membership. Only the Executive Board following a 2/3 vote of the general membership may dissolve a standing committee. A proposal to dissolve a standing committee must be presented to the general membership at two consecutive meetings. Non-standing committees may be created by the Executive Board to serve the short or long-term goals of the Turkish Student Association. The Executive Board must endorse the creation of a non-standing committee by a 3/4 vote. The Executive Board, following a 3/4 vote may dissolve non-standing committees.

Article VIII - Association Meetings

Section 1- General Membership Meetings:

The Turkish Student Association will conduct general membership meetings at a minimum of once per month (four times per semester, excluding winter and summer semester breaks).

General membership meetings may be held more frequently as determined by the Executive Board. The President may call an emergency meeting of the general membership at his or her discretion. Any student who does not attend two consecutive meetings prior to voting may not vote.

Section 2 - Executive Board Meetings

The Turkish Student Association Executive Board will meet bimonthly (Two times per semester excluding winters and summer semester breaks).

Executive Board meetings may be held more frequently as determined by the Executive board members. Any Executive Board member who does not attend two consecutive Executive Board meetings will be removed from office.

Section 3 - Executive Board and general membership meeting times will be determined at the beginning of each fall semester for the academic year. Dates, times, and meeting room(s) will be made available to the general membership before, but no later than, the 2nd general membership meeting.