

German Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property

# GRUR



Objectives and Working Methods

## **Imprint**

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Design and Layout: MEYER ORIGINALS

2nd edition, January 2013



### Origin, Scope and Objectives

The German Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (GRUR) is the largest and oldest association in Germany that is devoted to the protection of intellectual property. It is also known under the abbreviation “GRUR” and the name “Grüner Verein” (Green Association).

GRUR was founded in Berlin in the year 1891, initially as an association of those interested in intellectual property and competition law, copyright law being included later, for the purpose of advancing the academic debate on pertinent legal issues and - as stated at that time – in order to provide assistance to the government with regard to the difficult responsibility of undertaking legislative work in that field of law.

Today, the purpose of the Association according to its statutes is the academic advancement and development of industrial property and copyright law at the German, European and international level, i.e. in the field of law today called “intellectual property law”.

**All professions are conspiracies against the laity.**

George Bernhard Shaw



## **Members**

Members of the GRUR Association are German and foreign individuals - lawyers, patent attorneys, judges, academics, professors, as well as enterprises, associations of enterprises and their respective staff members and representatives. Staff members of the German and European trademark and patent authorities and of the international organisations competent for the protection of intellectual property are also among the members. GRUR has remained an organisation constantly attracting new members, due to the broad scope and the constant high quality of its activities. At the beginning of 2013 approximately 5,200 natural and legal persons were GRUR members, including a considerable and increasing number of foreign persons. The members are organised in seven domestic regional groups and working groups.

## **Member Database**

At the end of 2011 GRUR transferred its list of members to an online database and made it available to all its members. This database is found under [www.grur.org](http://www.grur.org). It makes it possible for the GRUR members to inform themselves quickly, easily and simply about the GRUR Association, its committees and other members and thus gives them an insight into the work of GRUR. Meanwhile, more than 50 % of the members have activated their online account (as of January 2013) and use e.g. the social media functions of the database.



### Working Methods

GRUR discusses issues of intellectual property protection at annual meetings, monthly events at the regional groups and in academic publications, thus contributing to the academic discussion and further development of this area of law, while at the same time enhancing the knowledge of its members. Assistance provided to the national, European and international legislative bodies and to the authorities competent for issues of intellectual property protection remains a major part of the activities. In contact with national and international associations and organisations devoted to the same or a similar subject matter, GRUR participates in the discussion of current issues and developments in the field of intellectual property.

GRUR does not pursue personal, professional or commercial interests, but exclusively and directly academic objectives of a non-profit nature.

**The more human beings proceed according to plan,  
the more effectively they may be hit by coincidence.**

Friedrich Dürrenmatt



## Publications

Since its foundation over 100 years ago the Association has published the renowned monthly professional journal “Gewerblicher Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht”, also abbreviated as “GRUR”, which was supplemented by the monthly journal “GRUR International” (GRUR Int.) in 1953. The law report “GRUR-RR” has been published since 2001 and since 2010 the journal “GRUR-Prax”. All GRUR journals can be found and retrieved electronically via the platform “Beck-Online”. Further information can be found at the website [www.grur.org](http://www.grur.org).

Since the covers of the printed publications are in a distinctive green, for several decades now the names “Grüne Zeitschriften” (“Green Journals”) and “Grüner Verein” (“Green Association”) have become the commonly used names of the publications and the Association itself. The designations GRUR and the green colour per se are registered trademarks of the Association.

The publications include academic contributions on issues of German, European and international intellectual property law as well as significant case law and legislative material.

Since 2012 the Association has been cooperating with the “Journal of Intellectual Property Law & Practice” (JIPLP), which is published by Oxford University Press (OUP), via its journal GRUR Int. Within the scope of this cooperation GRUR Int. and JIPLP exchange excellent experts articles as well as articles about important case law and publish them in their respective journals under special headings.

Generally, the Association publishes a GRUR Newsletter twice a year, which informs about the current development within intellectual property and the work of the Association in Germany and abroad.

**Science is error  
updated to the latest state of the art.**

Linus Pauling, Nobel Laureate

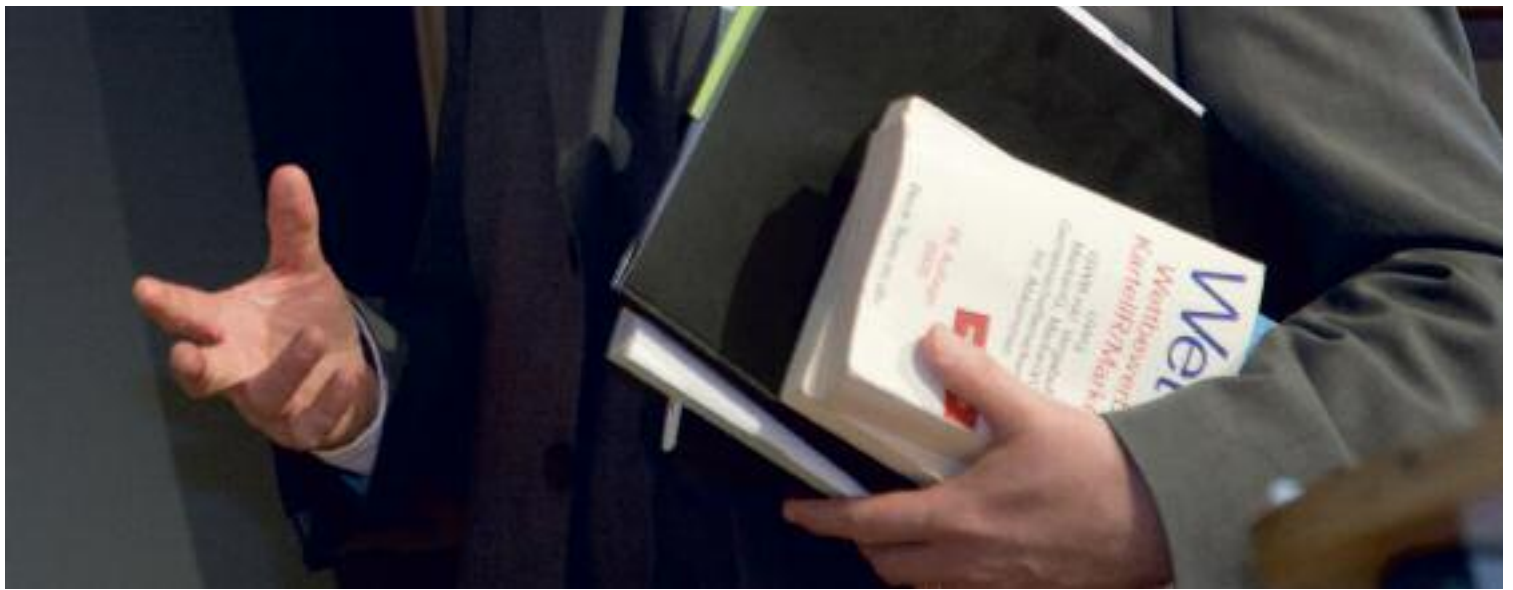




## Professional Events

For the purpose of information and legal education, GRUR offers the following events to its members and other interested circles in Germany and abroad:

- At the Association’s annual meetings national and international intellectual property issues are debated in speeches, podium discussions and symposia. The annual meetings are organised by different regional GRUR groups each year. They allow participants to broaden their specialist knowledge, to participate in discussions and to meet with friends and colleagues.
- The regional groups hold - usually monthly - meetings with lectures and discussions on current problems and developments.
- In cooperation with the “AnwaltAkademie” of the German Bar Association (Deutscher Anwaltsverein) and the German Chamber of Patent Attorneys (Patentanwaltskammer), training seminars held by experienced judges, lawyers, administrative officials and academics are offered.
- Special courses are held for lawyers wishing to qualify as specialists in intellectual property law.
- Every one or two years GRUR holds the workshop “GRUR meets Brussels” for an exchange of views with representatives of the European Commission, the European Parliament and interested circles on issues of European law.
- Together with European and international partners the Association offers conferences, seminars, round tables and workshops on selected scientific legal issues and practical subjects to inform its members about European and international developments of particular relevance.



## New Challenges

The protection of intellectual property rights is gaining in significance. Whereas 50 years ago real property, machinery and material goods formed the major part of the assets of an enterprise, these are now determined increasingly by elements of intellectual property. The globalisation of the economy generates a need for appropriate global protection.

Therefore, GRUR set up the field “International Affairs” (manager: Sandra von Lingen) already in 2004, which develops the international engagement of the Association. It is the objective to present the Association as a discussion partner to the competent international authorities, particularly the European Commission, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) and the European Patent Office (EPO).

In the course of this internationalisation of the Association and its activities, GRUR was granted the status of an observer at WIPO in 2005, participating since then in meetings of the competent committees of this important organisation. Since 2006 the Association has also been a member of the Users’ Group of OHIM, and since 2011 it has had an observer status there, which means that it may participate actively in the so-called Cooperation Fund and Convergence Programme of OHIM. In 2013 GRUR also holds one of the two additional observatory positions of the Administrative Board and Budget Committee of OHIM, which have been set up temporarily. To manage this new task, a GRUR-OHIM Link Committee has been established, which has been attached directly to the Executive Committee of GRUR.

GRUR also participates in hearings and other meetings of the EU Commission. Furthermore, it organises the already mentioned “GRUR meets Brussels” event as well as round tables and seminars on current intellectual property topics. To enhance the professional academic exchange of views and promote the cooperation with European and international associations and related organisations, GRUR also takes part in international conferences and meetings and cooperates with foreign partners on events and in the media field. International subjects and lecturers are also an integral part of the annual meeting, which has been made available to foreign participants by way of simultaneous interpretation since 2008.



## **Financial Support**

GRUR maintains an academic fund, which provides financial aid to selected university chairs and research projects, among other things by granting fellowships and allowances for the procurement of literature. Moreover, the Association finances endowed intellectual property chairs with various universities for four or five years. In remembrance of the Secretary General of GRUR over many years, the “Ralf Vieregge fellowship” is awarded for the preparation of a post-doctoral thesis.

## **Organisation**

The General Council manages the affairs of the Association in accordance with the principles laid down by the General Assembly.

The Executive Committee conducts the regular affairs of the Association. It is appointed by the General Council and consists of the President – presently (2013) Dr. Hans Peter Kunz-Hallstein -, two Vice Presidents – presently Dipl.-Phys. Ludwig R. Schaafhausen and Prof. Dr. Dres. h.c. Joseph Straus -, the Secretary General – presently Prof. Dr. Michael Loschelder -, the Treasurer – presently Dr. Wolf-Dieter Wirth – and up to six ordinary members.

The Secretary General and his office – General Manager Norbert Diel, attorney at law – provide support to the Executive Committee and the General Council in the performance of their responsibilities. The Secretary General and his office are at the same time the place of contact for members and for persons and institutions interested in the Association.



Dr. Hans Peter Kunz-Hallstein  
President



### Special Committees and Working Groups

The following special committees and working groups exist at present:

- Biotechnology law
- Cartel (antitrust) law
- Copyright and publishing law
- Drug and food law
- Industrial design law
- Invention law
- Patent and utility model law
- Procedural law
- Protection of plant breedings
- Software law
- Trademark and unfair competition law

Special committees and working groups discuss questions of national, European and international law and prepare position papers to be issued by GRUR on draft legislation, directives and treaties, and on questions of the application of the law. The position papers are provided to the competent ministries, authorities and committees. Due to their competence, neutrality and well-balanced considerations they are highly regarded.

**I would gladly give all my symphonies,  
had I been able to invent the locomotive.**

Antonín Dvořák



## **Regional Groups**

The current regional groups:

### **Regional Group Bavaria**

Chairman: Dr. jur. Jürgen Kroher, LL.M.

c/o Kroher & Strobel

Bavariaring 20

80336 Munich

Phone: +49 (0)89/54 46 48-0

Fax: +49 (0)89/54 46 48-48

[iplaw@kroher-strobel.de](mailto:iplaw@kroher-strobel.de)

### **Working Group North Bavaria**

Manager: Dipl.-Ing. Dietrich Tergau

c/o Tergau & Walkenhorst Patentanwälte Rechtsanwälte

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90482 Nürnberg

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Fax: +49 (0)911/37 65 30 29

[Dietrich.Tergau@Tergau-Walkenhorst.com](mailto:Dietrich.Tergau@Tergau-Walkenhorst.com)

### **Regional Group Berlin**

Chairwoman: Dr. Anke Nordemann-Schiffel, Maître en droit (Paris)

c/o Boehmert & Boehmert

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### **Regional Group Frankfurt am Main**

Chairman: Dipl.-Phys. Ludwig R. Schaafhausen  
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60322 Frankfurt am Main  
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Fax: +49 (0)69/95 96 23-50  
Schaafhausen@kspartner.de

### **Regional Group North**

Chairman: Andreas Bothe  
c/o Hogan Lovells International LLP  
Alstertor 21  
20095 Hamburg  
Phone: +49 (0)40/41 99 30  
Fax +49 (0)40/41 99 3200  
Andreas.bothe@hoganlovells.com

### **Regional Group South West**

Chairman: Prof. Dr. Thomas Sambuc, LL.M. (Yale)  
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Phone: +49 (0)711/489 79-0  
Fax: +49 (0)711/489 79-35 o. -36  
thomas.sambuc@lkpa.de

**Experience protects us from the errors we**



### **Working Group Mannheim**

Manager: André Haug  
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haug@rowedder.de

### **Regional Group West**

Chairwoman: Dr. Ine-Marie Schulte-Franzheim  
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Fax: 0049 (0)221 9318969  
koeln@schulte-franzheim.de

### **Regional Group Central-East**

Chairman: Dr. jur. habil. Uwe Richter  
c/o Richter Rechtsanwälte  
Ludwig-Wucherer-Str. 57  
06108 Halle  
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Fax: +49 (0)345/517 05 74  
RA\_Uwe.Richter@web.de

**have already made but not from those we are still capable of making.**

H.-J. Quadbeck-Seeger



## Membership

Membership in the GRUR Association is open to all persons interested in intellectual property law. Membership in other professional associations is not an obstacle. Membership applications and the corresponding enquiries should be addressed to the GRUR general secretariat and business office:

**Geschäftsstelle der  
Deutschen Vereinigung für  
gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und  
Urheberrecht e.V.  
Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 11  
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D - 50668 Köln  
Phone: +49 (0)221/650 65-151  
Fax: +49 (0)221/650 65-205  
Email: [office@grur.de](mailto:office@grur.de)**



An application form can be found at the end of this brochure and online under [www.grur.org](http://www.grur.org).

The GRUR team from the left to the right: Sebastian Nebel (Webmaster), Elke Gillessen (GRUR editor, Cologne office), Prof. Dr. Michael Loschelder (Secretary General), Marina Kreis (Assistant to Secretary General), Dr. Wolf-Dieter Wirth (Treasurer), Sandra von Lingen (Manager Legal & International Affairs), Norbert Diel (General Manager), Karin Bundesmann (Assistant to General Manager)

## Benefits for Members

GRUR members receive an annual, detailed, printed list of members containing the addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of the members and of the competent national and international authorities, courts and organisations, as well as of university chairs and institutes. The list of GRUR members is also electronically accessible to the members on the website [www.grur.org](http://www.grur.org).



Members can obtain the journals GRUR, GRUR Int. and GRUR-RR at preferential conditions; the same applies to the English-language journal “International Review of Intellectual Property and Competition Law” – IIC – published by the Max-Planck-Institute for Intellectual Property Competition and Tax Law. All journals can also be obtained on CD-ROM, DVD and online, GRUR as of 1948, GRUR Int. as of 1952 and IIC from 1970 onwards.

Members pay reduced fees for participation in the GRUR seminars conducted in cooperation with the AnwaltAkademie and for the annual meetings of GRUR.

### **Membership Dues**

Membership dues are low. A list containing the current applicable fees can be downloaded from the GRUR homepage [www.grur.org](http://www.grur.org) (see “Membership”) or ordered at the GRUR general secretariat and business office.

**Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen  
and thinking what nobody has thought.**

*Albert von Szent Gyögyi*

## Statutes

as amended on 28 September 2012

### Section I

Name, Domicile, Object, and Financial Year

#### § 1

“Deutsche Vereinigung für gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht” (German Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property) has its registered office in Berlin. The Association is recorded in the Register of Associations. The “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) has the right to establish a second registered office.

#### § 2

(1) The object of the Association is to promote scientific education and further development of the protection of industrial property and copyright, including competition law. (2) The Association will exclusively and directly pursue non-profit making and scientific purposes in accordance with the section of the German “Abgabenordnung” (Tax Code) dealing with “steuerbegünstigte Zwecke” (purposes entitled to tax relief).

#### § 3

(1) The Association shall have the following objectives:

- a) Discussion and handling of industrial property and copyright issues in committees, assemblies, seminars and scientific publications and the publication of professional journals (print and online);
- b) Support for the legislature and for administrative agencies with regard to industrial property and copyright issues;
- c) Cooperation with associations pursuing common objectives.

(2) The Association is non-profit making and does not favor any financial interest for itself.

(3) The funds of the Association may only be used for the objectives stated in these Statutes. No individual may benefit from these funds through expenditure which is contrary to the Association's objectives or through disproportionately high remuneration.

#### § 4

The financial year shall be the calendar year.

### Section II

Members

#### § 5

(1) Membership shall be open to individuals, enterprises, agencies, associations, professional guilds and other entities. Corporate members can be represented by individuals when being affiliated to or working with the Association's bodies and committees, and when participating in the Association's events. This individual has to be nominated in the membership application. For involvement and participation of further individuals belonging to the corporate body, the respective individuals have to be admitted as members.

(2) The “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) shall decide upon the admission of a member. If the residence or registered office of the member-to-be is within the region of one of the “Bezirksgruppen” (Regional Groups) (§ 10), this “Bezirksgruppe” (Regional Group) shall be heard beforehand.

(3) If the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) rejects the membership application, the applicant will be notified by registered letter. The applicant will have the right to complain to the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) within one month, starting at the time of mailing the registered letter.

#### § 6

Each member must pay an annual subscription which is fixed by the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly).

#### § 7

Membership will end:

a) Upon cancellation of the membership with effect from the end of the financial year. A written notice of the cancellation of the membership must be given to the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) at least one month in advance;

b) Upon expulsion by the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) after the member has been heard by the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council). A member may be expelled for serious breach of his duties towards the Association or for seriously disrespecting the Association;

c) Upon expulsion at the end of the financial year if the member has not paid the annual subscription in spite of a warning including a notice of expulsion.

#### § 8

(1) Upon petition of the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) may confer Honorary Membership upon persons who have rendered outstanding services in the field of the Association's interest and objectives.

(2) Honorary Members shall be entitled to be admitted to the meetings of the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council).

### Section III

Composition of the Association

#### § 9

(1) The Association shall be composed of the following bodies:  
- the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council)  
- the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee)  
- the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly).

(2) The “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) is composed of no fewer than twelve and no more than thirty-six members elected by the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) as well as two delegates from each “Bezirksgruppe” (Regional Group) and the Chairpersons of the central “Fachausschüsse” (Special Committees). By the election of members of the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) attention shall be paid to diversity and particularly to suitable consideration of women. A percentage of women proportionately to the percentage of female members of the Association shall be achieved. The “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) is composed of the President of the Association, three Vice Presidents, the General Secretary and optionally a Vice General Secretary, the Treasurer and up to six Associates.

(3) The President and the Vice Presidents are the legal representatives of the Association according to section 26 of the German Civil Code [BürgerlichesGesetzbuch (BGB)]. Each of them has full power of representation.

#### § 10

(1) The Association has “Bezirksgruppen” (Regional Groups), which are set up by and whose territory is defined by the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council).

(2) The membership of a member to a “Bezirksgruppe” (Regional Group) shall be determined by the member's residence or registered office; members with residence or registered office outside the area of the “Bezirksgruppen” (Regional Groups) belong to the “Bezirksgruppe” (Regional Group) in which the Association has its registered office.

(3) Each member has the right to join another “Bezirksgruppe” (Regional Group) instead of the one envisaged for him/her.



## § 11

(1) Each "Bezirksgruppe" (Regional Group) shall establish procedural rules, which must be approved by the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council).

(2) The procedural rules shall include rules for the election of a Chairperson and for the election of representatives to the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council); these agents shall be elected by a general assembly of all members of the "Bezirksgruppe" (Regional Group).

(3) The "Bezirksgruppen" (Regional Groups) have the responsibility for managing all funds made available by the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) for Association purposes; the "Bezirksgruppen" (Regional Groups) are accountable for their funds to the Treasurer of the Association.

(4) The "Bezirksgruppen" (Regional Groups) may set up special committees for matters within the Association's working programme.

## § 12

The "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) elects the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) from their midst; the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) decides upon the distribution of positions.

## § 13

(1) Each year, one third of the members of the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) elected by the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly) retire from their post; which third is determined by term of office, and in case of equal terms of office by drawing lots; in calculating the third of members any fraction shall be rounded to one whole.

(2) If a representative of a "Bezirksgruppe" (Regional Group) retires before the end of the representative's term; or if the representative becomes a member of the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee), the "Bezirksgruppe" (Regional Group) shall send another representative.

## § 14

(1) The "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) shall direct the Association on the basis of principles set up by the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly); the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) shall determine the positions taken in statements of the Association on legal and legislative issues.

(2) The President and the General Secretary shall be jointly competent for communicating the statements to the outside world.

(3) The "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) shall constitute a quorum if it has been convened in proper form; it shall have been convened in proper form if an invitation for the members including an agenda has been mailed at least fourteen days before the gathering; the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) shall adopt resolutions by simple majority.

## § 15

The "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) shall direct the Association's general affairs. The "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) shall prepare the resolutions of the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) and the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly) and take care of their implementation.

## § 16

The President shall preside at the meetings of the Association, the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) and the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee). If the President is not present, one of the Vice Presidents or the oldest member of the "Hauptversammlung" (General Council) present in the meeting shall take the chair in place of the President.

## § 17

(1) The Treasurer shall collect the membership dues, manage the Association's assets and report annually to the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly); the reports comprise a statement of account for the current year and a preliminary estimate for the following year. The preliminary estimate for the following year must have prior authorization by the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee).

(2) Any profits made shall only be spent in furtherance of the Association's objectives. None of the members shall receive a share of the profits; none of the members shall receive any payment with respect to his or her membership. The same shall apply in case of a member's withdrawal or retirement.

(3) Administrative expenses which do not serve to further the Association's objectives and any disproportionate expenses may not be approved.

## § 18

(1) Statements of the Association on legal and legislative issues shall be prepared by the Association's central "Fachausschüsse" (Special Committees); the representatives of these committees shall be appointed by the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council) for a three-year-term each time.

(2) The "Fachausschüsse" (Special Committees) shall elect a Chairperson and a deputy from their midst.

## § 19

(1) The Association shall organize annual meetings of the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly), whose time and place shall be determined by the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee). In urgent cases, the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) may convene an "außerordentliche Hauptversammlung" (Extraordinary General Assembly). Upon a motion by 30 members, an "außerordentliche Hauptversammlung" (Extraordinary General Assembly) must be convened within one month.

(2) If urgent matters make it impossible to hold the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly), the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) shall have the power to relocate or postpone the meeting. In case of a postponement all terms of office shall be extended until the meeting of the "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly) actually takes place.

## § 20

Each member shall have one vote at any of the Association's meetings. Each member may transfer his or her vote to another member by a written power of attorney; before the meeting takes place, any power of attorney shall be presented to the Chairperson for verification.

## § 21

The "Hauptversammlung" (General Assembly) has the following duties:

- a) Approval of the Annual Report;
- b) Approval of the Annual Financial Report by the Treasurer on the basis of the report delivered by the Auditors elected at the previous meeting (see under g) below);
- c) Formal approval of the actions of the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council);
- d) Approval of the preliminary estimate for the following year;
- e) Determination of the membership subscriptions;
- f) Election of the members of the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council); the election may be carried out by block vote, more detailed provisions are set forth in the election regulation;
- g) Election of two Auditors;
- h) Decision-making on proposals made by the "Gesamtvorstand" (General Council); by the "Geschäftsführender Ausschuss" (Executive Committee) and the members.

## § 22

(1) The “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) shall constitute a quorum if it has been convened in proper form.

(2) The invitation to attend a “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) shall be made by written notice containing the agenda fourteen days before the meeting. Timely mailing of the invitation shall be authoritative in determining whether this requirement has been met.

(3) Motions by members shall be submitted in written form to the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) at least one week before the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly). Motions submitted after this deadline shall be presented to the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) for consideration and the passing of a resolution if a majority of three quarters of the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) consider the matter to be urgent.

## § 23

Decisions of the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) shall be made by simple majority of all present and represented members unless these statutes specify another majority.

## § 24

The General Secretary shall record the resolutions of the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) in the minutes; if the General Secretary is not present, a person elected by the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) shall take over the recording; the minutes shall be countersigned by the Chairperson and the person having taken down the minutes.

## Section IV

### Amendments to the statutes and dissolution of the Association

## § 25

Amendments to the statutes shall be proposed to the members of the Association in writing with the invitation to the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly). A majority of three quarters of the present and represented members of the Association shall be required to adopt such an amendment.

## § 26

Any proposal to dissolve the Association shall be introduced to the members of the Association at least three months before the General Assembly by registered letter. Dissolution shall require a majority vote of three quarters of the members of the Association present and represented.

## § 27

In case of dissolution of the Association or in case of the cessation of the Association’s previous purpose, all assets of the Association shall be passed over to Max-Planck-Gesellschaft; Max-Planck-Gesellschaft shall use such funds exclusively and directly for non-profit purposes.

## § 28

Once a resolution to dissolve the Association has been adopted, the “Gesamtvorstand” (General Council) shall remain in office until all assets have been liquidated.

## § 29

Resolutions with regard to amendments of the Association’s purpose and with regard to amendments of the appropriation of financial means shall be presented to the responsible tax authority. In case of any objection by the tax authority with regard to the non-profit making requirement, the resolution in question shall be discussed again in the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly).

## Election Regulation

### § 1

#### Election proposals and election management

(1) Election proposals may be made a. by the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) b. by the members

(2) Election proposals by the “Geschäftsführender Ausschuss” (Executive Committee) and any proposals already presented by members shall be notified with the invitation to the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly). Election proposals by the members must be submitted in writing to the business office of the Association no later than one week (§ 22 (3) of the Statutes) before the election. It must be signed by at least ten members. Each member may sign several election proposals and also propose him/herself for the election.

(3) The election shall be chaired by the President or in the event of his/her absence by one of the persons stated in § 16 of the Statutes.

(4) No later than at the start of the election, the election officer shall give notice of the election proposals.

### § 2

#### Election procedure

(1) The election shall be carried out in secret and in writing on prepared voting slips, on which the names of the candidates are stated in alphabetical order. Each member shall have as many votes as there are candidates to be elected. For each candidate, only one vote may be cast. The candidates who have achieved the majority of the valid voting slips cast, and among these the candidates with the most votes shall be elected.

(2) If only as many candidates are proposed for election as the highest number permits, the candidates may be elected en bloc by raising hands if the “Hauptversammlung” (General Assembly) passes a resolution for this with a majority of three-quarters of the votes cast.

(3) If more names are ticked on voting slips than there are candidates to be elected, if more than one vote is cast for one candidate or the voting slip contains other additional remarks, it shall be invalid.

### § 3

#### Acceptance of the election

(1) The election officer (§ 16 of the Statutes) shall give notice of the result of the election. If the person elected is not present at the time of giving notice of the election result, he/she shall be notified of his/her election by registered letter by the President.

(2) The persons elected who are present must declare their acceptance at once; the persons elected who are not present must declare their acceptance immediately after the receipt of the notification as provided in paragraph 1.

### § 4

#### Changes to the election regulation

A resolution to change the election regulation may only be passed with a majority of three-quarters of the votes cast.

**Admission form for individuals**

Name\*: .....

First name\*: .....

Title\*: .....

Date of birth: .....

Occupation\*: .....

E-mail\*: .....

Phone\*: ..... Fax\*: .....

If applicable company/  
law firm\*: .....

Street and house number  
or P.O. Box: .....

Address (continuation): .....

Postcode: .....

Location\*: .....

Federal state: .....

Nationality: .....

I hereby apply to be admitted as a member of the Association.  
I ask for confirmation of the admission.

Date: ..... Signature: .....

\* Details are published in the list of members

**An die  
Deutsche Vereinigung für  
gewerblichen Rechtsschutz  
und Urheberrecht e.V.  
Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 11  
50668 Köln  
Germany**

**Admission form for companies, associations etc.**

- Public authorities, associations, corporation
- Companies with up to 500 employees
- Companies with more than 500 employees

(Please mark where true)

Name\*: .....

If applicable contact person\*: .....

E-mail\*: .....

Phone\*: ..... Fax\*: .....

Street and house number\*: .....

or P.O. Box\*: .....

Postcode\*: .....

Location\* .....

Federal state .....

We hereby apply to be admitted as a member of the Association.  
We ask for confirmation of the admission.

Date: ..... Signature: .....

\* Details are published in the list of members

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