

ERIC VOEGELIN SOCIETY, INC.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Preamble

The Eric Voegelin Society is a non-profit educational organization, incorporated as a volunteer association of persons devoted to the scholarly pursuit of issues in the philosophy of human affairs, especially as that is represented in the thought and writings of Eric Voegelin which it seeks to propagate through meetings, publications, and lectures. As an educational and academic entity, it has no political agenda nor does it as a Society in engage in political or economic actions directly involved in partisan public policy controversies.

The Society's interests are exclusively scholarly and scientific, and they embrace but are not limited to the broad range of interdisciplinary and comparative concerns reflected in Eric Voegelin's life and writings. This includes resistance to tyranny, classical philosophy, Christian thought, philosophy of history, the interface of religion and politics including radical Islam, modernity, post-modern thought, terrorism, ideological or gnostic politics with its authoritarian and totalitarian manifestations, and contemporary challenges (both foreign and domestic) to liberty, free government, rule of law; the integrity of the American constitutional order and federal system including Liberty, individual rights, and the tradition of Anglo-American constitutionalism are prominent interests of the Society.

1. Activities

Primary activity is:

(a) organization and conduct of the annual meeting in conjunction with the American Political Science Association (APSA) as a "related group" and any such other meetings as the membership may decide to sponsor.

(b) It also will assist in publication (perhaps to include an Eric Voegelin Society Studies series of monographs) of scholarly work related to its interests through subsidies, payment of editorial costs, indexing, and subventions as funds permit, in traditional print publication forms and in new media formats of publication such e- and digital-publication.

(c) Sponsorship of lectures and fellowships may occur from time to time.

(d) Fund-raising including donations and grants in support of operations and activities will be a basic element of Society activities and essential to its work and effectiveness.

2. Membership

There are no dues and membership is open to any person with scholarly interests of concern to the Society and compatible with its focus and activities. Voluntary contributions are encouraged, however, as necessary for operations.

3. Governance

Administration of the Society will be by:

(a) a President-Secretary who will conduct all programmatic activities of the Society including organization of the annual meeting; and

(b) a Vice-President-Treasurer who will attend to the business and financial aspects of the Society including preparation of reports required by its nonprofit status under Louisiana and Federal statutes. These officers will hold their positions by consensus at the pleasure of the membership for an indefinite term.

(c) In addition, there is a Board of Directors of ten persons appointed by the President for one-year terms subject to reappointment which is charged with advising and over-seeing the conduct of the Society's program and activities. The directors including the President and Vice President as part of their number will meet once each year and then report to the membership at the annual Business meeting held in conjunction with the program at the APSA convention and also by email as requisite.

(d) The Executive Committee shall act for the Directors during the period between annual meetings of the full board, such actions subject to review, confirmation, or emendation at the annual meetings at the pleasure of those directors present and voting who shall constitute a quorum, with any of its determinations subject to appeal to the Society's regular Business Meeting upon specific request by a Society member.

4. Amendment

This instrument is subject to formal change through amendment upon proposal of a majority of those present and voting at the annual Business meeting, any such amendment to lie on the table until the following year's Business meeting when it will be debated and finally voted upon by the membership present with a majority vote needed for passage.

5. Statement of Charitable Purpose

This organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

6. Dissolution

Upon dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

7. Compensation of Officers and Directors

The officers and directors of this Corporation shall serve without compensation.