

STATUTES OF THE YOUNG ACADEMY OF SPAIN

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PREFACE

In the 21st century, globalization and intercommunication between culture and science define human activity. All this, undoubtedly, aided by information and communication technologies. Problems are increasingly complex and, as a consequence, their solutions are interconnected. We speak, as never before, about culture as a whole and about globalization in both its generational and international aspects.

Current Academies possess the wisdom and cultural depth that their background and history give them. As a complement to these Academies, today there is a need for generational collaboration and reciprocal interconnection between experienced scientists and young researchers, who will modulate and make the cultural future of the countries a reality. This was, undoubtedly, the reason why scientists of proven experience and cultural excellence came up with the idea of creating a Young Academy in Germany, the germ of the worldwide movement of National Young Academies and the creation of the Global Young Academy in Berlin in 2010. These were followed by the creation of the Young Academy Europe in 2012. Today, there are already thirty-seven Young National Academies around the world.

Young Academies are dynamic mechanisms that provide new ways of seeing, understanding and communicating research. These National Young Academies are born, in all countries, with their own personality, but with the support and help of the most experienced Academies. Among their objectives, they have intergenerational collaboration and internationalization, as they are linked to the Global Young Academy. The duration of their membership is limited.

Full membership in the Young Academy of Spain will last for five years, thus, on the one hand, ensuring the youth of its Academicians and, on the other hand, giving maximum opportunities to scientists of successive generations. A young scientist is understood as one who has reached maturity and is at the beginning of his or her independent research career. The Academy will also act as a liaison between young scientists who work abroad, since some of its members may be young nationals doing research outside our country, and activities will be carried out to give visibility to the research done by young Spanish scientists throughout the world.

Both the scope of the activities proposed in the Young Academy of Spain, as well as how they will be carried out, will always have a multidisciplinary character. To this end, the Academicians will be organized in working groups to foster diversity in the composition of its members and its activities. For the development of these activities, the support and participation of other Academies may be sought. In addition, the Academicians may request the treatment of certain issues from important scientific organizations in the country, as well as from corporations, agencies or public advisory bodies. In its activities, special attention will be paid to public knowledge and dissemination, through the creation of specialized communication networks established for such purposes.

The scope of the Young Academy of Spain covers any creative intellectual activity, preferably in the field of Experimental Sciences. It is an Academy with its own entity, multidisciplinary in this field, born from the condition of its members, since they will be young researchers at the service of the purposes of the academy for a limited time, a condition that is not specifically covered by any other previously existing national Academy.

CHAPTER I

Denomination, nature and scope

Article 1. Nature, legal regime and field of activity.

1. The Young Academy of Spain is a scientific public law corporation, with its own legal personality and capacity to act.
2. The field of activity of the Academy will be to give visibility and representation to young scientists, preferably from the field of experimental sciences and any creative intellectual area related to this field.

Article 2. Territorial scope and location.

The Young Academy of Spain is State-wide and is located in Madrid. Such location may be modified by resolution of the General Assembly.

Article 3. Purposes.

The purposes of the Young Academy of Spain, for which it will be aided by the State, are:

1. Giving young scientists a voice and representing them through:
 - a) The promotion among its members of a channel of participation in the development of scientific and cultural policies.
 - b) The promotion of interactions with the media through meetings, stays and professional collaborations.
 - c) The adoption of positions on topics related to science and of national and international importance.
 - d) Attendance and participation in the scientific work carried out by the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain.
2. Promote science and culture as a professional option among youth through:
 - a) The support and promotion of exceptional young people from any country, and in particular from Spain, as role models.

b) The proposal of policies aimed at eliminating obstacles to the participation of women, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and other underrepresented groups in the different areas of knowledge.

c) The promotion of mentoring with internationally recognized high-level scientists.

d) Cooperation with the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain.

e) The identification, promotion, and recognition of the scientific leaders of the future.

3. Promote scientific skills through:

a) The promotion of knowledge, research, and innovation as engines of economic development.

b) The provision of means for scientific research whenever possible.

c) Support for exchange between young researchers from different institutions, both national and international, as a way of intellectual and scientific enrichment in general.

4. Encourage the development of new approaches in order to solve problems of national and international importance through:

a) International collaboration and active participation in international forums.

b) Organization of meetings and workshops on topical issues.

c) Encouraging the channelling of resources, both within the government and from research foundations and other philanthropic organizations, to projects identified as priorities.

5. Contribute its own vision and receive suggestions from the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain, with the aim of fostering intergenerational collaboration.

6. Other objectives that concern young scientists that the Young Academy decides to promote, such as, for example:

a) To promote research, technology, and the study of the scientific fields of its active members, acting as a scientific and advisory entity.

b) Prepare reports or expert opinions on the matters within its competence.

c) Establish and promote reciprocal relationships in collaboration with Young Academies from other countries.

Article 4. Emblems and badges.

The Young Academy of Spain will have the following symbols:

1. An emblem, which will appear in all its official communications and writings, which will include distinctive elements with the label «Academia Joven de España» («Young Academy of Spain», in Spanish language).
2. The Full Academicians will wear a badge or medal with the emblem of the Young Academy of Spain.

CHAPTER II

Academic body, types, rights and duties

Article 5. Types of Academicians.

The Young Academy of Spain will consist of:

1. Full Academicians.
2. Corresponding Academicians (former members).
3. Honorary Academicians.

Article 6. Full Academicians.

1. The Young Academy of Spain will be formed by fifty Full Academicians, of Spanish nationality, with the academic degree of Doctor or equivalent title.

2. The general profile of the members of the Young Academy of Spain coincides with the average of 40 years of age and 12 years from the Doctor degree achievement. Candidates who deviate significantly from the expected profile must justify the reasons for their consideration.

3. The nomination of candidates will be done by international scientific societies, foundations, research centers, Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain and other institutions of recognized scientific prestige, as well as from the Young Academy of Spain itself and other Young Academies of similar countries. The nomination's submission will include a complete curriculum vitae and the endorsement of three Full Academicians of the Young Academy of Spain.

4. Selection of candidates:

a) Initially, the pre-selection of the proposed candidates shall be carried out by a Selection Committee appointed by the General Assembly, including representation from the Global Young Academy. Its composition and operation shall be described in the Internal Regime Regulations of the Academy.

b) The pre-selection criteria will be the merits and capacity of the candidates based on their trajectory and leadership potential, as well as the candidate's commitment to the purposes of the Academy.

c) The Selection Committee will strive for multidisciplinary and gender and disability representation.

d) The Selection Committee will submit the list of pre-selected candidates to the General Assembly for approval, if appropriate.

5. The Extraordinary General Assembly, in which the corresponding secret ballot is held to elect the Full Academician, will be validly constituted when half plus one of the Full Academicians are present. The elected candidate must obtain, in the first ballot, two thirds of the votes of the Academicians present plus of the absent ones issued by an identified letter; in the second ballot, two thirds of the votes of the Academicians present; in the third and last ballot, half plus one of the votes of the Academicians present.

6. The elected candidate will be proclaimed, in the same act, «elected Full Academician» for the non-extendable period of 5 years, whose situation will be raised to the corresponding Ministry of the Government of Spain.

7. In their formal inauguration, the elected Full Academicians will give a lecture in which they will include their vision of the Young Academy of Spain and the projects to be developed during their period of active membership as elected Full Academicians.

Article 7. Corresponding Academicians (former members).

1. Full Academicians will become Corresponding Academicians once their period of service as Full Academicians has finished.

2. The Internal Regime Regulations that will develop the application of these Statutes will be approved by the General Assembly and will determine the functions and privileges of the Corresponding Academicians.

Article 8. Honorary Academicians.

Exceptionally, individuals who, due to their merits, deserve it, may be appointed as Honorary Academicians, as established in the Internal Regime Regulations.

Article 9. Rights.

1. Full Academicians shall have the following rights:

a) To speak and vote in sessions and meetings.

b) Eligibility for all academic positions.

c) Use of the Young Academy of Spain emblem.

2. The Honorary Academicians and the Corresponding Academicians shall have the right to attend the public sessions of the Young Academy of Spain, to speak, but not to vote. The Internal Regime Regulations that will develop the application of these Statutes will determine the conditions under which they may exercise this right.

3. The Academicians may use this title, in the writings and works they publish, with the obligatory condition of expressing the class to which they belong. The Internal Regime Regulations that will develop the application of these Statutes will regulate its use.

Article 10. Duties.

The duties of the Full Academicians are the following: to comply with the Statutes and the agreements of the Corporation; to contribute to the progress of science, technology, and culture; to ensure the reputation of the Young Academy of Spain; to issue reports and opinions, carry out commissions and perform the work entrusted to them; to attend meetings, sessions and commissions, as well as to accept the positions for which they have been elected, unless a fully justified cause prevents it; to contribute, as agreed by the General Assembly, to the costs, if any, of maintaining the Young Academy of Spain.

CHAPTER III

On the internal regulations of the Young Academy of Spain

Article 11. General Assembly.

1. The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the Young Academy of Spain; the General Assembly may, subject to the provisions of these Statutes, decide on all matters affecting the Young Academy of Spain.

2. The General Assembly is composed of all the Full Academicians of the Young Academy of Spain.

3. The General Assembly can:

a) Propose the modification of these Statutes, for which the vote of two thirds of the Full Academicians is needed.

b) Elaborate the Internal Regime Regulations that will develop the application of these Statutes.

c) Elect the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the members of its Executive Board.

d) Remove their condition of Full Academician to anyone who goes against the interests of the Young Academy of Spain, if approved by two thirds of the Full Academicians.

e) Take any decision necessary to promote the objectives of the Young Academy of Spain, in accordance with its Statutes and existing legal provisions.

4. The Executive Board may convene an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly at the request of one third of its members.

5. Any proposal to be discussed at the General Assembly submitted by a Full Academician and sent in writing to the President at least fifteen days prior to the meeting shall be placed on the agenda of the General Assembly. The Executive Board may place additional items on the agenda at any time.

6. The General Assembly may only take formal decisions when at least one third of its members participate in the meeting at which such decisions are taken. Unless expressly stated otherwise in these Statutes, the General Assembly shall decide by majority vote. Abstentions shall not be counted as votes.

7. Resolutions of the General Assembly shall be distributed to the members not later than one month after the date of such resolutions.

8. The President of the Young Academy of Spain shall preside over the meetings of the General Assembly and all those activities organized by the Young Academy of Spain.

Article 12. Executive Board.

1. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and to the decisions of the General Assembly, the Executive Board shall carry out the initiatives and actions that are necessary to achieve the objectives of the Young Academy of Spain.

2. The Executive Board shall be composed of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and four Members elected by the General Assembly from among the Full Academicians during the time of their membership. The outgoing President and Secretary shall also form part of the Executive Board, and will be allowed to speak but not to vote, as long as they keep their status of Full Academicians.

3. The Executive Board shall be responsible for developing the strategy, initiatives and activities of the Young Academy of Spain.

4. The Executive Board may exercise all its capacities with regard to the management and administration of the Young Academy of Spain, except for those responsibilities specifically attributed to the General Assembly in these Statutes.

5. The Executive Board shall, in particular, be responsible for:

- a) Deciding when and where the meetings of the General Assembly will be held.
- b) Preparing the agenda of the meetings of the General Assembly.
- c) Implementing the decisions taken by the General Assembly.
- d) To secure funding for the initiatives and activities of the Young Academy of Spain.
- e) To approve the initiatives and activities, as well as their budgets.
- f) To ensure that the actual expenditure coincides with the budget.
- g) To issue statements on behalf of the Young Academy of Spain.
- h) To establish permanent or special committees and to designate the positions it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and responsibilities.

6. The Executive Board shall be responsible for fundraising, management of accounts and budgets, and shall submit annual fiscal reports to the General Assembly.
7. The Executive Board shall make its decisions by majority vote. Abstentions shall not be counted as votes.
8. The resolutions of the Executive Board shall be reflected in the corresponding minutes, which shall be available to the Full Academicians of the Young Academy of Spain.
9. The Executive Board shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the transparency and accountability measures established by current legislation.
10. The Executive Board is entrusted to interpret and apply the precepts of the Statutes and the Internal Regime Regulations, solving any doubts that may cause and any contradictions that may arise from their writing.

Article 13. President and Vice-President.

1. The President may exercise the functions of this position during the period of time for which they have been elected, as long as they hold the status of Full Academician.
2. The President of the Academy is the highest authority in the Corporation and represents it in its public or private relations.
3. The President shall establish, or coordinate, upon proposal by the Secretary or the Executive Board, as the case may be, the agenda of the meetings, as well as the agenda and calendar with the activities of the Academy.
4. The Vice-President shall assist the President in the exercise of their functions and shall temporarily substitute the President in the event of vacancy, absence, illness or any other legal cause.

Article 14. Secretary.

1. The Secretary may exercise the functions of the position as long as they hold the condition of Full Academician.
2. The Secretary will take the minutes of the sessions, will execute the resolutions of the Corporation, and will be the custodian of the official books and documents and of the archives of the Academy and the director of the employees.
3. The Secretary shall be assisted in their functions by the member of the Executive Board who holds the position of Treasurer, who shall temporarily replace the Secretary in the event of vacancy, absence, illness or other legal cause.

Article 15. Members of the Executive Board.

1. The members of the Executive Board may exercise the functions of the position as long as they hold the condition of Full Academicians.

2. They shall assist the President in the performance of their duties.
3. The Executive Board shall designate one of its members as Treasurer.

Article 16. Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the custody of the financial resources of the Academy, of which they shall report promptly to the Executive Board and the General Assembly. The Treasurer is the designated officer of the Corporation for all purposes.

Article 17. Election of positions of the Executive Board.

1. The election of the positions of the Executive Board shall take place at a General Assembly meeting held in an extraordinary session.
2. For the election of the positions of the Executive Board, the General Assembly shall be validly constituted by the presence of half plus one of the Full Academicians. Each elected candidate must obtain in the first ballot two thirds of the votes of the Full Academicians present; in the second ballot, half plus one of the votes of the Full Academicians present; in the third and last ballot, at least a simple majority of the votes of the Full Academicians present.
3. Any vacancies occurring shall be filled by vote at an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly.
4. The renewal of half of the positions of the Executive Board shall be done every two years. In the first round (at the end of the second year) the positions of Vice-President, Secretary, and two of the members of the Executive Board shall be renewed, and in the second round (at the end of the fourth year) the positions of President and the two remaining members of the Executive Board shall be renewed.

CHAPTER IV

On the assets and economic regime of the Young Academy of Spain

Article 18. Composition of the assets.

The economic resources of the Young Academy of Spain shall comprise, fundamentally:

1. The income that may arise from the works, studies, opinions, or scientific-technical reports done by the members of the Academy, at the request of third parties, as well as from the sale of publications.
2. Those coming from donations, inheritances, legacies, or subsidies offered to the Academy.

Article 19. Use of funds.

The Academy will use its funds:



1. To the payment of the salaries of its employees and collaborators who are not public servants; to the payment of gratuities for all its employees, as well as to cover the maintenance expenses of the Academy, agreed upon by the Executive Board.
2. To the preparation and printing of publications in conventional or digital format and to the maintenance of the Academy's website.
3. To the expenses incurred in the ceremony of admission of the new Academicians.
4. To the allowances that are determined for the attendance to the sessions of the Full Academicians.
5. To the payment for participation in works promoted by the Academy.
6. To the gratuities to scientific personalities who may be invited to give lectures or contribute a scientific work as agreed upon by the Executive Board.
7. To the purposes determined in its budget.

Article 20. Accounting regime and account control.

1. The Academy shall justify the subsidies obtained to the corresponding Public Administrations, in the legally established manner.
2. The Treasurer of the Academy shall keep detailed control of the remaining income, in accordance with the legally applicable accounting system, and shall render accounts to the Executive Board and the General Assembly.

CHAPTER V

On the activities of the Young Academy of Spain

Article 21. Types of meetings.

The Academy will meet in public and private sessions.

Article 22. Public sessions.

They shall be held on the days established in the Internal Regime Regulations, which shall develop the application of these Statutes, and may be ordinary or extraordinary:

1. Ordinary public sessions: Shall be devoted to lectures, presentation, and discussion of reports, communications, books and monographs and any other subject that, in the judgment of the Executive Board, should be studied at these sessions.
2. Extraordinary public sessions: which shall be of a solemn nature when so specified in the Internal Regime Regulations. They will include the opening of the academic year, the admission ceremony of Full Academicians, the tribute sessions, the awarding of prizes, and any other circumstance that requires special solemnity in the opinion of the Executive Board.

Article 23. Private sessions.

1. General Assembly meetings and meetings of the Executive Board shall be held in private.
2. The General Assembly shall meet at least once every six months at a time and place to be fixed by the Executive Board. Notice shall be sent at least one month before the date of the meeting.
3. The minimum frequency of meetings of the Executive Board shall be determined in the Internal Regime Regulations, which shall develop the application of these Statutes.

Article 24. Presidency of public corporate events.

1. In both ordinary and extraordinary public meetings, the presidency of public corporate events shall correspond to the President of the Young Academy of Spain, except on those occasions when the Minister of the department with which the Institute of Spain and the Young Academy of Spain are administratively related is present, or when the State's precedence regulations apply.
2. The President of the Institute of Spain will have a reserved place at the Presidential Table, which will also include the authorities determined by the Executive Board.

CHAPTER VI

Publications, library, courses, competitions

Article 25. Academic property of the texts.

The following texts and works are property of the Academy:

1. All scientific, technical, and cultural works carried out by the Academy.
2. The books, monographs, activity reports, speeches, reports, opinions, and other writings that the Academics or other people write in fulfillment of their obligations or by order of the Academy in conventional or digital support.
3. The opinions expressed in the texts by their authors shall be their exclusive responsibility, unless explicitly indicated by the Academy.
4. The works that, having been presented or assigned by the Academicians or by other people, the Academy accepts as useful for its purposes.
5. Works that have received an award from the Academy, prior transfer of the intellectual property rights by the authors.

Article 26. Publications.

The Academy shall publish:

1. A «Yearbook», which shall contain a summary of the history of the Academy, its detailed annual activity, a complete list of its Academicians, a list of the official provisions affecting the Institution, and the awards summoned by the Academy in the year of its edition.
2. The conferences, speeches, and works awarded in the annual competitions, as agreed by the Executive Board.
3. Activity reports, dissertations, and monographs existing in its archives, as well as historical documents that due to their nature or value deserve to be published.
4. The texts and monographs that, at the initiative of the Executive Board, are approved by the Executive Board.
5. With regards to the works that the Academy authorizes or publishes, each author shall be responsible for the judgments and opinions therein expressed.

Article 27. Library.

1. The library will be under the immediate dependence of the member of the Executive Board designated by the Executive Board, and will be of general use for the Academicians, who may propose to the Executive Board the acquisition of books and magazines in any of the forms of edition in which they are presented.
2. The general public may also make use of it under the conditions determined in each case.
3. The library shall receive and catalog the bibliographic donations made by the Academicians and other benefactors.

Article 28. Courses.

1. At the proposal of any Full Academician, the Executive Board may propose to the General Assembly the organization of courses of scientific, technical, and academic interest, particularly in virtual mode, prior approval by the Executive Board.
2. The celebration of events which are not exclusively organized by the Academy must be authorized by the Executive Board.

Article 29. Competitions.

1. The Academy may award prizes and endow scholarships in Spain or abroad for specialists who carry out scientific and technical work in the various fields of knowledge.
2. None of the types of Academicians listed in Article 5 of these Statutes may be participants or beneficiaries of the prizes awarded or scholarships endowed by the Academy.

CHAPTER VII

Institutional and scientific relations

Article 30. Global Young Academy.

Special relationships will be established with the Global Young Academy, which includes among its objectives the promotion and development of National Young Academies.

Article 31. Scientific Advisory Committee.

1. A Scientific Advisory Committee will be created, made up of representatives of the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain related to the field of activity of the Young Academy of Spain. Each of these Royal Academies, if it so considers, will appoint, from among its Full Academicians, a representative in the Advisory Committee.

2. The proposals for members of the Scientific Advisory Committee will be analysed by the Executive Board and will be submitted to the General Assembly. The Academy may be organized in Sections corresponding to the subjects covered by the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain whose representatives in the Scientific Advisory Committee so request.

Article 32. Scientific and cultural relations.

1. The Academy will maintain special relationships with the Royal Academies of the Institute of Spain, other National Academies, the Young Academy of Europe, and Young Academies of other countries, particularly in Europe and Latin America. In general, through the Scientific Advisory Committee, its Full Academicians and the Academy itself, with public bodies, universities, and agencies, both national and foreign.

2. The Academy will also maintain relations with Government agencies and, when appropriate, with private entities that promote the development of the objectives of the Young Academy of Spain.