

SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: HISTORICAL, CONTINENTAL, AND FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES

CONSTITUTION

APPROVED

AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, on December 29, 2001

At the APA meeting in Atlanta, Georgia

Article I: Name and Aims

1. The Society shall be called the *Society for Social and Political Philosophy: Historical, Continental, and Feminist Perspectives*
2. The aims of the Society shall be:
 - i. To raise the interest and promote the scholarship in Social and Political Philosophy from historical, continental, and feminist perspectives through meetings, events, and publications. “Historical” is understood as encompassing textual, interpretative, and discursive analyses not limited to Marxist, Hermeneutic, Genealogical, Post-Colonial, and other approaches. “Continental” is understood in the broadest possible terms as inclusive of the encounters between European, Latin American, Asian, and African systems of thought and philosophical practices. “Feminist” is intended here to include anything that privileges sex, gender, and queer identities in approaching social and political relations.
 - ii. To provide a forum for interested scholars from various disciplines, orientations, and training, to engage in issues in and around Social and Political Philosophy approached from historical, continental, and feminist perspectives. Such a forum would be exclusively educational, literary, and scientific within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding section of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
 - iii. To provide support for scholars and researchers in the humanities and the social sciences interested in exploring Social and Political Philosophy from historical, continental, and feminist perspectives when and where possible and appropriate.
 - iv. To represent the interest of members of the Society and to further the aims of the Society within professional organizations, congresses, centers, or associations, national and international, in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences.

Article II. Membership

1. Membership is open to any person interested in the aims and activities of the Society.
2. Membership is open to interdisciplinary researchers, including researchers in the fields of the social sciences, the arts, and the humanities.
3. Membership is not limited to those individuals holding academic degrees or positions.
4. Membership is charged at an annual fee differentially applied to employed and unemployed members as well as to members from the core (first world) and members from the periphery (third

world).

5. Members should try their best to attend the Annual Meetings of the Society that will be held yearly at a specified site, such as at an annual meeting of a national or international professional association in the humanities or the social sciences. In case members cannot attend the Annual Meeting of the Society, they should try to be “officially represented” by communicating issues of concern to a member of the Executive Board at least one week before the meeting, or by communicating the name of a proxy and providing a written and signed affidavit to that effect to a member of the Executive Board at least one week before the meeting.

Article III. Executive Officers

1. The executive officers of the Society shall be five members of the “Executive Board” elected for terms of two years at the Annual meeting of the Society by a majority of members present (or officially represented through a signed affidavit communicated to a member of the Executive board at least one week before the meeting and that either communicates a vote on one or more issues or assigns a proxy for a vote on one or more issues). One board member will be appointed “Secretary General” by Executive Board and will take on major administrative tasks. All executive decisions need to be taken by a majority of the Executive Board, through decision-making processes coordinated and implemented by the Secretary General.

2. Nominations for the Executive Board must be received by the both the Secretary General and the Executive Committee at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Society in order to be put to a vote at the Annual Meeting.

3. The executive officers shall have the authority and responsibility to oversee the administration of the Society, including a) organizing and administering all aspects pertaining to annual meetings, conferences, panels, and publications of the Society; b) collecting and disbursing funds related to the membership and the overall activities of the Society; c) coordinating communication and cooperation between members of the Society, as well as with members of other societies, organizations, or groups, national or international; c) ensuring that all members are informed of, and consulted on, issues of relevance to the membership at large; d) and arranging for adequate ways for members to participate in decision-making processes and in providing support for, recommendations to, and critical assessments of, the Society’s activities and/or the Executive Board.

Article IV. Finance

1. The Society is financed by membership fees, university and other grants, fund raising and donations. The Secretary General collects dues and acts as treasurer of the Society. All the money belonging to the Society shall only be used in pursuance of the aims stated above and in accordance with the statutes of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (and its subsequent provisions).

Article V. Constitution

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by fifty-one percent of members attending an Annual Meeting of the Society (including members officially represented as above), provided that the text of the proposed amendment has been communicated to all members at least 30 days before

the Annual meeting. The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of members attending the Annual Meeting (including members officially represented as above), provided the amendments are proposed and passed as prescribed above.

Date 12/29/01, Atlanta, Georgia

Signatories

[On file with the Secretary General]