



## EFN POLICY ON VOTING PROCEDURE EFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At the beginning of each General Assembly (GA), regardless a decision needs to be taken by voting procedure, the 'voting committee', consisting of EFN Secretary General and an EFN member, attending the EFN General Assembly and volunteering for the 'voting committee', count the EFN members present and identify the official delegates that can vote. The Quorum majority is also set before the meeting starts, including all the proxies received before the start of the GA – with the information provided to the EFN General Assembly at the start of the meeting. The administrative process (distribution/collecting voting papers, and the official list of participants to be signed) is supported by the EFN Secretary.

### **I. EFN Members Voting Rights**

**The EFN Members** are drawn from the [National Nurses' Associations](#) from the twenty-seven EU Member States + Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, UK, Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia.

In terms of voting rights, the [EFN Constitution](#) states that:

#### **Article 7 - REPRESENTATION OF THE MEMBERS**

(...)

The delegate **has the right to vote on behalf of the National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or the section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation he/she represents**. The substitute delegate has the right to attend meetings of the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN). Should the appointed delegate be absent, its substitute will be vested with the same rights as the appointed delegate.

#### **Article 8 - RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

The members are entitled to attend the meetings of the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN). They have the right to deliberate and to vote on all issues.

#### Voting system:

- 1) National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or the section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation **with less than 10.000 members will have 1 vote.**
  - > **This is the case for our NNAs from: Albania, Austria, Belgium (FNIB), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia**
- 2) National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or the section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation with **between 10.000 and 50.000 members will have 2 votes.**
  - > **This is the case for our NNAs from: Belgium (AUVB), Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Slovakia, Switzerland**
- 3) National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or the section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation with **between 50.001 and 100.000 members will have 3 votes.**
  - > **This is the case for our NNAs from: Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden**
- 4) National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or the section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation **with 100.001 or more members will have 4 votes.**
  - > **This is the case for our NNAs from: Spain, UK**

## **Article 9 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

(...)

### **3. Quorum-majority**

The presence of minimum 50% of all members is required to make decisions.

If both the delegate and the substitute delegate of a member National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation cannot attend the General Assembly, it can be represented by another member National Nurses Association/Organisation (NNA) or section of National Healthcare Workers Association/Organisation, by proxy. The system of proxy is regulated in the Internal Regulation.

Decisions are taken by a simple majority of the delegates or substitute delegates being present and voting, unless the constitution provides otherwise.

In case of a tie, the President has a casting vote.

### **4. Powers**

Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution, all powers are with the General Assembly, including approving the accounts and the budget.

The General Assembly is also authorised to draw up internal regulations. The version currently in effect was approved by the General Assembly on 23.10.2015.

## **II. EFN Observers Voting Rights**

**The EFN Observers are:** International Council of Nurses ([ICN](#)); World Health Organisation ([WHO](#)); and the European Nursing Students Association (ENSA).

In terms of voting rights, the [EFN Constitution](#) states that:

### **Article 8 - RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

The observers are authorised to attend the General Assemblies of the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN). They have the right to participate in the deliberations upon invitation of the President. They **have no right to vote** or to move proposals for decisions by the General Assembly.

## **III. Results of a voting**

On the decision of EFN President, the voting committee will distribute the voting papers to EFN voting members present, and count the votes. The results will be announced during the meeting by EFN President.

*EFN Policy on Voting Procedure EFN GA – 2005 – REV April 2024*

**The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN)**

**Registration Number: 476.356.013**

**Clos du Parnasse 11A, 1050 Brussels, Belgium**

**Tel: +32 2 512 74 19 Email: [efn@efn.eu](mailto:efn@efn.eu)**

**Website: [www.efn.eu](http://www.efn.eu)**