



**ΔΗΜΟΚΡΙΤΕΙΟ
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΘΡΑΚΗΣ** | **DEMOCRITUS
UNIVERSITY
OF THRACE**

Annex 24
**Organisation and Operation of Student Groups at
the Democritus University of Thrace**

Komotini 2024

Article 1

General

1. The establishment of student groups (or associations) complements students' studies within DUTH and enables them to carry out their studies in parallel with their non-university hobbies, meeting their needs for expression and creativity. Furthermore, through their groups and actions, students have the opportunity to develop communication with students from other departments and with other sectors of society, which facilitates their integration into the academic community and the local community.
2. Groups can cover a wide range of interests and activities, related or not to the subject of their studies (e.g. volunteering, social services, fine arts, photography, etc.)

Article 2

Objectives

1. The objectives of student groups may include:
 - The development of members' knowledge and skills and their participation in national and international student competitions.
 - The promotion of research and technology and their utilisation in the economic, social and cultural development of the student population and DUTH.
 - Participation of students in the exchange, promotion and dissemination of scientific information on issues related to their field.
 - The creation and cultivation of communication and collaboration with student, scientific, and cultural groups of DUTH or other local, national, and international organisations pursuing the same or similar objectives.
 - The strengthening of relations between students of DUTH departments and the departments of other universities in Greece or abroad.
 - The development of intellectual and cultural activities among students/members of groups with common interests.
 - The expression and implementation of any artistic, sporting, scientific or other concerns students may have.

- Development of a sense of collegiality and cooperation, enhancement of inclusiveness and production of social work by helping fellow students through volunteering, etc.
- Cultivation and defence of the ideals of freedom, democracy and creative contribution to social progress, to the cause of peace and friendship among peoples and young people throughout the world.
- Promotion of the group's and DUTH's work locally, nationally and internationally.
- Other objectives that fall under the principles and rules governing the operation of DUTH, in accordance with the applicable laws and the internal Rules and Regulations.

Article 3

Establishment – members – operation

1. Students of all cycles (undergraduate, graduate, doctoral) may, in addition to their studies, establish groups or clubs for educational, cultural, sporting or social purposes.
2. Each DUTH student group consists of at least five (5) students/members registered in undergraduate, graduate or doctoral programmes at DUTH, in one or more of its departments.
3. At least three students/founding members (committee) shall submit a brief proposal for the establishment of a student group to the Department/School or the Institution (depending on the purpose and members to be participating), including:
 - the name of the group
 - the student coordinator of the group with their contact details (institutional email account)
 - the objectives of the group
 - a list of the names and contact details of prospective members
 - examples of activities and actions planned
 - the committee submitting the proposal

- a member of the Faculty or Special Teaching Staff or Special Teaching Staff or Laboratory Teaching Staff who will assume an advisory role (Student Group Advisor - SGA)
 - the space where group will meet
 - the contact details of the group – possible logos etc. (institutional cover account addressed to the professor and the student coordinator).
 - the decision-making process with regard to the selection of new members, the selection of the coordinator or coordinating committee and the actions of the group.
4. The Assembly of the Department (or the Deanery or the Senate) shall decide on the establishment of the group. The Assembly of the Department (or the Deanery or the Senate) may invite the group to present the submitted proposal orally.
5. Following the establishment decision, the student group is formed and, with the support of the SGA, proceeds to organisation of the group (see article 4).

Article 4

Coordination of student groups' actions

1. All active students (minimum duration of study programme+2/3 years) from all DUTH undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programmes may join each student group. After that period (minimum duration of study programme+2/3 years) elapses, they automatically cease to be a member of the group. The group maintains an updated a list of its members.
2. Each DUTH student group defines the manner in which it is coordinated, guided and managed. Each group selects a coordinator or head, or, in large groups, a coordinating committee or council. The appointment process is chosen by the group.
3. The coordinator, head or coordinating committee shall maintain an updated list of the members of the group and their contact details. Persons who have graduated, lost their student status or transferred to another institution cannot joint the group.
4. The coordinator, head or coordinating committee regularly informs the SGA about the scheduling of the group's activities.

Article 5

Rights of group members

1. Members of each group are entitled to:
 - a) participate in the group meetings/sessions and freely express and expand on their views and proposals.
 - b) participate in the organisation of the group and the selection or appointment of the coordinator(s) (or head or committee), and can be selected for such positions.
 - c) propose to the coordinator, head or coordinating committee anything they consider conducive to the achievement of the group's goals and receive a response to their proposals.
 - d) present their views on the group's activities in general.
 - e) create and participate in special committees, if and as specified each time.

Article 6

Obligations of group members

1. The group members must:
 - a) participate actively in the group's activities so that the group can achieve its objectives.
 - b) comply with the decisions made and not impede the decisions of the bodies;
 - c) Any additional obligations within the legal frameworks may be provided for in each group.

Article 7

Indicative Activities

1. To achieve its objectives, DUTH student groups may, indicatively:
 - a) organise lectures, seminars, recreational events and other educational, cultural, sports or social activities, as well as participate in national and international student competitions.
 - b) coordinate their actions with those of other student groups within or outside DUTH, with local and/or international organisations with similar objectives.
 - c) develop and maintain contact with the local community or other organisations in order to provide information on issues related to the interests of the group.

d) address documents to DUTH or other institutions or organisations, or to the competent authorities, etc.

2. Each group may provide for any other lawful and expedient means to achieve its objectives.

3. The SGA is informed about the planning of the group's activities and informs the Assembly (or the Deanery or the Senate) accordingly.

Article 8

Resources of DUTH student groups

1. DUTH may provide resources to support student groups.

2. The Department (or School or Senate, as the case may be) provides venues for student group activities. Responsibility for the venue and its maintenance in excellent condition lies with the coordinators and members of the student groups hosted at the venue.

3. Student group applications for funding are submitted at the beginning of each academic year – by 15 October – so that the group can receive funding for the next academic year.

4. The funding applications of each group must include:

a) a plan of the action(s) the group is organising (or in which the group will participate).

b) a description of the DUTH group's contribution and expected benefits.

c) actions for which the group requests coverage of expenses and estimates of costs involved.

d) the operational capability of the group to successfully complete the action(s)

e) approval of the request for funding from the Assembly of the Department (or the Deanery or the Senate of DUTH, as the case may be).

5. Student groups may seek funding for their activities from other organisations (such as the SSF, Eastern Macedonia-Thrace Region, Municipalities, etc.) in accordance with the requirements of those organisations. On behalf of student groups, DUTH may also pursue funding for group activities from various organisations.

Article 9

Effect of the Rules and Regulations

These Rules and Regulations goes into effect upon its publication in the Government Gazette.