



СНСД

Alliance of Independent Social Democrats

STATUTE

**Statute of Alliance of Independent Social Democrats**  
Full text of the Statute, as it was adopted at the  
5<sup>th</sup> Party Council held on April 25, 2015

# **STATUTE OF ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SOCIAL DEMOCRATS**

## **1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1**

Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (hereinafter: SNSD [Savez nezavisnih socijaldemokrata]) with this Statute determines the following:

- Objectives and manner of their realization;
- Name, seat and symbol;
- Internal organization;
- Bodies of the SNSD, their competences, duties and responsibilities;
- Advocacy and representation of the SNSD;
- Terms, manner of becoming a member and termination of membership;
- Rights, duties and responsibilities of members;
- Manner of acquiring, using and disposing of financial resources, movable and immovable property;

- Publicity of work of the SNSD;
- Manner of deciding on associating into alliances and other forms of association of political organisations;
- Manner of adopting the Statute;
- Manner of decision-making;
- Manner of disposing of property in the event of termination of the SNSD.

### **Article 2**

The Statute is the highest act of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats.

## **2. POLITICAL OBJECTIVES**

### **Article 3**

The Alliance of Independent Social Democrats was established and exists as a party of liberty, peace and democracy.

The SNSD is committed to building a society of welfare and social justice through parliamentary democracy and rule of law.

The SNSD is committed to exercising all the rights and freedoms of citizens envisaged in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, without discrimination on any ground such as: gender, race, language, religion,

political or other opinion, national or social origin, as well as to a consistent realization and implementation of The General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **Article 4**

By its character, the SNSD is an independent and democratic political organization, open to all citizens who accept its Programme and Statute.

The SNSD cooperates with other political parties which have the same or similar political commitments based on democratic principles and standards.

### **3. NAME, SEAT AND SYMBOL**

#### **Article 5**

The name of the organization is: Alliance of Independent Social Democrats.

The abbreviated name is: SNSD.

#### **Article 6**

The seat of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats is in Banja Luka, Petra Kočića 5, the Republic of Srpska, BiH.

In the event of change of the seat between two Council meetings, the Presidency of the SNSD may define a new seat of the Alliance by a decision.

## **Article 7**

The symbol and sign of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats is a stylized rose.

An integrated part of the sign is the abbreviated name – SNSD.

The flag of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats is of a rectangular shape in whose centre is the symbol, and in the lower part the abbreviated name – SNSD, and the full name – Savez nezavisnih socijaldemokrata [Alliance of Independent Social Democrats], are written.

The colour of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats is the burgundy shade of red.

## **Article 8**

The SNSD has the status of a legal entity and has its own account.

The SNSD has a stamp of round shape with the symbol in the centre of it and with the text of a circular shape: Savez nezavisnih socijaldemokrata [Alliance of Independent Social Democrats].

## **4. INTERNAL ORGANISATION**

### **Article 9**

The SNSD acts as a unique political organization in the territory of the Republic of Srpska and BiH, organized upon a territorial principle.

Organisational forms of activities of the SNSD are local and municipal/city organisations.

A local organisation of the SNSD is formed for one or more polling stations, and gathers members with permanent residence in the territory of these settlements.

A municipal/city organisation is formed for the territory of a municipality, or a city, and gathers members with permanent residence in the territory of that municipality/city.

The SNSD Municipal Board establishes local boards of the municipal organization, and is also responsible for forming the Women Association and Organisation of Young Social Democrats in the municipality/city.

Exceptionally, a member of a municipal/city organization may be a member of the SNSD in

accordance to the place or employment and education.

### **Article 10**

Bodies of the SNSD in a municipality/city are:

- Municipal/City Conference;
- Municipal/City Board;
- Presidency;
- Statutory Commission;
- Local Conference;
- Local Board.

The Municipal/City Conference is the highest body of the Alliance at the municipal/city level, and the number and structure of delegates of the Conference is determined by a decision of the Municipal/City Board.

Delegates in the Municipal/City Conference are:

- Delegates elected in local boards, pursuant to the decision referred to in the previous paragraph,
- Members of the Municipal/City Board and Statutory Commission,
- Councillors and members of parliament from the territory of the municipal/city organization.

The Municipal/City Conference:



- Adopts the decision on internal organization of the party and on activities for the territory of the municipality/city in which it acts;
- Considers and adopts reports on the work of the Municipal/City Board and Statutory Commission,
- Elects the Municipal/City Board and statutory commission,
- Enacts a rulebook on its work,
- Performs other activities pursuant to the Statute and other acts of the SNSD.

The Municipal/City Conference, as a rule, is held every four years.

The Municipal/City Conference must be held within six months after local elections are held, for analysing and assessing election results.

### **Article 11**

The Municipal/City Board:

- Elects a president, one or more vice presidents and the secretary;
- Elects the Presidency;
- Manages the work of the SNSD in the municipality/city;
- Determines political viewpoints on issues of importance for activities of the municipal/city organization;

- May recruit its members up to 10% of chosen members;
- Manages election activities in the area of its activities;
- Coordinates the work of councillors in the municipal/city assembly;
- Makes a first-instance decision on disciplinary offences of members in the territory of the municipality/city;
- Enacts a rulebook on its work;
- Performs other activities pursuant to the Statue and other acts of the SNSD.

The manner and terms of acting, bodies of municipal/city organization, manner of election, duration of the term of office, and the number of members of the body, manner of decision-making and procedure for amending the decision, are defined by the Decision on Internal Organisation of the Party and Work of Municipal/City Organisation.

Each municipal/city board must submit the work plan for the following year to the Service of the SNSD by December of the current year.

Municipal/city boards must submit reports on the work for the previous year, which are considered by

the Presidency of the SNSD, not later than March of the current year.

### **Article 12**

A special territorial form of organization is established at the level of the City of Istočno Sarajevo, SNSD City Board of Istočno Sarajevo.

The SNSD City Board of Istočno Sarajevo coordinates the work of municipal organisations in the territory of the City and manages the processes associated to the Assembly of the City of Istočno Sarajevo.

The manner and terms of performing activities, competences, manner of electing the bodies, and manner of decision-making shall be determined in more detail by a special rulebook on the internal organisation and work of the SNSD City Board of Istočno Sarajevo, that shall be adopted by the Presidency of the SNSD.

### **Article 13**

As special organizational forms within the SNSD there are: Young Social Democrats and Social Democrat Women Association.

At the level of municipal/city organization, as special organization forms of a unique municipal/city organization, municipal/city organization of Young Social Democrats and Women Association perform their activities.

At the level of a municipal/city organization, as special organizational forms of a unique municipal/city organization, the Active Retirees Association may also be established, which is decided upon by the municipal/city board.

The Main Board of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats may, by its decision, establish other special organization forms.

#### **Article 14**

Special organizational forms determine the manner of performing of their activities by their act, pursuant to the Statute and Programme of Alliance.

Consent to these acts is given by the Presidency of the SNSD.

#### **Article 15**

An appropriate representation of the young and women in the bodies of the SNSD is provided, so that at least 30% of members of bodies are women and the young up to 30 years of age. In case that this ratio is not achieved by elections, the SNSD bodies can co-opt the allowed number of members from the structure of women and the young by this Statute.

#### **Article 16**

Representatives of the SNSD elected on municipal/city assembly elections organize clubs of

councillors, and representatives elected for the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska, Parliament of the FBiH, cantonal assemblies in the FBiH and Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, organize clubs of members of parliament, independently or with other related parties, in accordance to the rules of procedure of these institutions.

### **Article 17**

Clubs of councillors/members of parliament chose presidents of clubs.

Clubs of councillors/members of parliament discuss all issues from the domain of the assembly in which they act.

Presidents and vice presidents, when necessary, participate in the work of clubs of members of parliament.

The President, Vice Presidents and Secretary of the Municipality Board, if necessary, participate in the work of clubs of councillors.

Clubs of members of parliament and councillors shall implement viewpoints of bodies of the SNSD and regularly submit reports to the Presidency of the Municipal/City Board, i.e. to the Presidency of the SNSD.

## **Article 18**

Relations within the party are regulated with this Statute and rules of procedure of the Council, Main Board and Presidency of the SNSD.

Relations not regulated in the manner referred to in the previous paragraph are regulated with special acts enacted by the bodies from the previous paragraph, within their competences.

## **5. SNSD BODIES**

### **Article 19**

Bodies of the SNSD are:

- Council (Sabor)
- Main Board,
- President,
- Supervisory Committee,
- Statutory Commission,
- Presidency.

### **Council (Sabor)**

### **Article 20**

Council is the highest body of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats.

The number of delegates of the Council is determined by a decision of the Main Board.

Delegates of the Council are:

- Delegates elected in municipal, i.e. city boards,
- Members of the Main Board, Supervisory Committee and Statutory Commission,
- Members of the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska, Parliament of the FBiH, Parliamentary Assembly of BiH and delegates in the Council of Peoples of the Republic of Srpska and House of Peoples of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH and House of People of the Parliament of the FBiH.

### **Article 21**

The Council meeting is held, as a rule, every four years.

### **Article 22**

The Council:

- Enacts the Programme and Statute of the SNSD,
- Considers and adopts the report on the work of the Main Board, Statutory Commission and Supervisory Committee,
- Elects:
  - Main Board,
  - Statutory Commission,
  - Supervisory Committee,
  - President of the SNSD.

Bodies of the party are elected for the period of four years.

### **Article 23**

The Main Board enacts the decision on convening the Council.

The work of the Council is governed by the Working Presidency whose composition and competence are determined by the Rulebook on the work of the Council.

### **Article 24**

The Main Board shall schedule an extraordinary council meeting upon a request from:

- One half of the total number of municipal/city boards,
- President of the SNSD.

If the Main Board fails to schedule an extraordinary council meeting within 60 days from the day of receiving a written initiative from legitimate proposers, the proposer shall schedule the extraordinary council meeting within 60 days.

The initiators for convening the extraordinary council meeting propose the agenda and give proposals of documents.

The Main Board considers the proposal of the agenda and proposed documents and delivers its opinion to the Council.



## **Main Board**

### **Article 25**

The Main Board is the highest body of decision-making in the SNSD between two Council meetings.

The Main Board has 321 members, of which at least 290 are elected in the Council, and no more than 31 members are co-opted by the Main Board during their term of office at the proposal of the President of the SNSD.

The President of the Alliance, by function, is a member of the Main Board.

The President of the Alliance convenes and presides over the meeting of the Main Board.

The rules of electing the bodies of the Alliance, adopted by the Presidency of the SNSD, determine the manner of candidacy and election of members into the bodies of the Alliance.

### **Article 26**

The Main Board deals with strategic issues of implementation of the Alliance policy determined at the Council meeting.

The Main Board:

- Determines and implements the SNSD policy between two council meetings,

- Decides on merging with other parties and on accepting other parties as members of the SNSD,
- Makes the decision on associating into programme associations and all types of coalitions and alliances,
- Decides on the membership of the SNSD in international associations of political parties,
- Determines proposals of the Statute and programme documents, as well as proposals of their amendments,
- Elects Vice Presidents of the SNSD,
- Elects the Secretary General of the SNSD,
- Elects members of the Presidency of the SNSD,
- Elects members of the Political Advisory Committee and appoints the President of the Committee,
- Elects members of the Council for Socio-Economic Issues and appoints the President of the Council,
- Forms, in accordance to the needs, other councils and appoints their members,
- Makes decisions on organizing Women Association and Young Social Democrats of the SNSD,
- Considers and adopts the report of the President of the Alliance,
- Enacts the rulebook on its work and other general acts of the Alliance within its competence,

- The Main Board may transfer certain activities from their competence to the Presidency of the SNSD for decision-making,
- Performs other activities pursuant to this Statute and general acts of the Alliance.

## **Supervisory Committee**

### **Article 27**

The Supervisory Committee of the SNSD has a president and four members who cannot be members of other bodies of the SNSD.

The President and members of the Supervisory Committee are elected by the Council.

The Supervisory Committee controls and monitors the work of the bodies of the SNSD.

In case of irregularities, the Supervisory Committee warns the body within whose competence the omission emerged, with the obligation of delivering the warning to the President of the SNSD.

### **Article 28**

The Supervisory Committee, in particular, inspects material and financial operations of the SNSD and submit a report on it to the Main Board.

## **Statutory Commission**

### **Article 29**

The Statutory Commission of the SNSD has a president and four members who cannot be members of other bodies of the SNSD.

The President and members of the Statutory Commission are elected by the Council.

The Statutory Commission:

- Interprets the Statute and other general acts of the SNSD,
- Monitors and analyses the application of the Statute and other acts of the SNSD,
- Decides upon complaints of members of the Alliance related to decisions of bodies on pronouncement of measures, warnings and exclusions from the Alliance,
- Proposes amendments to the Statute of the SNSD.

The interpretation given by the Statutory Commission is final and binding, until the session of the Council.

## **President**

### **Article 30**

The President of the SNSD is a political and executive body of the SNSD.

### The President of the SNSD:

- Represents and advocates the SNSD,
- Proposes and implements the SNSD policy,
- Coordinates and monitors the functioning of the complete organization of the SNSD,
- Convenes and presides over the meetings of the Main Board and the Presidency,
- Proposes candidates for Vice Presidents of the SNSD, Secretary General of the SNSD and members of the Presidency of the SNSD,
- Proposes candidates for executive secretaries of the SNSD,
- Submits reports to the Council,
- Appoints his/her advisors for specific areas and spokesperson of the SNSD,
- Has the right to convene and preside over each body of the SNSD,
- Approves electoral lists for election of councillors, candidates for municipal mayors and city mayors,
- Approves electoral lists for canton assemblies, entity assemblies and the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, houses of peoples and Council of Peoples, as well as candidates for all individual electoral functions in the Republic of Srpska, FBiH and BiH,
- Exceptionally, he/she has the right to make a decision on dissolution of municipal/local board, and if necessary, deletion of membership in the

SNSD, in case of insurmountable conflicts and divisions within municipal/city boards, and appoints commissioners and commissions which implement elections in the municipal/city organization, and informs the Presidency of the SNSD about it on the first meeting,

- Exceptionally, due to aggravation of relations in organizational forms, creating of intolerant atmosphere and deterioration of reputation of the SNSD, he/she has a right to remove presidents from the function and appoint acting presidents,
- Proposes amendments to the Statute of the SNSD.

In the absence of the President of the SNSD, he/she is replaced by one of Vice Presidents authorized by the President.

### **Article 31**

For more transparent work, the President of the SNSD organizes Conventions or Counselling at least once a year.

The Convention or Counselling considers current social and political topics, and if it is held in the election year, promotes the electoral programme of the SNSD and SNSD's candidates for the elections.

The following are invited to the Convention or Counselling:

- Members of the Main Board, Statutory Commission and Supervisory Committee,
- Members of parliament and delegates from the SNSD in legislative bodies, ministries from SNSD at the level of the Republic of Srpska, FBiH, cantons and BiH,
- Presidents and vice presidents of SNSD municipal/city boards,
- Mayors and deputy mayors of municipalities and cities from the SNSD.

### **Article 32**

The SNSD is advocated and represented by the President of the Alliance, but it can also be advocated and represented by other officials, authorized by the President.

### **Vice Presidents**

### **Article 33**

The SNSD has five vice presidents, chosen by the Main Board upon the proposal from the President. Vice presidents may be responsible for specific areas of the Programme, and they report on their work to the President and Main Board.

### **Article 34**

Vice Presidents assist the President of the SNSD in performing activities for which they are entrusted with and authorized by the President.

### **Presidency of the SNSD**

### **Article 35**

The Presidency of the SNSD is a political, executive and operational body of the SNSD, headed by the President of the SNSD.

The Presidency of the SNSD has 35 members.

The candidates for the members of the Presidency are proposed by the President of the SNSD, with the following functions:

- President of the SNSD,
- Vice-Presidents of the SNSD,
- Secretary General of the SNSD,
- Presidents of the Young Social Democrats and Women Association
- President of the Political Advisory Committee.

On the basis of the proposal of the President of the SNSD, and due to inactive work or some other reasons, a member of the Presidency of the SNSD may be replaced at the meeting of the Main Board.



### **Article 36**

The Executives Secretaries participate in the work of the Presidency of the SNSD without the right to make decisions.

### **Article 37**

The Presidency of the SNSD directs and organizes the work of the SNSD between the two sessions of the Main Board.

The Presidency of the SNSD:

- monitors and controls the work of the representatives of the SNSD in legislative and executive authorities at all levels, as well as the representatives of the Alliance on positions in public institutions and enterprises,
- adopts a report on the payment of membership fee every six months,
- in exceptional cases, may issue a Decision within the competence of the Main Board that the Main Board must verify at the first following session;
- analyses the current political situation, adopts general political viewpoints and performs other tasks necessary for the continuous functioning of the Alliance;
- makes a decision on the manner and participation of the SNSD in the elections and the formation of coalitions at all levels,

- makes decisions on the formation of initiative committees in the municipalities in which the SNSD is not organized,
- makes the decision to dissolve the Municipal Board and, if necessary, to remove it from the membership of the SNSD, in case of insurmountable conflicts and divisions within municipal boards, and appoints a commission that conducts elections in a municipal organization,
- organizes and prepares activities of the Party (meetings of the Main Board and Council, conventions, festive meetings, etc.),
- appoints the Electoral Committee and analyses the results of the election;
- establishes the election lists for cantonal assemblies, entity assemblies and the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH,
- determines the nomination of candidates for the House of Peoples of the Parliament of the Federation of BiH, the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH and the Council of Peoples of the Republic of Srpska,
- determines the proposal of the SNSD candidates for individual electoral functions in the Republic of Srpska, BiH, and the cantons in the Federation of BiH,
- appoints Executive Secretaries of the SNSD,

- has the right to confirm the lists for the election of councillors, candidates for mayors of municipalities and cities,
- establishes funds, enterprises and other legal entities and regulates their work in accordance with the law,
- adopts a financial plan and adopts a report on the material and financial position;
- makes decisions on the SNSD financing,
- manages the SNSD property,
- makes decisions on the organization of the Service of the SNSD and other general acts of the SNSD,
- confirms the Decision on the appointment of the heads of clubs of members of parliament in the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska and the BiH PA,
- decides on awards and recognitions,
- adopts the Rules of Procedure regarding its work.

### **Article 38**

For the purpose of conducting more operational activities, the President of the SNSD convenes the Executive Committee of the SNSD, which has 10 members.

The Executive Committee of the SNSD consists of:

- President of the SNSD,
- Vice Presidents of the SNSD,
- President of the Political Advisory Committee,

- Secretary General of the SNSD,
- President of the Women Association,
- President of the Young Social Democrats.

The Executive Committee of the SNSD:

- establishes and maintains a policy between the two sessions of the Presidency of the SNSD,
- keeps personnel policy,
- in exceptional cases, may issue a Decision within the competence of the Presidency of the SNSD which that body must verify at the first following meeting;
- analyses the current political situation, adopts general political viewpoints and performs other tasks necessary for the continuous functioning of the Alliance;
- performs other tasks entrusted to it by the Presidency of the SNSD.

### **Article 39**

The SNSD Presidency may, if necessary, form other permanent or temporary working bodies for the preparation of adoption of essential decisions within their competence, and elect their members.

## **Secretary General**

### **Article 40**

The Secretary General is a body responsible for the implementation of the policy of the Alliance at all levels of the organization of the Alliance, from the highest one to the local level.

### **Article 41**

The Secretary General is elected by the Main Board, at the proposal of the President of the SNSD.

The term of office of the Secretary General is 4 years.

### **Article 42**

The Secretary General:

- organizes and coordinates the work of the bodies of the Alliance;
- assists the presidents of the bodies of the Alliance in convening meetings and organizing their work;
- in cooperation with the organs of the Alliance, takes care of the implementation of decisions;
- coordinates the work of municipal and city organizations;
- coordinates the work of the Executive Secretaries on the field,
- performs other tasks entrusted to them by the President of the SNSD.

- executes decisions of the President, the Main Board and the Presidency,
- is responsible for collecting the membership fee and submits reports to the Presidency every 6 months,
- coordinates all the organizational forms of the SNSD,
- informs about the activities of the SNSD within the SNSD and the public,
- discusses material and financial operations and material-technical equipment and work of the Secretariat and municipal organizations of the SNSD; and
- decides on the rights, obligations and responsibilities of professionally employed persons in the SNSD Secretariat.

### **Political Advisory Committee**

#### **Article 43**

The Political Advisory Committee is the advisory and political body of the Alliance. The Political Advisory Committee consists of its President and 14 members. The Political Advisory Committee is responsible for its work to the President and the Main Board.

#### **Article 44**

The Political Advisory Committee:

- discusses political issues, programs and strategies of activities of the SNSD;
- deliberates on specific issues, provides recommendations and opinions to party bodies;
- considers ideological, programmatic and political issues that are important for defining the strategy in the internal and foreign policy of the SNSD;
- proposes the policy and programme documents of the SNSD to the President and the Main Board; and
- proposes the election program of the Alliance to the President.

#### **Article 45**

The Political Advisory Committee has the obligation to regularly prepare information on the political situation in the Republic of Srpska and BiH, as well as on the SNSD's positions on current issues. The Information shall be delivered to the bodies of the Alliance and quarterly to municipal/city boards whose further obligation is to inform the members about it.

#### **Council for Socio-Economic Issues**

#### **Article 46**

The Council for Socio-Economic Issues is the advisory and political body of the Alliance. The Council for Socio-Economic Issues consists of its President and 24

members. The Council for Socio-Economic Issues is responsible for its work to the President and the Main Board. The Council for Socio-Economic Issues deals with economic, demographic and regional development, agricultural development, social policy, health, science, education development, and other issues.

Experts who are not members of the Council may participate in the work of the Council at the invitation of the President of the Council in the part of the activities related to their expertise.

#### **Article 47**

The Council for Socio-Economic Issues:

- considers conceptual and political issues that are of importance for defining policies and strategies from the socio-economic areas relevant to the SNSD and to the Republic of Srpska;
- proposes policies and strategies to the President and the Main Board.

#### **Article 48**

Advisory bodies may be established as expert advisory bodies of the municipal/city organization at the level of the municipal/city organization.

The decision on the establishment, composition, content and manner of their work is made by municipal/city boards.



## **Executive Secretaries**

### **Article 49**

The Presidency of the SNSD, at its meeting, appoints executive secretaries as follows: one for each electoral unit for the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska and one for the FBiH.

Executive Secretaries coordinate the work of the party in electoral units.

The Presidency of the SNSD adopts the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Secretaries.

### **Article 50**

The Service of the SNSD conducts decisions and assists the work of the SNSD bodies.

It carries out administrative, technical, professional, auxiliary and other tasks.

### **Article 51**

The Service of the SNSD is managed by the Secretary General, and the decision on the organization and systematization of workplaces is made by the Presidency of the SNSD, at the proposal of the Secretary General.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Article 52**

A member of the SNSD may be any person, regardless of sex, religion or nationality. The membership is obtained by signing an application form, which obliges the member to accept the Programme and Statute of the SNSD.

Exceptionally, on the basis of the opinion of the municipal/city board, the President of the SNSD or the Presidency of the SNSD may decide to deny membership in the Alliance to a person whose membership might be detrimental to the reputation of the SNSD.

In accordance with the Statute and other acts of the SNSD, the supporters of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats may participate the activities of the SNSD.

The SNSD Secretariat keeps the database of its members. The format, content, procedure of enrolment, deletion of members, the manner of the data use and the procedures for the protection of personal data are specified by the Rulebook adopted by the Presidency of the SNSD.

### **Article 53**

The rights and obligations of the members are realized through:

- active participation in the work of the bodies and other organizational units of the Alliance,
- active participation in creating and making decisions,
- compliance with the Statute and the programme of the Alliance and through the implementation of decisions of the party bodies;
- the right to promote, through their actions and behaviour, the reputation of the SNSD to the public;
- the right to elect and be elected to all organs and bodies of the Alliance;
- the right to be nominated on party lists for general and local elections;
- being informed about the activities of the Alliance;
- participation in all activities of the Alliance;
- realization of other rights, but also through performing other obligations in accordance with the provisions of this Statute and other acts.

#### **Article 54**

Relations in the SNSD are based on the principles of democracy, freedom of political thought and initiative, equality and mutual respect, permanent and open dialogue, leadership and membership responsibilities, respect and implementation of democratically-adopted decisions.

### **Article 55**

A minority or individuals who disagree with decisions of the majority have the right to keep their opinion, to be represented and defended, and to seek the review of the decision with which they disagree, but are obliged to enforce the decision of the majority.

## **MEMBERSHIP FEE**

### **Article 56**

A member shall regularly pay the membership fee. The membership fee is paid to the SNSD account.

The membership fee depends on the type of the income and social status of each member:

- for the employed;
- for the unemployed, pupils, students and pensioners;
- for members who receive benefits arising from the mandate of the SNSD;
- for members receiving a regular salary from the mandate of the SNSD.

The SNSD Service keeps records on the payment of the membership fee:

- collectively by municipalities for the members referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the preceding indent,

- individually for the members referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the preceding indent.

The obligations and rights referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Article are determined by the decision of the Presidency of the SNSD.

A member may provide material support to the SNSD in the form of donations and other forms of assistance in accordance with the Law and other acts regulating the area.

By giving material support, no one can exercise additional or special rights.

### **Article 57**

The SNSD Service is obliged to quarterly report the municipal/city organization on the fulfilment of the obligation of the payment of membership fees from their territory.

### **Article 58**

Membership in the SNSD ceases by voluntary withdrawal or exclusion.

A member may voluntarily withdraw from the SNSD by returning the membership card and signing the Request for the withdrawal from the SNSD whose format and content is defined by the Rulebook on keeping the membership records. As a rule, a member signs the request for withdrawal in the municipal/city

board. Exceptionally, a member may sign the Request for withdrawal at the seat of the SNSD.

The exclusion from the SNSD happens due to violation of the Statute, deviation from the policy and the Programme, deterioration of the reputation of the SNSD, non-payment of membership fees, due to joining another political party or running on the list of another political entity without the consent of the President of the SNSD.

A member is removed from the register of membership in the event of one of the reasons for the termination of the membership in the SNSD.

### **Article 59**

A party procedure will be conducted against a member whose behaviour and actions are directed against decisions of party bodies or a member who violates the Statute, programme principles and goals of the Alliance by his/her actions.

The following measures may be imposed in a party procedure:

1. A warning;
2. Exclusion from the Alliance.

The decision to initiate a party procedure may be made by the President of the SNSD, the Presidency of the SNSD and the Municipal/City Board.

The Municipal/City Board cannot initiate and carry out a party procedure against a member performing a

duty at a higher level of organization, which is in the exclusive competence of the President of the SNSD or the Presidency of the SNSD.

If the decision to initiate a party procedure is made by a municipal/city board, it is obliged to obtain the opinion of the municipal/city statutory commission before issuing the decision.

A member of the SNSD, who has been subjected to the party procedure measures, must be notified on the official procedure.

A member to whom the measures have been imposed has the right to appeal to the Statutory Commission within 15 days from the date of official decision delivery.

The rights and duties of the member are suspended until the validity of the decision.

The decision of the Statutory Commission is final.

### **Article 60**

A more detailed procedure and the competence of the bodies regarding the termination of membership is regulated by the Rulebook on party discipline and responsibility adopted by the Presidency of the SNSD.

## **TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP**

### **Article 61**

A member of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats can be:

- Active member – ready to participate in all activities and all structures of the SNSD, including volunteer work (has all rights and obligations in accordance with Article 10 of this Statute),
- Passive member – registered as a member but without the involvement in activities (there is no right to elect and be elected, Article 10 of this Statute. A passive member may move to active members by making declaration in the municipal/ city board.

The membership type is chosen by the free will of during the signing of the application form.

The SNSD Service shall define guidelines about membership audit.

The SNSD Service runs a database of active members and a database of passive members.

## **7. ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS**

### **Article 62**

In order to perform its functions, the SNSD may acquire property, material and financial assets, which



are used in the manner prescribed by the Law, this Statute and decisions of the SNSD bodies.

### **Article 63**

The SNSD acquires funds:

- from membership fees,
- voluntary contributions from legal and natural entities,
- on the basis of intellectual work of its members and supporters,
- from income from property owned by the Alliance,
- from the budget based on the Law on Financing of Political Parties in the Republic of Srpska , BiH and other levels of government,
- from other sources in accordance with the law.

Members of the SNSD elected and appointed at any level of the legislative or executive authority and who in turn earn certain revenues pay each month a strategic membership fee of 5% of that monthly income.

### **Article 64**

The SNSD Presidency makes a special decision on collecting necessary funds for the work of the SNSD at the proposal of the President of the SNSD. SNSD funds that are collected for special purposes are used for the mentioned purpose, and the control of the

expenditure thereof is conducted by the Supervisory Board.

### **Article 65**

Funds are determined in accordance with the programme and plan of work of the SNSD and its bodies. The President of the SNSD is responsible for the legal and rational use of funds.

## **8. PUBLICITY OF WORK**

### **Article 66**

The work and functioning of the SNSD is public.

The publicity of the work and the activities of members, bodies and the SNSD as a whole is realized at public gatherings, tribunes, participation in round tables and in other manners.

The publicity of the work of the SNSD is ensured through inviting media representatives to party conferences, press conferences, giving statements, press releases and interviews of party representatives.

The publicity of work of the SNSD is also ensured through publications, party websites and portals as well as through social networks.

The SNSD bodies may discuss and decide about issues within the party without the presence of the public.

## **9. DECISION-MAKING**

### **Article 67**

For the mandatory work of the SNSD, the presence of a majority of members is required.

Bodies make their decisions by a simple majority of the total number of members of that body.

During voting, only “For” or “Against” can be voted.

## **10. FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 68**

The SNSD terminates its work on the basis of the decision of the Council.

In the event that the Council meeting cannot be held, the decision to terminate the work may be made by the Main Board.

In case of the termination of the work of the SNSD, the remaining property belongs to humanitarian organizations and social institutions in the municipality where it is located.

### **Article 69**

Municipal/city boards of the SNSD are obliged to harmonize their decisions on internal organization and work with the provisions of this Statute within 60

days from the day of the entry into force of the Statute.

### **Article 70**

This Statute shall enter into force on the day of its adoption and after its placement on the SNSD's website.

By the entry into force of this Statute, the Statute adopted at the 4<sup>th</sup> Council meeting of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats, on 8 October 2011, ceases to be valid.

Amendments to this Statute shall be adopted by the Council at the proposal of the President of the SNSD.

**Alliance of Independent Social Democrats**

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