

## **BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA Working Group**

### **Statutes of Bibliotheca Baltica Adopted by the General Assembly at Tartu, May 14, 1994, and amended at the General Assemblies at Riga (May 18, 1996), Stockholm (September 19, 1998), and Helsinki (October 22, 2010)**

In the framework created by the Initiative ARS BALTICA libraries of the Baltic Sea Area have founded the BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA Working Group

#### **§ 1**

The possibility for cooperation within BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA Working Group is open to libraries as well as library and librarians' associations from the following countries:

Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, and Sweden.

The Working Group constitutes a link between the libraries in the Baltic Sea Area and strives to establish and deepen the mutual and external cooperation of these libraries and associations as well as scholarly, academic and other associations for their common benefit.

The activities of the Working Group serve the end of enhancing the awareness of belonging together and the mutual understanding in the countries of the Baltic Sea Area. The goals of the Working Group are exclusively non-profit and dedicated to the benefit of the general public.

#### **§ 2**

The task of the Working Group is to establish or deepen cooperative relations with the goal of

- facilitating the access to library holdings in libraries of the Baltic Sea Area for the purposes of research and teaching
- preserving the cultural heritage of the Baltic Sea Area, especially as far as it is handed down to us in prints and manuscripts
- improving the conditions of work for libraries in the Baltic Sea Area
- raising the level of information about the Baltic Sea Area and its countries.

#### **§ 3**

The General Assembly shall take place as part of Bibliotheca Baltica's biannual symposia every second year.

The representatives of the member libraries present at the General Assembly elect the President as well as up to six additional members of the Board for a term of four years. Re-election is possible. In order to guarantee a certain constancy of the Board each General Assembly shall elect or re-elect only half the number of board members.

The President is acting representative of the Working Group in its quality as an association in its external relations, especially in judicial matters. In fulfilment of these functions he/she is entitled to give instructions to the treasurer and the secretary.

Neither the President nor any board member shall receive a re-numeration for his/her work for Bibliotheca Baltica.

From the number of elected members of the board a treasurer and a secretary shall be chosen by the board members.

The minutes of the General Assembly shall be made public in the Bibliotheca Baltica Newsletter and on its website.

#### **§ 4**

The Working Group is entitled to decide on membership dues to be paid by the libraries taking part in its activities. The Board will propose changes in the membership fees to the General Assembly for approval by a simple majority. The current annual membership fee shall be made public on the Bibliotheca Baltica website.

The Working Group is entitled to accept funds from third parties to carry out its activities.

If not regulated otherwise the member libraries bear themselves the costs of their participating in the activities. The Working Group fixes rules for the conducting and control of the treasury. The treasury shall be controlled prior to the General Assembly by an auditor elected by the General Assembly. The auditor shall be affiliated to the same library as the President, but he/she shall not be involved in running the business of the Working Group.

#### **§ 5**

Until further notice the archival holdings of the Bibliotheca Baltica Working Group are kept in the Document Collection of the Herder-Institut Marburg as a deposit. They are available to members of the Bibliotheca Baltica and to interested third parties subject to the President's consent.

#### **§ 6**

For the Bibliotheca Baltica Working Group to be disbanded a two-thirds majority of the members present in the General Assembly is necessary. If such a step is considered the member institutions and associations must be informed about this in writing six weeks prior to the General Assembly. In the case of disbandment Bibliotheca Baltica's funds shall be handed over to a non-profit organization with similar tasks.