

Constitution of The Society of Dix-Neuviémistes

1. Name of the Society

The name of the Society, which shall be based in the UK or Ireland, is The Society of Dix-Neuviémistes, called in this document 'the Society'.

2. Objects of the Society

The objects of the Society shall be to advance education for the public benefit in nineteenth-century French history and culture, in particular by:

2.1 providing a forum for the promotion and dissemination of research in nineteenth-century French and Francophone studies;

2.2 encouraging interdisciplinary and comparative approaches to the 'long' nineteenth century (1789-1914) in France and Francophone countries, embracing linguistic, literary, artistic, historical, cultural, philosophical and pedagogical perspectives;

2.3 fostering nineteenth-century French and Francophone studies in the postgraduate community;

2.4 organising an annual conference, and to publish an international, fully-refereed journal;

2.5 liaising with related societies in France, the UK, the USA and elsewhere.

3. Membership of the Society

3.1 Membership is conditional on payment of the annual subscription, which falls due on 1st January each year. The amount of the subscription shall be determined as appropriate by the Executive Committee and communicated to current members by 1st November of each calendar year. A special subscription rate shall be offered to postgraduate and retired members.

3.2 Each member of the Society shall have voting rights at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. None of the rights of any member of the Society may be transferred to any other person.

3.3 The Society may on the proposal of the Executive Committee admit to Honorary Membership individuals who render outstanding services to the Society or its aims. Honorary Members shall be full voting members of the Society.

4. Termination of Membership

4.1 A member ceases to be a member of the Society if:

- a) the member resigns from membership by giving notice in writing to the Society;
- b) the member's subscription remains unpaid six months after it is due and the Executive Committee resolves to end that person's membership;
- c) the Executive Committee deems that a member's conduct is detrimental to the aims of the Society and resolves to end that person's membership.

4.2 However, the Executive Committee may make a resolution allowing anyone no longer eligible for membership to remain a member on such terms as it thinks fit.

5. Meetings

5.1 An inaugural meeting of the Society shall approve an interim Executive Committee for a period not exceeding fifteen months. Thereafter there shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Society, which shall have authority to determine any matters concerning the activity of the Society.

5.2 Special Meetings of the Society may be called by the President, either on the President's own authority or on receipt of a written request signed by at least twenty members of the Society.

5.3 Notice of the Annual General Meeting or of any Special Meeting of the Society shall be given to the members at least twenty-one days before the date of any such meeting.

5.4 Minutes of all meetings and proceedings shall be kept. The minutes shall be made available for inspection by all members of the Society.

6. Accounts

6.1 Proper accounts shall be kept, and an annual statement of the accounts shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting. The accounts shall show all amounts received and spent by the Society, all sales and purchases by the Society, and the assets and liabilities of the Society.

6.2 The account books shall give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs and explain its transactions.

6.3 The accounts of the Society shall be independently inspected and audited on an annual basis.

6.4 The accounts shall be made available for inspection by all members of the Society.

7. Use of funds

7.1 The Society shall be a non-profit making organisation. All income, property or funds of the Society shall be used in the protection and promotion of the Society's aims.

7.2 The Society may make reasonable and proper payment for any services rendered to the Society, or for any purchases necessary to promote the Society's aims.

7.3 The Society may make reasonable and proper remuneration of out-of-pocket expenses to any elected or appointed officer of the Society.

8. Executive Committee

8.1 The Executive Committee shall be responsible to the members of the Society for the management of its affairs and for the implementation and promotion of the Society's aims. It shall report as appropriate to members, and annually to the Annual General Meeting.

8.2 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice yearly. Meetings shall be called by the President, on his or her authority or on receipt of a written request signed by at least four Executive Committee members.

8.3 The Executive Committee shall appoint General Editors and co-editors of the Society's scholarly journal, and it shall appoint a Research and Resources Officer to manage the Society's web site and e-mail discussion list. These appointments shall be for a period to be determined by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to make any further appointments that it deems appropriate.

8.4 The Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice President. The position of Vice President will be occupied by the proposed president-elect of the Society for one year before s/he takes up the post of president.

9. Membership of the Executive Committee

9.1 The following Elected Officers of the Society shall form the Executive Committee:

- a) a President;
- b) a Vice President;
- c) a Secretary;
- d) a Treasurer;
- e) a Membership Secretary;
- f) a Newsletter Editor and Publicity Officer;
- g) a Conference Officer;
- h) a Postgraduate Representative.

9.2 The General Editors of the Society's scholarly journal shall, *ex officio*, sit on the Executive Committee.

9.3 The Executive Committee may co-opt not more than two additional members. Co-opted members shall serve for a period of up to one year, ending at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

9.4 The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, extend invitations to other learned Societies or groups to appoint a representative who shall serve either as a member by affiliation of the Executive Committee, or as a corresponding member of the Executive Committee. Such appointments shall be for a period not exceeding three years, with the possibility of re-appointment.

10. Elections

10.1 Elections for Officers of the Society shall be by ballot at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations, to be supported by a proposer and a seconder, shall be solicited by the Secretary at least twenty-one days in advance of the Annual General Meeting, to be in the Secretary's hands not less than twenty-four hours before the start of the meeting

10.2 All elected Officers of the Society shall serve for three years in the first instance, with the possibility of re-election for a period not exceeding three years.

11. Amendments to the Constitution

11.1 Proposals to amend the Constitution shall be notified to members of the Society not less than twenty-one days before an Annual General Meeting. Proposals may be presented by the Executive Committee or by a motion lodged with the Secretary at least four weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting and signed by at least ten members of the Society.

11.2 A motion to amend the Constitution shall be approved if supported by at least two thirds of the votes cast at the Annual General Meeting.

