



Operating Rules for PES activists

Adopted by the PES Presidency on 18th February 2013

PES Statutes

Article 15 – PES activists

All members of PES member parties are automatically members of the PES. Those who wish to be active in the PES can register as PES activists. PES activists must be members of their national Party¹. PES activists can set up city groups. The PES Presidency adopts operating rules for PES activists.

1 The PES Presidency on 14th October 2010 adopted a partnership agreement with the Partito Democratico. As part of this agreement PD members can become PES activists

Section 1: Tasks of activists- Rights and Responsibilities

1.1: Activists Consultation

Activists may provide input into PES policy discussions through the Re:new platform and through the interactive online discussion boards of MyPES and through other means as appropriate.

1.2: Activist Initiatives

Individual activists may organise an activists initiative according to the proposal adopted by the PES Presidency on the 4th February 2010 (see Annex 1).

1.3: Participation at PES events

PES activists may participate as observers at PES events (Councils and Congresses). The PES will aim to organise an activists Forum once a year, either coupled with or separate from a PES Council or Congress. When selecting participants, rules of gender balance will be applied. In the selection of participants, activists with a limited income and/or activists who have never before attended a PES event (but are active) should be given priority. At these events PES activists only represent themselves unless given a mandate by their member party. Prior approval by the member party is required for participation of a PES activist in a PES event.

1.4: Coordination with local MEP's and PES CoR members.

The PES encourages close cooperation between activists and citygroups with their regional MEP(s) and their regional member(s) of the PES group in the Committee of Regions.

1.5: Campaigning

A PES activist is expected to campaign for PES campaigns and for European elections including for the Common Commission candidate.

1.6: Recruiting activists

Activists are expected to recruit other PES activists and to recruit people to their member parties.



Section 2: Citygroups

2.1 Role

City groups are required to work closely with member parties. A citygroup should aim to bring European Socialist and Social Democratic politics to the local level through discussions, event organisation and campaigning. Similarly citygroups are encouraged to bring local issues to the attention of European bodies. Citygroup is a broad term which may also incorporate regional groups, discussion groups etc.

2.2 Selection of Citygroup Coordinators

Citygroups where there are more than 10 activists should democratically elect a coordinator in line with their member party's standing orders. They may also elect an organisation committee to support the coordinators work. When required³ by their member party the election of citygroup coordinator and the composition of citygroup committees must be validated by party decisions at the national level, through a report from the PES activists National Coordinator.

2.3 Approving a Citygroup

To create a citygroup there must be at least 10 registered PES activists that require agreement from their local party branch and, where required, from the national member party via the International Secretariat of that member party. Once that agreement has been reached, and a copy of that agreement is sent to the PES secretariat, then that citygroup is deemed to exist. Groups under 10 remain under the responsibility of the National activist coordinator until that group reaches 10 members. Any citygroup which does not have permission from a local branch of their member party, or where required, from the International Secretariat of their member party will not be recognised by the PES Secretariat as an official citygroup. The citygroup should encourage expatriate activists to join them.

2.4 Individual activists

Ideally there should be at least one citygroup present in each country which individual activists can join. In the event that there is no citygroup present, activists should gather into a national group, with the permission of the member party, so that they can begin organising campaigns and making contacts with other activists. Individual activist's rights and responsibilities are laid out in section 1.

2.5: Guests

PES Supporters who are not members of a PES member party may attend citygroup meetings or activists meetings as an observer. However they will have no voting rights in the election of a citygroup coordinator and they cannot attend a PES Council or Congress, or a PES activists Forum, unless they have first joined a member party and become full activists. Guests are strongly advised to register in their Party list of supporters or equivalent.

³ When required by the member party through their International Secretariat



Section 3: National Coordinators

3.1: Appointment of National PES activist Coordinator

One National PES activist Coordinator (or two where required²) should be appointed, or elected, by every PES member party according to their internal procedures and provisions. Along with the National coordinator/s, there can be formed an organisation committee to support the work of the activist coordinator/s. The mandated term of National PES activist Coordinators, or their equivalent, should not exceed a maximum of two calendar years. There is no limit on the number of mandated terms a National PES activist Coordinator may hold. It is up to the citygroup coordinators in each member party to decide other formal aspects of the National PES activists Coordinators mandate. The National PES activist coordinator should then be approved by the PES member party.

3.2: Role of the National PES activist Coordinator

It is the responsibility of the National PES activist Coordinator to ensure that all PES activists within their member party, or activists of other member parties living within their area of responsibility, are registered on the PES database. This responsibility may be allocated to another organisation committee member.

The National PES activist Coordinator is responsible for spreading information (campaigns, important Presidency decisions, Leaders Declarations etc.) amongst activists and interested party members. Where possible they (or a member of their organisation committee) should translate important messages into their mother tongue. National PES activist Coordinators are expected to organise campaign events in coordination with citygroups and to train activists for campaigning activity.

The National PES activist Coordinator agrees to have their contact details (phone number and email address) available to the PES secretariat so that it may be passed on to interested activists in their area. GSM numbers should also be supplied to the PES secretariat so that they can be contacted directly by the secretariat if necessary.

A Planning Team for National PES activists Coordinators will be created. This Planning Team will organize a meeting once a year, around the Council or Congress of the PES, in order to coordinate a common plan of action to coordinate all PES activists and improve the cross-border network and contact between National activist Coordinator/s from all the PES member parties and in this way strengthen the PES activists connection.



Section 4: Administration

4.1: Activists Database

The PES will maintain a database of all PES activists. International Secretaries and National PES activist Coordinators will be provided with a list of activists in their member party, or activists from another member party resident in their country, via a secure password. Only activists who register themselves on the database and provide their email address will receive communications directly from the PES.

4.2: Activist Tools

Communications with activists from the PES will be in English and/or French.

The PES will:

- List PES activist citygroups on our online map.
- Send speakers to activist meetings when possible.
- Add citygroups to the mailing list for PES activist citygroups.
- Provide additional information and assistance for on-the-ground PES campaign activities.
- Provide PES material (Pens, bags, flags etc.)
- Provide an online space for activists to interact with each other.
- Organise accommodation for a limited number of activists at PES activist Forums, PES Council and PES Congress.
- Organise online or telephone conferencing for National PES activist Coordinators.
- Mediate problematic issues when necessary

This list is not exhaustive.

4.3: Funding

The PES will provide as much material as possible to activists for their actions. The PES will also pay for limited accommodation at selected events. Beyond this it is up to National PES activist Coordinator or a member of their committee to find an independent source of funding for their activities. If funding is available for further activist activities the PES secretariat will aim to distribute this funding as fairly as possible. Member parties, through their International Secretariats will be consulted before allocating funding to citygroup projects.

4.4: Use of Logo

In order to promote commonality we encourage citygroups to use a PES activists specific logo approved by the PES secretariat. They may not use the main PES logo on documentation issued by their citygroup or as individuals unless pre-approved by the PES secretariat.

4.5: Changing the Operating Rules

The PES Presidency, following consultation of the PES Coordination Team, may change the operating rules at any time. A proposal to make changes may also be submitted by a group of 5 National PES activist Coordinators.

Final operating rules will come into effect following the agreement of the PES Presidency.

To be fully applicable the rules on PES activists must be compatible with the Statutes of the PES Member Parties. If necessary, the Member Parties should adapt their organizational rules accordingly.

