



As originally approved: 13th August 2017 & amended: 12th February 2022

LGBTI+ Gozo
(A Voluntary, Non-Profit Making Organisation)

Article 1

NAME

1.1 The name of the Organisation shall be **LGBTI+ Gozo**.

Article 2

ADDRESS

The official address of the Organisation is:

2.1 Qawsalla Hub, Triq Enrico Mizzi Street, Victoria Gozo or such other address as may be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.

Article 3

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ORGANISATION

3.1 **The aim** of LGBTI+ Gozo shall be to promote and raise awareness regarding the LGBTI+ community and issues affecting it whilst organizing events aimed to include all LGBTI + peers and supporters.

3.2 LGBTI+ Gozo has the following **values**:

3.2.1 **Determination:** The organization believes that through determination, any challenge or obstacle can be overcome.

3.2.2 **Diversity:** The organization's core value is that of diversity, LGBTI+ Gozo believes that diversity does not hinder society but rather makes it stronger.

3.2.3 **Empathy:** LGBTI+ Gozo believes in understanding the feelings of others by putting oneself in another shoe.

3.2.3 **Openness:** LGBTI+ Gozo believes in being open to any experience or situation and in having an open mind, ready to learn and challenge one's own bias and belief.



Article 4

OBJECTIVES

4. LGBTI+ Gozo is based on the following objectives based on the main five (5) pillars being:

- 4.1 **Human Rights Activism:** Enhancing social change within society, especially in respect to sexual minorities.
- 4.2 **Integrity:** Adhering to ethical and moral beliefs and operating with sincerity.
- 4.3 **Freedom of Expression:** Any member in society has the freedom to express his or her opinion.
- 4.4 **Liberty:** Even if every member has the right to express their opinion they have no right to impose it on others.
- 4.5. **Benevolence:** Acting with kindness in all operations.

Additionally, the below objectives relate to the above:

- 4.6 To provide support and information for the LGBTI+ community in Gozo, be a platform of inclusivity and be a stepping stone to all who need aid.
- 4.7 To educate the public on various facets of the society, on the acceptance of diversity within our society and on LGBTI+ legislation together with a program on sexual health and sexual education in the Gozitan Civil society.
- 4.8 To seek and promote, on a national level, the participation of the Organisation;
- 4.9 To raise public and political awareness on LGBTI+ rights, diversity, inclusion and equality.
- 4.10 To promote and present the interests of the Organisation's members to the notice of local administration and authorities, international Organisations and other authorities;
- 4.11 To raise funds by means of subscription of members or otherwise for all the purposes and objectives of the Organization in such amounts and in such manner as may be authorized by the Executive Committee;



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- 4.12 To form part of any national/international Organisation/s whose aims are similar to that of the Organisation;
- 4.13 To do all that which is ancillary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

Article 5

GENERAL POLICY

- 5.1. The Organisation shall be autonomous and voluntary as defined in the Voluntary Organisation Act (Chapter 492 of the Laws of Malta)
- 5.2. The Organisation shall be non-profit making as defined in the Voluntary Organisations Act (Chapter 492 of the Laws of Malta), and any excess of funds received or generated from its activities must always be reinvested in the same Organisation.
- 5.3. The accounts of the Organisation shall be reviewed or audited and published on a yearly basis.
- 5.4. Provided its autonomy is not affected, the Organisation may collaborate with other entities on a national, regional or international basis in order to further its aims.
- 5.5. The Organisation shall not have any political or trade union affiliation and it shall not indulge in party politics.
- 5.6. All prospective members and associate members of the Organisation shall have access to the statute of Organisation upon demand. Prospective members are required to state that they are aware of the objectives of the Organisation.

Article 6

STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 All persons over the age of sixteen (16) are eligible to become members of the Organisation with full voting rights.
 - 6.1.1 If a member has not reached eighteen (18) years of age, permission from their legal guardian shall be required. Should the case be that they are not willing to disclose information about their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, this shall be taken into consideration by the Executive Committee.



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- 6.2 The Affairs of the Organisation, notwithstanding the Organisation in General Meetings, shall be managed by the Executive Committee of the Organisation. Provided that the Executive Committee shall have, as its primary function but not limited to, the management and allocation of the proceeds of all fund-raising activities.
- 6.3 The Executive Committee shall consist of no less than five (5) members of the Organisation who shall be elected every two (2) years at the Annual General Meeting of the Organisation. At the expiration of the two (2) year term the Executive Committee shall step down from their position, provided that members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
- 6.3.1 There is no fixed limit of terms that a member can contest, however it is out of the organizations best interests that new blood is recruited from term, to term.
- 6.4 No member shall be eligible to form part of the Executive Committee unless he has been a subscribed member of the Organisation for a least six (6) months. Otherwise, the said member can be co-opted and becomes a full voting member of the Executive Committee at such a date as the Executive Committee deems fit.
- 6.5 Membership criteria shall be determined by the Executive Committee, this will be published online, and updated every year.
- 6.6 The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse a request for membership, without providing any explanation whatsoever. The applicant shall have the right to appeal this decision in writing within three (3) calendar days to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.
- 6.6.1 If this is the case, he shall receive a written explanation from the Secretary of the Executive Committee, detailing the reason for his refusal within twelve (12) calendar days from receipt of his letter. This decision is final and cannot be contested.
- 6.7 In the event of the resignation (or termination from post for other reasons) of an Executive Committee Member, the Executive Committee will co-opt another member/s to take his/her place. The other members of the Executive Committee shall pass a vote as to who will be co-opted during a committee meeting. Any member so appointed shall retain his office only until the next General Meeting, but he shall then be eligible for re-election.
- 6.8 Any member who does not attend the Executive Committee meetings for three (3) consecutive times, without a valid reason as deemed by the Executive Committee, will have to step down, with immediate effect. This will guarantee the continuity of the work of the Executive Committee.



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- 6.9 The Laws of Malta shall govern every aspect not explicitly regulated in this Statute.

Article 7

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as the “AGM”) is LGBTI+ Gozo’s highest decision-making body.
- 7.2 An AGM shall be held each year in the first three (3) months of a starting year.
- 7.2 Notification of the AGM shall be given to each member at the very least twenty-one (21) calendar days before the planned date.
- 7.2.1 Due notice of an AGM shall be deemed to have been given on the day on which it was sent to all addresses (an email address or home address will suffice) of the Organization’s register of members. As updated by the 31st of December of the previous year.
- 7.3 The agenda shall be disseminated to the members at least five (5) calendar days prior to the AGM.
- 7.3.1 The agenda of the AGM shall include the following points:
- Approval of agenda of the AGM;
 - Presentation of Administrative Report by the Secretary;
 - Presentation of Financial Report by the Treasurer;
 - Presentation on any other advancements throughout the mandate;
 - Discussion and vote on any motions forwarded by the members prior to the meeting;
 - Discussion and vote on any amendments forwarded by the members prior to the meeting;
 - Presentation of candidates; (only if applicable)
 - Appointment of Legal Representative and Auditor (as per clause 7.7);
 - Any other matter deemed fit by the Executive Committee.
- 7.4 The agenda shall also include a vote on members of the Executive Board every two (2) years from the first AGM.



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- 7.5 All nominations for election to the Committee shall be received by the Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the AGM.
- 7.6 Copies of the Administrative Report and Financial Report shall be made available to members present during the AGM.
- 7.7 The members present shall every AGM agree upon and appoint a legal representative to aid the Executive Committee in any legal matters and an auditor to confirm and verify the financial accounts of any given year.
- 7.7.1 The auditors or reviewers of accounts shall be nominated and elected by the members attending and having a right to vote at General Meetings. Members of the Executive Committees, who held office in the past twelve (12) months, shall not be eligible for nomination for election for the post of auditor or reviewer of accounts. Moreover, no auditor or reviewer of accounts shall run for office for a position in the Executive Committee during the following twelve (12) months.
- 7.8 Following the AGM, the minutes shall be sent to the members present for any comments and modifications. The minutes shall be modified accordingly and be subject to two thirds (2/3) majority vote in the Executive Committee for its approval, upon which they shall be disseminated to all the members.
- 7.9 Other meetings of the Organisation may be summoned by the Executive Committee, and shall be so summoned immediately upon a request in writing signed by at least ten per cent (10%) of the members.
- 7.10 At any meeting of the Organisation every member of the Organisation shall be entitled to be present, and every Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote upon every matter raised. In the case of equality of voting, the Coordinators of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. The Secretary shall take minutes of the proceedings at all General Meetings of the Organisation.
- 7.11 The Secretary shall present the Annual Report of the Organisation to the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.12 The quorum for the Annual or any Meeting shall be ten per cent (10%) of the general membership. In the absence of such quorum, the Meeting shall be held, with the same agenda, thirty minutes later and all decisions taken shall be binding on the Organisation as a whole.

Article 8

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING



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- 8.1 An extraordinary meeting can be called either:
- 8.1.1 By a formal request made by twenty-five per cent (25%) of the Organization's members; or
 - 8.1.2 If the members of the Executive Committee unanimously agree to hold such a meeting.
- 8.2 The Secretary should receive requests requiring an extraordinary meeting including all the signatures of the members approving it. The Secretary shall hold the extraordinary meeting within a month from the submission of the request, provided that the request is in accordance with the statute.

Article 9

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

- 9.1 Elections for Executive Committee members shall be held every two (2) years, during the Annual General Meeting using a secret vote, with a simple plurality voting system.
- 9.2 The nominees for these elections shall be members of the Organization for, at least, six (6) months.
- 9.3 Members nominated for the Executive Committee must be over eighteen (18) years of age.
- 9.4 The nominations shall be seconded by at least two (2) other members.
- 9.5 Roles for the Executive Committee shall be appointed by the elected Executive Committee members using a secret vote, with a simple majority vote, during the first (1st) executive meeting which shall be held following the AGM.

Article 10

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 10.1 The business of the Organisation shall be vested in the Executive Committee which may pay all such expenses, preliminary and incidental to the promotion, formation, establishment and registration of the Organisation as they deem fit.



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- 10.2. The Organisation shall be legally and judicially represented by one of the Coordinators, the Secretary and the Treasurer, or without prejudice and in addition to the authority of one of the Coordinators Secretary and Treasure as aforesaid, in a particular case or cases, by such other person or persons as the Executive Committee may appoint for that purpose.
- 10.3. No regulation made by the Organisation in a General Meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Executive Committee.
- 10.4. The members, at any the time being, shall act with reason and with the intention of the organisation at mind if any vacancy is found in the constitution.
- 10.5. The Executive Committee shall be authorised to consult and seek the advice of any Associate Member of the Organisation to improve the welfare or condition of both its members and the Organisation itself.

Article 11

Coordinator

- 11.1. The Coordinator shall coordinate all Executive Committee meetings and General Meetings of the Organisation. They are to undertake such functions in respect of the Organisation as the Executive Committee may determine from time to time.
- 11.2. There are to be 2 (two) coordinators. Moreover, the coordinators are to be as part of the LGBTI+ Gozo executive committee in any other position for a minimum of 1 (one) year and preferably is to hold the role of Secretary or Treasurer before the appointment of such a role.
- 11.3. It is the responsibility of the 2 (two) coordinators to ensure that one of them is always present at an event of LGBTI+ Gozo, to ensure they are present at events the organisation are invited towards (unless substitute is appointed) and to coordinate the works and operation of the organisation as needed from time to time.
- 11.4. No remuneration (except by way of reimbursement of “out of pocket” expenses, if any) shall be paid to the Coordinators with respect to their office.



Article 12

SECRETARY

- 12.1 The Secretary shall be elected at the General Meeting. The Secretary shall be responsible for all the secretarial and administrative work of the Executive Committee.
- 12.2 The Executive Committee may elect from among its members an Assistant Secretary to assist the Secretary as may be deemed necessary. The Executive Committee reserved the right to terminate, at any point, the office of the Assistant Secretary so appointed, in which case s/he shall still remain a member of the Executive Committee.
- 12.3 The Secretary shall undertake such functions in respect of the Organisation as the Executive Committee may determine from time to time.
- 12.4 No remuneration (except by way of reimbursement of “out of pocket” expenses, if any) shall be paid to the Secretary and/or the Assistant Secretary with respect to their office.

Article 13

TREASURER

- 13.1 The Treasurer shall be elected at the General Meeting. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all the Financial and Accounting work of the Executive Committee.
- 13.2 The Executive Committee may elect from among its members an Assistant Treasurer to assist the Treasurer as may be deemed necessary. The Executive Committee reserves the right to terminate, at any point, the office of the Assistant Treasurer so appointed, in which case s/he shall still remain a member of the Executive Committee.
- 13.3 The Treasurer shall undertake such functions in respect of the Organisation as the Executive Committee may determine from time to time.
- 13.4 No remuneration (except by way of reimbursement of “out of pocket” expenses, if any) shall be paid to the Treasurer and/or the Assistant Treasurer with respect to their office.



Article 14

Executive Member

- 14.1 LGBTI+ Gozo executive member is to attend, participate and support LGBTI+ Gozo in its operation on a day to day basis. The Executive member is to be a full member aged eighteen (18) and over and a member for up to six (6) months.
- 14.2 The Executive member will be responsible for a number of projects as decided in LGBTI+ Gozo planning weekend and evaluated from time to time according to the needs of the organisation.
- 14.3 There are to be up to 7 (seven) executive members, and as much as possible represent different intersectional identities of the Gozitan and LGBTI community. The previous executive committee is responsible to identify and encourage members to contest for the role of executive member.
- 14.4 No remuneration (except by way of reimbursement of “out of pocket” expenses, if any) shall be paid to the Executive Committee with respect to their office.

Article 15

DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 15.1 The office of a member of the Executive Committee shall be vacated:
- (a) If s/he ceases to be a member of the Organisation;
 - (b) If, by notice in writing to the Organisation, s/he resigns the office;
 - (c) If s/he is removed from office by a resolution duly passed pursuant to Clause 16.1 of this Statute.

Article 16

SUSPENSION

- 16.1 The Organisation may by a resolution taken at an Extraordinary General Meeting remove any member of the Executive Committee before the expiration of his



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period of office if s/he is guilty of repetitive disruption of meetings, hinders the function of the Organisation or breaks the confidentiality and trust of other members.

16.2 The Organisation may by the same or another resolution appoint another Member in his stead; but any person so appointed shall retain his office so long only as the Member in whose place s/he is appointed would have held the same if s/he had not been removed.

Article 17

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 17.1. Subject to the following, the Executive Committee may meet for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they deem fit. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every month.
- 17.2. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Executive Committee shall be fifty per cent plus one (50%+1) of the number of members on the Executive Committee as indicated in Article 6.3 of this statute, provided that if no quorum is present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned to another day within one (1) week. If at such adjourned meeting no quorum is present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, provided three (3) members are present, the meeting shall proceed accordingly.
- 17.3 Matters decided at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be decided by a simple majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson of the meeting shall ask for a re-vote. In the event of an equality of votes on the re-vote, the Chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 17.4 On a request, the coordinators shall, at any time, summon a meeting of the Executive Committee by notice (stating the time and place of such meeting) served upon the members of the Executive Committee giving a notice of at least five (5) working days. Any accidental failure to give such notice to the members of the Committee entitled thereto shall not invalidate any of the proceedings of such meeting as long as a quorum is present there at.
- 17.5 A meeting of the Executive Committee, at which a quorum is present, shall be competent to exercise all the authorities, powers and discretion by or under the regulations of the Organisation, as the time being, vested in the members of the Executive Committee generally.
- 17.6 The Executive Committee may delegate any of its powers to subcommittees or squads (Working Groups), which shall consist of member/s of the Executive



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- Committee or any other persons as the Executive Committee may deem fit, to work on projects as may be subscribed by the Executive Committee. Subcommittees so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to all regulations imposed on it by the Executive Committee.
- 17.6.1 A General Meeting, or the Executive Committee, may set up subcommittees to facilitate and to be able to sustain the work of the Organisation.
- 17.6.2 Subcommittees shall include any members as deemed fit by the General Meeting, or the Executive Committee.
- 17.6.3 All subcommittees shall be chaired by an Executive Member.
- 17.6.4 Once a subcommittee is formed, the Executive Committee may delegate to it the power to make some decisions, but may retain the prerogative to make other decisions, as it deems fit.
- 17.6.5 It shall be the responsibility of the subcommittee's chair to ensure that the subcommittee does not make decisions outside its remit.
- 17.6.6 The Executive Committee may intervene when there are clear indications that the subcommittee is not following its terms of reference and/or when it acts against the Organisation's objectives.
- 17.6.7 The subcommittee shall provide a progress report, whenever deemed fit by the Executive Committee.
- 17.6.8 Each subcommittee may ask for consultative meetings with the Executive Committee whenever it is deemed necessary.
- 17.6.9 Squads shall be responsible for a project and/or event and for its dissolution once the project is concluded. Squads shall abide by the aforesaid regulations.
- 17.7 The Executive Committee shall enforce proper minute-taking of all appointments of officers made by the Executive Committee, of the proceedings of all meetings of the Organisation and of the Executive Committee and of subcommittees of the Executive Committee.
- 17.8 All business transacted at any meeting, and the minutes thereof shall be deemed to be sufficient evidence without the need of any further proof of the facts therein stated, provided that these are purported by the signature of one of the Coordinators and the Secretary.



Article 18

SUBSCRIPTIONS, FINANCES AND ACCOUNTS

- 18.1. (a) Applications for membership shall not be considered unless accompanied by the subscription fee.
- (b) The subscription fee shall be payable yearly in advance and shall fall due as determined by the Executive Committee;
- (c) If the subscription falls due and a Member has not yet paid the previous year's subscription, s/he shall not be entitled to vote in the next Annual General Meeting;
- (d) Any Member who resigns or forfeits his membership shall, on re-joining the Organization, be liable to pay a readmission fee equivalent to one year's subscription.
- 18.2 The funds of the Organisation shall be collected from voluntary contributions, donations or grants by Members, benefactors, the State, any other institution, and from fundraising activities.
- 18.3 The funds of the Organisation shall be deposited in bank accounts of a reputable local bank in the name of the Organisation and the authorised joint signatories for operating such accounts shall be one of the coordinators, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The signature of the Treasurer and one (1) other signature will suffice, provided that the signature is of one coordinator or the Secretary of the Executive Committee.
- 18.4 The Treasurer shall keep such proper books of accounts, which shall be presented by means of an accurate report and statement concerning the finances of the Organisation. at every Annual General Meeting of the Organisation, or at any other time, as may be deemed fit by the Executive Committee provided that prior and reasonable notice is given.
- 18.5 The annual accounts of the organisation shall be drawn up for a financial period commencing on the first day of January (01/01) and ending on the thirty-first day of December (31/12) of each year.



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Article 19

CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

- 19.1 Every member shall conform to the Organisation's Code of Conduct. Any member or members alleged to have brought, or attempted to bring disrepute on the Organisation, shall be asked to appear before the Executive Committee and if, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, the case be found proven, the Member shall be deprived of his/her membership. If the said member fails to appear before the Executive Committee without justification s/he shall be deprived of membership.
- 19.2 This is to be published on the organisation's website and updated every year by the 30th of September. This is to coincide with the membership period (October – December)

Article 20

NOTICES

- 20.1 Each member shall keep the Secretary informed of that member's private address, email address, or of some other address at which communications may be addressed to him/her.

Article 21

ALTERATION OF STATUTE

- 21.1 This Statute may only be revoked, added to or altered by a vote of at least fifty-one per cent (51%) of all the registered members of the Organisation, entitled to vote at a Annual General Meeting of the Organisation of which notice has been duly given specifying the intention to propose the revocation, addition or alteration, together with full particulars thereof.

Article 22

DISSOLUTION

- 22.1 If at any time the Organisation shall pass in General Meeting, by a majority comprising seventy-five per cent (75%) of all the registered members present and



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entitled to vote, a resolution of its intention to dissolve, the Executive Committee shall take immediate steps to settle any debts and dispose of the monies and property remaining as determined by the General Meeting; and thereupon the Organisation shall for all purposes be dissolved.

- 22.2 In the event of dissolution of the Organisation, any remaining funds and/or property shall be donated to a voluntary non-profit making organization or a charitable institution chosen by the outgoing Executive Committee.

Article 23

- 23.1 This statute has been approved during a General Meeting held on 13th August 2017; and is being certified by all the Executive Committee.

Name and Surname	Role/Responsibility	ID Number
Eman Borg	President	10095(G)
Reb Xiberras	Secretary-General	31595(G)
Antoine Spiteri	Treasurer	28288(G)
Christy Spiteri	Educational Officer	37495(G)
Mel Borg	Outreach Officer	10596(G)



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Jan Cauchi	IT & Marketing Officer	121496(M)
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23.2 The first administrators and their responsibilities are:

President: Eman Borg
Secretary: Reb Xiberras
Treasurer: Antoine Spiteri
Member: (Educational Officer): Christy Spiteri
Member: (Outreach Officer): Mel Borg
Member: (IT & Marketing Officer): Jan Cauchi

Signed: _____
President

Signed: _____
Secretary

Signed: _____
Treasurer

Date: _____