ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Article 1. DENOMINATION
The name of the Association is “Asociación Española de Constelaciones Familiares y Sistémicas” (Spanish association of family and systemic constellations), AECFS for short.

Article 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION
a) To serve as a platform that provides information and disseminates Family and Systemic Constellations work and its various applications.
b) To encourage research and study in the field of Family and Systemic Constellations.
c) To promote Family and Systemic Constellations training, creating new channels for it and safeguarding its quality.
d) To foster activities within the fields of therapy, medicine, education, social work, organisations, care and others that may contribute to spreading Bert Hellinger’s philosophy and methodology of Family and Systemic Constellations and the Orders of Love in human systems.
e) To associate or federate with other associations and institutions that pursue similar purposes.

Article 3. GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE AND DURATION OF THE ASSOCIATION’S ACTIVITIES
3.1. The Association shall develop its activities in the whole territory of Spain.
3.2. The Association shall be governed by Organic Law 1/2002, of March 22, regulating the right of association.
3.3. The duration of the Association’s activities is unlimited. Its financial year starts on January 1 and ends on December 31 of every year.

Article 4. ADDRESS
The physical address of the Association is, Calle Santiago, 17 1ºD. 04006 ALMERÍA.

Article 5. - FOUNDERS AND MEMBERS
5.1. The founders of the Association are those who historically signed the Founding Act of the Association on January 1, 2000.
5.2. The Association is composed of senior members, full members and supporter member.
   a) Senior members are the founders of the Association as long as they remain in it, as well as those other members who have been full members for a period of at least two years and are nominated as such by the General Assembly of Members according to the dispositions of article 11.e) of the present Articles of Association. The main role of the senior members is that of guaranteeing the quality of Family and Systemic Constellations work and training. For this purpose, the senior members shall join the Training Commission, responsible for drawing up and proposing to the General Assembly the guidelines for the curriculum, methodology, duration and other characteristics of Family and Systemic Constellations training, as well as the requirements to achieve full and senior membership.
   b) Full members of the Association are those who have been supporter members for a period of at least one year and are nominated as such by the General Assembly of Members according to the dispositions of article 11.e) of the present Articles of Association.
   c) Every natural person who voluntarily joins the Association and respects its objectives, as well as the present Articles of Association, shall be welcome as a supporter member. The acquisition of supporter membership shall take place through registration in the Members Registration Book in charge of the secretary of the Association, once the formal and economic requirements established for this purpose are complied with.
5.3. Senior and full members may, in addition, achieve psychotherapist membership when they are nominated as such by the General Assembly, at the proposal of the Executive Board and after
having complied with the minimum common requirements established by the Articles of Association of the Federación Española de Asociaciones de Psicoterapeutas (FEAP, Spanish Federation of Psychotherapists’ Associations) to be accredited as psychotherapist.

5.4. Those educational or cultural institutions and, in general, all legally constituted bodies, whether Spanish or not, the social object of which coincides or is complementary to that of the Association, may apply to become a collaborating partner and contribute to the objectives of the Association. The Executive Board shall decide on their admission as well as on the fee or contribution that these bodies shall need to make. The agreements reached with all collaborating partners shall have to be endorsed by the General Assembly of Members.

Article 6. RIGHTS OF THE MEMBERS

6.1. The members of the Association, whatever their category, are entitled:
   a) To attend, with the right to speak and vote, the meetings of the General Assembly of Members, as long as they have been members for more than three months and notwithstanding the dispositions of sections 6.2, 6.3 and ff.
   b) To submit to the Executive Board, in writing, any suggestion or complaint they deem relevant for the good functioning of the Association.
   c) To request information on the progress of the Association, so that at any moment they can consult the Minutes Book, the Accounting Books or the Members Registration Book.
   d) To participate in all the activities organised by the Association.
   e) To challenge, within thirty days from their publication, the agreements of the Executive Board that may be contrary to the Articles of Association or the Law. In order to do so, they shall gather the support of at least 10 percent of the members of the Association. Within a month, an ordinary or extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly of Members shall be called to decide on the nullity of the agreement. In the event of third parties being affected by the agreement, the revocation shall be requested to the corresponding judicial body.
   f) To elect and be elected for positions in the Executive Board in accordance with article 14 of the present Articles of Association.

6.2. Full members shall also be entitled to vote for the nomination of new full members by the General Assembly of Members.

6.3. Senior members, in addition to the rights specified in the two previous sections, are also entitled:
   a) To vote for the nomination of new senior members by the General Assembly of Members.
   b) To join the Training Commission described in article 5.4 of the present Articles of Association.

Article 7. OBLIGATIONS OF THE MEMBERS

   a) To be committed with the objectives of the Association and actively work to attain them.
   b) To comply with the agreements validly adopted by the governing bodies of the Association.
   c) To partake economically in the maintenance of the Association and its activities through the payment of fees, assessments and other contributions established by agreement of the General Assembly of Members.
   d) To loyally perform the tasks assigned to them as members of the Executive Board, in the event of their being elected to any of the positions in it.
   e) To attend the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly of Members.
   f) To comply with the rest of the obligations described in the present Articles of Association or the Law.

Article 8. LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association may be lost for any of the following reasons:
a) Voluntary resignation submitted in writing to the Executive Board.
b) Discharge by the Executive Board due to unjustified failure in paying two annual membership fees.
c) Expulsion due to serious misconduct in accordance with article 20 of the present Articles of Association.

Article 9. GOVERNING BODIES
The association is governed by the following bodies:
   a) The General Assembly of Members
   b) The Executive Board

Article 10. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS
The General Assembly of Members is the supreme body of the Association and is composed by the totality of its members. All members shall have the right to speak and vote at the Assembly, notwithstanding the specifications of article 6. The Assembly shall meet in ordinary session once a year for the fulfilment of at least those functions described in points a), b), e) and f) of article 11 of the present Articles of Association. The Assembly shall meet in extraordinary session as often as the Executive Board deems necessary or timely, or any time 10 percent of the members of the Association request it in writing to the secretary of the Association.

Article 11. POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS
It is the obligation of the General Assembly of Members:
   a) To examine and approve, where applicable, the annual report on the state of the Association submitted by the Executive Board.
   b) To examine and approve the annual accounts and budget of the Association.
   c) To establish the fees, assessments and ordinary and extraordinary contributions that the members shall pay to the Association.
   d) To ensure compliance with the objectives of the Association and to guarantee the ethical performance of the members of the Executive Board.
   e) To nominate full and senior members in the terms established in articles 5 and 6 of the present Articles of Association.
   f) To elect and discharge the members of the Executive Board.
   g) To amend the present Articles of Association. For this purpose, the favourable vote of the absolute majority of members present or represented at the Assembly meeting shall be necessary.
   h) To dissolve the Association.
   i) To perform any other task determined by the Law or the present Articles of Association.

Article 12. CONVENING AND CONSTITUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS
The General Assembly of Members shall be convened by the Executive Board at least fifteen days before the meeting. It shall be validly constituted at first call when half plus one of the members of the Association are present. In the event of lack of quorum at first call, the General Assembly shall meet at second call, at least half an hour later, and shall be validly constituted whatever the number of attendants.

The General Assembly meeting agenda shall be decided by the Executive Board and included in the call notice, taking into consideration the requests submitted in writing by the members. The requests supported by at least 10 percent of the members of the Association shall necessarily be included in the agenda.

New requests may also be included in the agenda during the meeting, but any agreement on issues not included in the call notice shall only be adopted when a majority of three quarters of the attending members approve it.
The president and secretary of the Executive Board shall act as president and secretary of the General Assembly meeting. In the event of their not being present or of their positions being vacant, the attending members shall designate the president and secretary of the General Assembly at the outset of the meeting. The meeting shall be convened to the members by postal or electronic mail.

**Article 13. ADOPTION OF AGREEMENTS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

To validate agreements, a simple majority of favourable votes of the members present or represented at the General Assembly meeting shall be necessary. Nevertheless, the modification of the present Articles of Association shall require the absolute majority of votes of those members, in accordance with the dispositions of article 11.g) of these Articles of Association or where specified by the Law.

Agreement on the nomination of new full members shall be reached by the absolute majority of votes of the full and senior members present or represented at the General Assembly meeting. The appointment of new senior members shall be approved by the favourable vote of at least two thirds of the senior members present or represented at the General Assembly meeting.

All members of the Association who are not able to attend the General Assembly meeting shall be able to delegate their voting power to another member through a written authorisation submitted to the secretary of the Executive Board.

The agreements adopted by the General Assembly shall be included in the minutes of the meeting and registered on the Minutes Book. The minutes of the General Assembly meeting shall be approved by the General Assembly at the end of the session or during the next following meeting. The agreements shall be effective from the date of their adoption.

Once approved, the minutes shall be signed by the secretary and president of the meeting and incorporated to the Minutes Book.

**Article 14. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board is the executive body of the association and shall be composed by a president, a secretary, a treasurer and two or more chairpersons elected among the members of the Association by the General Assembly. Positions in the Executive Board are held for a two-year term, though re-election is possible. The renewal of positions in the Executive Board shall be done in such a way as to allow, where possible, continuity of management with the outgoing Board.

Members of the Association who have been so for at least one year are eligible for a position in the Executive Board. They may stand for election at the General Assembly meeting, whether individually or collectively, in conjunction with other members, either in open or closed lists.

In the event of vacancies occurring during the term, the Executive Board may temporarily appoint substitutes to fill in the vacant positions, selecting them among the members of the Association, until a General Assembly meeting is called to proceed with the corresponding election.

The Executive Board is competent in all that regards the management of ordinary issues of the Association that do not require the agreement of the General Assembly of Members, as well as to interpret the Articles of Association and the rules of the Association and, in general, to promote and ensure compliance with the objectives of the Association.

**Article 15. THE ROLE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

15.1. The president is the legal representative of the Association, shall act on its behalf and shall be responsible, together with the Executive Board, for the implementation of the agreements adopted by the General Assembly of Members and the Executive Board. The president shall ensure compliance with the Articles of Association, authorise the call of the meetings of the Executive Board and the General Assembly chair those meetings, and approve
the minutes drawn up by the secretary. The president shall represent the Association on all meetings held with other institutions and official or public bodies.

15.2. The secretary shall act as such at the meetings of the General Assembly of Members and the Executive Board, and shall be responsible for drawing up the corresponding minutes. The secretary shall be in charge of the Minutes Book, the Members Registration Book and the documents and files of the Association, as well as of attending to the correspondence of the Association.

15.3. The treasurer shall be in charge of the Accounting Books of the Association and of managing the funds and assets of the Association. The treasurer shall make payments and collections as ordered by the Executive Board, and submit to the Board the financial statement of the current year and a draft budget for the following year.

15.4. The chairpersons shall perform the tasks assigned to them by the General Assembly and, in particular, that of connecting the members of the Association and the Executive Board, transmitting and coordinating the members’ suggestions and requests.

Article 16. THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
The Executive Board shall meet following the call of the secretary, as many times as it is deemed necessary for the good functioning of the Association, but at least once a year, at the request of the president or of half plus one of its members.

The Executive Board shall be validly constituted when half plus one of its members are present. It shall adopt agreements by simple majority, with the president being entitled to a casting vote in the event of a tie vote.

Article 17. ASSETS OF THE ASSOCIATION
The Association shall meet its obligations with all its present and future assets. The members of the Association are not personally accountable for its debts.

The financial resources of the Association consist of the fees, assessments and contributions, whether ordinary or extraordinary, established by the General Assembly of Members, as well as of donations, retributions for the provision of services, interests accrued on its assets, and subsidies.

The profits earned by the Association as a result of its activities shall be exclusively used for the purpose of achieving its objectives, and in no case shall they be distributed among its members or freely transferred to natural or legal persons operating for profit.

Article 18. ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK
The Association shall keep its accounts so that they truly reflect its assets, results and financial situation, in accordance with the relevant specific norms. The members of the Association shall be entitled to consult its Accounting Books in the terms and conditions established by the Executive Board.

The accounts and budgets of the Association shall be annually approved by the ordinary meeting of the General Assembly of Members.

Article 19. DISSOLUTION
The Association may only be dissolved by agreement of two thirds of the members present at the extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly of Members specifically convened for this purpose. In the event of dissolution, the Executive Board shall act as the liquidation committee.

Once all pending obligations are fulfilled, whatever assets may remain shall be donated to a non-profit organisation chosen by the extraordinary General Assembly among those that pursue objectives that are close to those of the Association.

Article 20. DISCIPLINARY REGIME
The Executive Board shall be entitled to sanction all infringements committed by the members of the Association. An infringement is a negligent breach of the obligations imposed by the Articles of Association or the Law. The penalty shall be decided by the Executive Board after taking into consideration the seriousness of the misconduct, its possible reiteration and the real or potential damage that it may cause to both the Association and its members. These penalties may range between a simple warning and expulsion from the Association. The infringement procedure shall be initiated ex officio or as a result of a well-founded report or communication submitted by any member of the Association to the Executive Board. Should the Executive Board consider that the grounds to initiate the sanction proceedings are sufficient, an instructor shall be appointed to handle the file and suggest a solution after meeting with the suspected offender. The final decision must be duly justified and shall be issued by the Executive Board, except when the proposed penalty is the expulsion of the offender.

FIRST FINAL DISPOSITION. These Articles of Association were unanimously approved by the General Assembly of Members at the ordinary meeting held in Elche (Alicante) on March 25, 2007.

SECOND FINAL DISPOSITION: Where no provision is made in the present Articles of Association, Organic Law 1/2002, of March 22, regulating the right of association, and its complementary dispositions shall be applicable.

In Madrid, on July 3, 2007.
Modified in Barcelona 03-29-2009.
Modified in Barcelona on 03-03-2019.