

«THE ROUTES OF THE OLIVE TREE»
OliveTreeRoutes network

STATUTE
No. Reg. 125631945000

2024

INTRODUCTION

Considering:

that the olive tree has for centuries continued to embody the noblest ideals and to symbolise peace, fertility, serenity and prosperity

that its history and culture, part of Mediterranean civilisation, are common to all the peoples of the Mediterranean and that the nutritional value of its products is uniquely beneficial to all the peoples of the world.

that in recent years there has been a significant upward trend in the demand for olive oil and Mediterranean products in general on the major international markets and a preference for the Mediterranean lifestyle.

that olive growing determines the standard of living of thousands of families who are totally dependent on the measures taken to promote the product and that olive growing and production is extremely important for the economies of many Mediterranean countries.

that the Mediterranean, which was once the centre of the world, is coming back into focus and is becoming a centre of attraction through the 'Mediterranean civilisation'.

that the Mediterranean area, which is characterised by its cultural diversity, is in dire need of a basic connecting material, such as the 'olive tree civilisation', which will mitigate the inequalities of our 'neighbourhood' and give a 'new chance' to the Mediterranean of civilisations, reinforcing multiculturalism,

that "once trade promoted civilisation, today civilisation promotes trade",

it is unanimously decided the establishment of a civil non-profit association within the meaning of articles 741 et seq. of the Civil Code, whose Statute, the following, will govern the organization and operation of the Cultural Foundation under the name "THE ROUTES OF THE OLIVE TREE" and will define the conditions for the implementation of all relevant activities, which will be carried out in accordance with the objectives of the partnership.

Article 1 ESTABLISHMENT, NAME

A civil non-profit association is established, governed by articles 741 et seq. Civil Code, under the name of Cultural Foundation "Οι Δρόμοι της Ελιάς". The association will also be able to use its name in Latin characters (OI DROMOI TIS ELIAS) or in translation 'The Routes of the Olive Tree' (English), 'Les Routes de l'Olivier' (French). The distinctive title of the association is OTRoutes (Olive Tree Routes) Network.

Article 2 HEADQUARTERS

1. The registered headquarters of the partnership is Greece and the city of Kalamata. 2. The establishment and operation of branches or chapters or offices of the Foundation for the purpose of strengthening or disseminating its work in other cities or countries, as well as the appointment of representatives in them is possible without requiring an amendment of the present Statute.

Article 3 ROLE - PURPOSE

A) The role of the Cultural Foundation "The Routes of the Olive Tree" is to develop and manage the Network in various countries and to contribute to the sustainable development of the regions, mainly in the wider Mediterranean area, through the promotion of the Olive Tree Civilisation in all its aspects (history, traditions, products, gastronomy, symbolism), as well as other related aspects, mainly of the Mediterranean civilisation. In this context:

1. It seeks to enhance intercultural dialogue through an international network of cooperation between Chambers of Commerce, Universities, Research Centres, civil society organisations and solidarity economy actors.

2. It documents the scope of its activity, plans cultural routes and actions for its promotion with the cooperation of an international scientific committee and in view of existing conditions and

needs.

B) More specifically, its purpose in cooperation with the members of the Network is:

1. to highlight the symbolism and cultural heritage of the olive tree, both tangible and intangible, a unifying element since prehistoric times of the peoples of Europe and the Mediterranean and an integral part of the European cultural heritage of the countries of southern Europe,
2. to contribute to the sustainable and integrated development of olive-growing regions through innovative proposals for thematic - cultural tourism,
3. to promote internationally the beneficial and historically proven properties of olive products in the diet and to promote the role of the olive tree in art, customs and the development of local societies and economies from antiquity to the present day,
4. to highlight and promote the Mediterranean diet internationally through innovative ideas that are distinguished for their sustainability and promote the Mediterranean as a gastronomic destination,
5. to contribute to the introduction and establishment of new, innovative cultural tourism proposals for all ages, in cooperation with bodies and businesses in the tourism sector, for the benefit of local sustainable development,
6. to contribute to the dissemination of relevant know-how through educational programmes and information activities,
7. to strengthen intercultural dialogue for the benefit of peace and sustainable development.
8. to defend cultural diversity and the view that even if we do not own cultural heritage, we are its heirs and must defend this heritage, its ideas, its uniqueness and its cultural potential so that it can be passed on intact to future generations.
9. to contribute to the promotion of economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity between the Member States of the Eurozone, with respect for European values, Europe's cultural heritage, the identity and history of its peoples,
10. to support and/or participate in activist initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development, peace and prosperity.

C) Within its scope and for the achievement of its purpose, especially with regard to international cooperation, the Foundation may also:

- organise and participate in educational and artistic events, conferences, educational workshops and seminars, competitions, exhibitions, and other activities relating to the olive tree, the link between olive oil and other traditional Mediterranean products and their history, civilisation and sustainable development.
- study and design printed and electronic material on the olive tree and Mediterranean civilisation and organise activities to promote the olive tree world, environmental protection, innovation, etc.
- organise national and international itineraries to discover the olive tree civilisation and its places, starting from Greece and the Mediterranean, and in different parts of the world.
- seek international cooperation with credible civil society organisations (such as NGOs, local development agencies, Local Authorities, University networks, agricultural cooperatives, private initiative bodies, etc.) in developing countries, with the aim of improving the quality of life of their inhabitants and reducing poverty. These collaborations will extend and cover the areas of emergency humanitarian aid, as well as development cooperation, in all sectors.
- seek and undertake the implementation of programmes, through the European Union or elsewhere, in the fields of human rights protection, social care and welfare, education, environmental protection, gender equality and any other area that promotes cultural development, educational and living standards and the improvement of society in general.
- participate in partnerships, where and when necessary, in order to achieve its objectives.
- participate in initiatives of other bodies with the same or similar objectives, in LEPLs (Legal Entities of Public Law), in civil associations or partnerships of any form, in Social Cooperatives that operate

legally under Greek and European legislation.

D) Particular attention will be given to the implementation of sustainable actions and programmes of Civil Society Organisations that generate income for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of the population, to the improvement of women's access to local development initiatives, for the benefit of local communities.

Article 4 THE SYMBOLS

The symbols represent the olive tree civilisation and peace, the development and social well-being.
Description:

A. THE LOGO The logo of the "Routes of the Olive Tree" is the ideogram of the olive tree, i.e. the abbreviated way of representing the olive tree on the Linear B tablets, discovered in the Palace of Nestor in the Province of Pylos, Messinia.

B. THE EMBLEM The emblem of the "Routes of the Olive Tree" comes from an amphora dating from 520 BC, also discovered in Pylos (Messinia), and depicts the olive harvest. A boy has climbed the largest of the three olive trees and is hitting the branches with a stick, two men are also hitting the tree, and another boy is picking up the fallen olives and stacking them in his basket. The amphora is in the British Museum.

Copyrights: All rights to the symbols belong exclusively to the Cultural Foundation "The Routes of the Olive Tree"; their use is the obligation and exclusive right of the Foundation.

Article 5 STRUCTURE - OPERATION - DURATION - LEGAL STATUS

1.The Cultural Foundation, managing body of the homonymous Network "The Routes of the Olive Tree" is a non-governmental and non-profit Foundation with the legal form of a civil non-profit association and its duration is indefinite.

2.The Cultural Foundation "The Routes of the Olive Tree" and the present Statute are governed by the provisions of Article 270 of Law 4072/2012, the Greek Civil Code and the Brussels Convention of 29/2/1968 concerning the mutual recognition of companies and legal entities of EEC Regulation (EC) No. 2137/85 and, in addition, International Law. Each provision shall be interpreted as required by good faith and morality and in accordance with the customs of the trade.

3.The decisions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Statute are final. Any disagreement in their application or interpretation may be resolved exclusively by the General Assembly.

4.The association is, according to the above, non-profit, is a legal entity within the meaning of article 784 of the Greek Civil Code and for its debts, the liability of the partners is limited to the amount of their contribution.

Article 6 THE ROUTES OF THE OLIVE TREE NETWORK, THE MEMBERS

A. The Network

A1. The Routes of the Olive Tree Network has a key role in achieving the objectives set because it enables the partnership of institutions, civil society organisations, etc., facilitates the exchange of know-how, ideas and proposals, strengthens cooperation in all sectors in all the countries/regions involved, contributing to the promotion of their comparative advantages and enhancing the prospect of sustainable development in them, through intercultural dialogue between equals.

A2. The Network has international character and especially seeks the active representation and participation of all olive growing countries in it.

A3. The Network is composed of members (private and public sector legal entities, CSOs, etc.) operating in the countries of the wider Euro-Mediterranean area with which a cooperation agreement has been signed or whose support and will to achieve common objectives for the benefit of all parties and regions involved has been expressed in writing or in action.

A4. The composition of the Network is not fixed and will be shaped according to circumstances, the programme of action and the availability of its members.

A5. Due to the international nature of the "Routes of the Olive Tree" network, its operation, the implementation of actions and its expansion are facilitated by the institution of "Ambassadors" (local coordinators). The 'Ambassadors' disseminate and promote the objectives and principles of the Network in their area of responsibility, participate actively in the organisation of cultural routes and other actions and ensure that their countries/regions are widely represented in the Network's activities. The "Ambassadors" submit proposals concerning the Network, the Cultural Routes and other actions, including their organisation, and inform the Executive Office on matters relating to their area of responsibility.

B. The Members

B.1. Members of the association's partnership may be legal entities, foundations, associations, civil Non-Profit Organizations, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), etc. that are active in programmes of sustainable development, development cooperation, cultural management, strengthening of intercultural dialogue, environmental protection, as well as individuals with similar interests or activities.

B.2. Member categories

Members are categorised as: **FOUNDING MEMBERS, SUPPORTING MEMBERS, HONORARY & EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

B.3. Founding members: are considered those who co-sign the Statute of the Cultural Foundation and their participation gave the impetus for the start of this pioneering initiative. The founding members enjoy all the privileges and the annual fee they are obliged to pay is set out in the By-Laws. They may represent the Foundation in Greece and abroad, they are informed regularly and by priority about the activities of the Foundation, they are invited and participate in the General Assembly with the right to vote. Founding members are also considered those who are subsequently registered by unanimous decision of the already registered founding members in accordance with the terms of the present Statute.

B.4. Supporting Members, Friends: Legal entities or individuals who agree with the objectives of the Foundation and the Network and wish to participate in its activities. The status of supporting member is obtained at the request of the interested party and/or on the recommendation of the Executive Director to the Regional Board of Ambassadors, which decides on it, without requiring any amendment to the present Statute. Individuals shall be classified in the sub-category "Friends". Supporting members pay an annual subscription, cooperate or support by any appropriate means the development and sustainability of the route and have privileges, which are described in the By-laws. They are invited to attend General Assemblies, express their views which are recorded but do not have the right to vote.

B.5 Honorary members: The category of honorary members includes entities -regardless of size or legal form- and individuals who have been distinguished for their contribution or action at local, regional, national or international level, and who contribute to the achievement and promotion of the Network's objectives, the visibility or success of its activities and are active in areas such as intercultural dialogue, olive growing, cultural tourism, cultural heritage (tangible and intangible), environmental protection and the protection of traditional know-how of the agricultural sector. The Honorary Members and the Honorary President are appointed by decision of the Regional Board of Ambassadors on the recommendation of the Executive Director/Administrator, participate in the Assemblies, express their opinion and do not have the right to vote.

Ex officio Members : are -through their representatives- public non-profit bodies of national or international scope, with an area of activity relevant to the Network's activity. Ex officio members are the representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, the Ambassadors of the Mediterranean countries in Greece, the "Ambassadors" (national or regional coordinators of the local Routes of the Olive Tree communities), individuals representing the points of interest of the route in their area of responsibility. Honorary members and ex officio members are not obliged to pay an annual subscription to the Foundation, they are invited to participate in the General

Assembly of Members, their views are recorded in the minutes and are put forward for discussion.

Article 7 ADMINISTRATION: GOVERNING BODIES AND COMMITTEES

A. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

B. EXECUTIVE OFFICE

C. Administrator/Executive Director

D. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

E. REGIONAL BOARD OF 'AMBASSADORS'

A1. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

A.1.1.1 The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of the Foundation. Its decisions are final.

A.1.2 The General Assembly is composed of all the founding members of the Network and is held once a year. An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened by reasoned decision of the Executive Director or by written request of at least 1/3 of the founding members.

A.1.3. The place, date and time of the General Assemblies - extraordinary or not - are determined by the Executive Director/Administrator, who must send timely notices - invitations in the most effective way and in accordance with the applicable By-Laws.

A.1.4 The General Assembly has a quorum and meets in a valid manner when half plus one of the founding members are present or represented.

The repeat General Assembly meets validly, regardless of the number of members present. The members of the Network who have fulfilled their financial obligations may participate in the General Assembly either in person or by proxy. The decisions of the General Assembly are taken by open vote (roll call or show of hands), unless a secret vote is requested by 1/3 of the members present.

A2. DUTIES:

A.2.1 Amendment of the Statute. Adopts, amends and interprets the Statute.

A.2.2 Election of Executive Director, Administrator (until recalled by the founding members).

A.2. 3 Approval of the annual accounts and release of the Executive Director/Administrator from any liability.

A.2.4 Approval, amendment or rejection of proposals - regulations and rules submitted by the Executive Director/Administrator concerning the basic principles of organisation and operation of the Foundation.

A.2.5 Approval of the Network's annual activity report, the programming of activities and the budget for the following year.

A.2.6 Election of the Honorary President and Honorary Members of the Network.

A.2.7 Approval of the establishment of branches/chapters/offices of the Network in Greece and abroad following a reasoned recommendation of the Executive Director/Administrator.

A.2.8 Dissolution and liquidation of the association.

A.2.9 The General Assembly decides on any matter that does not fall within the competence of another body.

B. THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

B.1 The Executive Office is responsible for the execution, management and implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly, the forwarding of the opinions/recommendations of the Regional Board of Ambassadors and the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly, according to the procedures defined by the By-laws.

B.2 The Executive Office performs all internal administrative functions. In particular: It is responsible for the communication with members, International Organisations, partners, stakeholders, etc., the implementation of European / National Programmes in which the Foundation and the members of the Network participate, the organisation and promotion of their activities. It establishes the programme of the General Assembly, Committee meetings, organises

workshops, prepares presentations and the annual activity report. It assists the Scientific Committee and the Regional Board of Ambassadors in their work.

B.3 The Executive Office is headed by the Executive Director/Administrator with all the responsibilities assigned to him/her and mentioned in the present Statute, who is assisted by special collaborators with the following responsibilities: International Relations, European & National Programmes, Information Technology, Communication Information, Secretariat, Human Resources Management - Volunteers, Financial, Legal and Administrative Support.

B.4. In the position of Executive Director is appointed the Initiator of the "Routes of the Olive Tree" initiative, Mr. Georgios Karampatos, whose term ends with the unanimous decision of the General Assembly of the founding members.

C. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

-- Ensures the proper functioning of the offices, record keeping, is responsible for the preparation of the annual programme of activities and their execution, submits proposals, opinions and questions to the General Assembly, to the Committees concerning the functioning of the Network and its activities.

--Is responsible for the management of the finances, prepares the annual financial report and submits it to the General Assembly.

--Signs all contracts and agreements and binds the Association by signing under the association name.

--On behalf of the Foundation, he/she draws money, notes, dividends, receives money from community and national programs, grants, subsidies, he/she issues, accepts and endorses bills of exchange and promissory notes, issues and endorses checks, receives checks, receives bills of lading, contracts with banks to open letters of credit and issue letters of guarantee, issues payment orders on behalf of the association and generally manages and contracts on behalf of the association and arranges and draws down loans and credits on open account and makes use of them.

--Monitors the operation of the Network, decides on the participation of members in national or Community programmes as leader or as a partner in a consortium.

-- Staffs and organises the Executive Office, selects the most appropriate colleagues for the planning and implementation of the Network's activities and decides on the promotion or termination of cooperation.

-- Has the right to hire, on a fixed-term contract, external collaborators specialised in the planning and implementation of all types of development projects consistent with the objectives of the Network.

--Recommends to the General Assembly members of the Scientific Committee, the Regional Board of Ambassadors and informs its members about its recommendations and activities.

--Takes all actions to ensure that the provisions of the Statute are properly executed and consequently the proper functioning of the Foundation for the achievement of its objectives.

--Appoints working groups and committees, selects their members and determines their remuneration and the end of their term. He/she is an informal member of the working groups and takes the chair when he/she attends their meetings.

--Decides on any other management or corporate matters other than those mentioned above, provided they are within the limits defined by the association's purpose. The acts of the Executive Director and representative of the Network acting under the association name and on behalf of the partnership shall be binding on the association.

--By his/her decision he/she may delegate some of his/her responsibilities to a simple member of the Network.

D. THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

D.1. Composition & Duration

The Scientific Committee of the Foundation is composed of reputable scientists, with specialization, professional involvement or experience in matters related to the cultural routes and other activities of the Network, who accept its Statute and wish to support its work. The role of the members of the Committee is advisory.

D.2. Responsibilities of the Scientific Committee

- To promote the work and objectives of the Network by any appropriate means or manner and to support its activities.
- Participates in the planning of the routes and is responsible for the planning of actions to promote the olive tree heritage.
- Recommends and assists in the implementation of activities such as conferences, workshops, lectures, surveys and seminars
- Gives opinions on requests for the inclusion in the cultural routes of areas, cultural monuments, etc. relating to olive the olive tree heritage.
- Participates in the preparation of the Foundation's educational programme by proposing scientific seminars on subjects related to the Cultural Routes, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development, etc.
- Establishes links with scientists and other potential partners to strengthen the Foundation's work and expand its network in all areas.
- Advises on decisions and choices of the Foundation to be in line with the principles and values of the Council of Europe and UNESCO.

E. THE REGIONAL BOARD 'AMBASSADORS'

E.1. Its role is important for the guidance and development of strategies in accordance with the purposes of the present Statute. Its members come from different countries and therefore its main concern and responsibility is to strengthen the cooperation between the members and the regions involved. It has no executive power, but its proposals and recommendations are forwarded by the Executive Director to the General Assembly as a main item on the agenda entitled "Introduction of the Regional Board of Ambassadors" and can significantly influence the decision making by the executive bodies.

E.2. The member countries of the Routes of the Olive Tree Network are represented at the Regional Board. The election procedure, the term of the members of the Regional Board, their duties and responsibilities are described in the By-laws.

Article 8 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official languages of the Cultural Foundation and the "Routes of the Olive Tree" Network are: Greek, French and English.

Article 9 RESOURCES - REVENUE - TRANSPARENCY

1. The Foundation shall be established without initial capital.
2. In the first meeting, the contribution of each member shall be determined by unanimity and the criteria for the distribution of shares among the members shall be determined by a simple majority. In addition to monetary contributions, members have the right to make contributions in kind / intangible goods (e.g. free use of buildings, secretarial support and any other kind of contribution that serves the implementation of the Network's activities and initiatives without any exchange.
3. Other resources of the Network are from members' subscriptions, participation in cultural routes, sponsorships, grants, subsidies, donations, all kinds of benefits and funding, gifts and bequests and from other legitimate sources that will enable it to carry out its objectives.
4. The financial management of the Foundation shall be subject to an annual independent audit and to a regular audit by the Council of Europe. The relevant annual financial statement must be finalised in time before the ordinary General Assembly and must be publicly available, in the same

way, the current Statute, a summary of the minutes of the General Assembly and the lists of the Network's governing bodies must be publicly available.

Article 10 LIABILITY OF THE CIVIL ASSOCIATION - MEMBERS

The association is not liable for any related or similar to its objectives external activities of its members, whether professional or prior to its establishment or concurrent with its operation. The members of the association shall not be liable for the debts or other obligations of the association to third parties beyond the amount of their contribution which has been deposited and constitutes an asset of the association.

Article 11 ASSETS-CAPITAL OF THE FOUNDATION

The Cultural Foundation "The Routes of the Olive Tree" is non-profit and therefore there is no distribution of profits to its members during its operation or its dissolution. The funds of the Foundation are never distributed to its members, but are available throughout its operation for the realization of its objectives.

Article 12 TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

A. Dissolution of the Foundation:

1.It is made on the recommendation of the Executive Director to the Regional Board, which informs the founding members by calling a General Assembly, which decides by unanimity.

2.After the dissolution of the Foundation, it is automatically liquidated, in accordance with the relevant Greek laws. The General Assembly appoints the liquidator. In this case, all assets free of encumbrances shall be transferred to a body decided by the Founding Members.

B. Outgoing or Deleted Members:

1.An outgoing or deleted member may not claim any amount from the Network's property, derived from its activities, third party benefits, grants or any other cause. 2.In the event of death, court interdiction or bankruptcy, the Foundation and the Network shall continue among the others.

Γ. Denunciation of the Foundation (the Network):

In case of denunciation by a member, the partnership continues among the others. If the denunciation was made without serious cause, the member who made the denunciation shall be obliged to compensate the Foundation and the Network for any damage caused by his/her denunciation.

FINANCIAL YEAR - RESULTS - AUDIT – BOOKS

Article 13 FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year begins on 1 January and ends on 31 December of each year. By way of exception, the first financial year shall begin on the date of filing of the present amended Statute with the competent Public Service of Kalamata and the relevant Court of First Instance.

Article 14 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

At the end of each financial year, the annual financial statements are prepared by the Executive Office and are submitted by the Executive Director/Administrator to the General Assembly for approval.

Article 15 AUDIT - SUPERVISORY BOARD

The audit of the financial statement of the annual accounts and the management is entrusted to an external Accountant of Class A with the right to sign Balance Sheets in accordance with the Greek legislation.

Article 16 REGULATIONS - ETHICAL RULES

The rights, the obligations of the members and any other matter not described in the present Statute are specified in the By-Laws drawn up by the Executive Office and approved by the General Assembly. The General Assembly may impose sanctions on the members of the Network, as long as they endanger the interests of the Network/Foundation, which are the following: a. simple reprimand, b. expulsion for a specific time period to be announced by the General Assembly.

Article 17 BOOK KEEPING

In addition to what is required by the Greek and European legislation, the Foundation shall keep in electronic form a book of minutes of the General Assembly, of the decisions of the Executive Office, of the Administrator/Executive Director, of the work of the Scientific Committee, of the meetings of the Regional Board 'Ambassadors', keeps a book of members, financial status and assets.

The present Statute will be filed at the General Registry of the Chamber of Messinia. To the credit of the parties, the present Statute was drawn up and after being read and attested by the parties, it was signed as follows:

By order of the General Assembly of the Foundation of 25 November 2023

The President of the General Assembly
Marinella (Kanella) Katsilieri

The Secretary of the General Assembly.
Georgios Tsiris

The Authorised Executive Director and Administrator
Georgios Karampatos