

L.N. 55 of 2018

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**STATUTE FOR THE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF
CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74(5) and 75(6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following Statute made by the Council of the University of Malta in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by articles 72(h), 75(2) and 77(c) of the said Act:

Citation

1. This statute may be cited as the Statute for the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution.

Interpretation

2. In this Statute, unless the context otherwise requires:

“the Board” shall mean the Board of the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution; and

“the Centre” shall mean the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution.

Establishment

3. The Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution is hereby established as an institution within the University of Malta.

Objectives and Functions

4. The aims of the Centre shall be:

- (a) to conduct studies and academic research in any of the following fields:
 - the deep-rooted causes of interpersonal, communal, national and international conflict and the connections among these levels of conflict;
 - the relationship between human rights and conflict;

- the relationship between justice and conflict;
- the relationship between law and conflict;
- conflict emerging from migration and integration in the domestic and international spheres; and
- conflict resolution practice, including assessment, evaluation and other forms of research that focus on improving the practice of conflict resolution.

(b) to promote research-informed conflict resolution practice through capacity-building in the facilitation, mediation, resolution and transformation of conflicts;

(c) to design, run and evaluate conflict interventions such as community dialogues, problem solving workshops, negotiations and consensus-building initiatives;

(d) to design, run and evaluate short trainings in any of the areas within the scope of the Centre;

(e) to conduct academic programmes in the discipline/s within the scope of the Centre;

(f) to provide continuous education both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels within the scope of the Centre subject to the Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University;

(g) to collaborate with European and international institutions with the aim to enhance the profile of the Centre within the regional, European and international research area, in areas related to conflict analysis and conflict resolution and any of the disciplines referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this article; and

(h) to disseminate acquired knowledge through online media, publications, seminars, conferences and teaching programmes.

Governance

5. The Centre shall be governed by a Board that shall consist of the following:

- (i) Chairperson: Rector or his delegate;
- (ii) Vice-Chairperson: Director of the Centre;
- (iii) a person appointed by the Council of the University;
- (iv) two persons appointed by the Senate of the University, of whom, one from the Faculty of Laws and one from the Department of International Relations;
- (v) two academics nominated by the School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University, Virginia, USA;

- (vi) one representative of the students registered within the Centre; and
- (vii) one representative of the academic staff lecturing or conducting research within the Centre.

The Registrar or her delegate shall act as Secretary to the Board.

6. All members of the Board, other than those appointed *ex officio*, any representatives of the academic staff and any representatives of the students shall be appointed for a period of one year, renewable for up to four years. A retiring member shall be eligible for re-appointment.

7. The functions of the Board shall be:

(a) to govern the affairs of the Centre, subject to the provisions of these statutes and of such regulations, policies or directions as may from time to time be approved by the Council and the Senate;

(b) to decide the policy of the Centre, to supervise its activities and administration, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Board may:

(i) approve business plans and annual estimates of revenue and expenditure of the Centre for consideration and approval by the Council;

(ii) with the written concurrence of the Rector, enter into agreements with third parties for funding of the Centre or of particular activities;

(iii) publish an annual report;

(iv) enrol the Centre in associations or institutions sharing similar aims and interests;

(v) propose regulations and bye-laws to the Senate;

(vi) require staff members of the Centre to produce reports on academic matters, including the curricula of courses of study, qualifications for admission to courses, examinations and certificates of attendance or qualification;

(vii) recommend to the Council the creation or removal of academic and non-academic posts in the Centre; and

(viii) propose for approval to the Senate, Board of Studies and Boards of Examiners for undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Appointment of Director and Staff

8. The Centre shall have a Director and Staff:

(a) the Director of the Centre shall be appointed according to the procedure for the appointment of Directors of Institutes and Centres as approved by the Council of the University, for a duration of one year, with the possibility of renewal annually subject to established performance criteria, the needs of the Centre and the needs of the University, for a total period not exceeding four (4) years; and

(b) the staff of the Centre shall be appointed by the University according to the usual practice.

Duties of the Director

9. The duties of the Director/Vice-Chairperson of the Centre shall include:

(a) promoting the development and implementation of the research and practice agenda of the Centre;

(b) developing and organizing the implementation of academic programmes as deemed appropriate by the Board: this duty shall entail (i) compiling and submitting to the Registrar by the time stipulated by Senate, an updated comprehensive prospectus of any courses offered by the Centre including descriptions of all current and projected study-units as per guidelines established by the Programme Validation Committee and ensuring that the study-units are delivered as advertised; (ii) monitoring the running of examinations and ensuring that all assessment and examination results are submitted to the Registrar by the stipulated deadlines; (iii) promoting students' academic and personal welfare, providing first-line support to students with any difficulties they may encounter during their studies related to the activities of the Centre;

(c) delivering and implementing the strategic plan of the Centre under the guidance of the Board;

(d) administering the Centre in full consultation with the members; monitoring and approving requests for leave of absence of members of the Centre; maintaining records of all leave taken by members and passing on these records to the Director of Human Resources Management and Development upon request;

(e) encouraging and facilitating co-operation with other universities and other institutions;

(f) chairing meetings of the Board in the absence and with the permission of the Chairperson;

(g) ensuring and facilitating the further development and training of academic and administrative staff;

(h) participating at any meeting of the University congruent with the post;

(i) representing the Centre during official functions of the University;

(j) compiling and submitting to the Secretary of the University by the end of September of each academic year, an annual report outlining the activities of the Centre for the outgoing year, which should include, amongst others, information that may be requested by the Secretary: a comprehensive list of recent publications of all members of the Centre; a synopsis of all projects involving members of the Centre which are wholly or partially externally funded; a list of all conferences/seminars/meetings attended abroad by members of the Centre during term time; and an outline of the Centre's collaboration with third parties including local industry, Government or civil society at large;

(k) compiling and submitting to the Director of Finance of the University by not later than end of May of each academic year budgetary estimates for the following year;

(l) monitoring the performance of the administrative staff attached to the Centre;

(m) authorising the Centre's procurement of any equipment as required for the proper and efficient running of the Centre;

(n) performing other duties which may be assigned by the University from time to time.

10. The Director moreover:

(a) is to report directly to the Chairperson of the Board governing the Centre and shall collaborate with all senior administrative officers of the University;

(b) shall normally be a Resident Academic engaged with the University on a full-time basis for the duration of his tenure as Director of the Centre;

(c) shall not be engaged in any other activity outside the University which may be in conflict with, or distract him from, his duties at the University;

(d) is expected to be present on campus or any designated University of Malta site at least during normal office hours from Monday to Friday throughout the year subject to the exigencies of an academic in accordance with the University's practices and needs and subject to normal leave entitlement and public holidays as

provided for at law; should his absence be necessary and justified he must ensure that he is contactable through the secretarial staff of the Centre;

(e) shall not give access to any information to any third party that is not associated with the University of Malta, about any work or data that relates to tasks conducted at the University of Malta without the prior approval of the University of Malta; all work carried out within the Centre must be treated according to Maltese data protection legislation; and

(f) is to abide with the statutes, regulations, bye-laws and policies of the University of Malta, which are in force now or will become effective during his/her tenure.

The Treasurer

11. The Director of Finance of the University shall be the Treasurer of the Centre.