



## MOTION FORM

FOR SERVAS INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (SIGA) 2025

**1. Heading for the proposal in this motion (No more than 10 words)**

Reorganising the introduction and article 1 of Servas International's statutes

**2. Date and place for this motion.**

October 2025, at Sicoga in Dijon

**3. SI member group(s) or SI EXCO member(s) who is (are) responsible for this motion.**

Note that only SI Member Groups or SI Executive Committee (SI EXCO, Servas International's global board) may propose motions for a SIGA.

Servas-France, Servas Germany, Servas Portugal

**4. Exact wording of the proposal to be voted on.**

We propose that SIGA 2025 approves that (one or more goals and/or actions):

- the new version of the introduction and Article 1 of the Servas International Statutes which reorganises the existing text, without deleting any elements contained in the text and without adding any new ideas.

Please note that SIGA 2025 must be able to vote YES, NO or ABSTAIN on a SIGA proposal.

**5. Implications on SI Statutes 2024.** The SI Statutes are accessible on the internet here:

<https://servas.org/administration-archive>

**Will this proposal affect the SI statutes and therefore create a need for a change in the SI statutes? YES** If the answer is yes, please:

5A) Copy the part of the SI statutes that you suggest should be amended

5B) Write the exact proposed new wording in the SI Statutes here:

**5A) Copy the part of the SI statutes that you suggest should be amended**

"Servas International, a non-profit association incorporated under Articles 60 to 79 of the Civil Code of Switzerland, and in conformity with Swiss law, currently having its legal domicile in Zurich, Switzerland, hereby adopts the following statutes, repealing all previously adopted statutes:

## **1. Definition**

Servas International has the overarching, long-term vision of a peaceful world, and its mission is to contribute to achieving this goal.

### **1.1 Principles, Ethos and Values, Vision and Mission**

**Principles:** The first fundamental principle of Servas International is the belief in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of all human beings as well as the conviction that respect and care of the environment lay as a foundation for a more peaceful world.

**Ethos and Values:** We, the members of Servas, believe that our lives are enriched when we meet, interact, share and learn from each other. Our key values are caring for people and the planet.

**Vision and Mission:** The aim of the networking is to create conditions for exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge that promote tolerance and understanding between the peoples of the world. We aim to do this in a way that is in keeping with our principles and values.

### **1.2. Purpose**

The purpose of the association is to provide and develop opportunities for personal contacts between people of different nationalities, cultures, ethnic and religious backgrounds. that promote tolerance and understanding between people worldwide.

To realise our goals of “a peaceful world”, we work as follows:

Servas International is an accredited non-governmental organisation with the three UN agencies: New York, Geneva and Vienna. Three groups (five Servas members each) regularly attend the UN meetings and participate in sub-groups. Opportunities for official statements are used as often as possible. With this peace work, we can work on the realisation of our vision.

The members of Servas promote peaceful coexistence by living the following values:

- Friendship based on openness, trust and respect.
- Hospitality and generosity through travel, hosting guests and other opportunities to meet.
- Diversity and inclusion that extends far across cultures, traditions and religions.

### **1.3. Organisation & structure**

**Organisation & structure:** Servas International is an international, nonprofit, non- governmental federative organisation of national Servas member groups, interest groups and individual members, which at its core encompass an international network of hosts and travellers who share these principles. The purpose of the network is to provide and develop opportunities for personal contacts between people of different nationalities, cultures, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

### **1.4. The association pursues neither profit-making nor self-help purposes.**

### **1.5. Means**

The association has the following means at its disposal for the pursuit of its objects:

- Fee of the national Servas groups
- Donations and contributions of all kinds
- Legacies”

**5B) Write the exact proposed new wording in the SI Statutes here**

“Servas International, a non-profit association incorporated under Articles 60 to 79 of the Civil Code of Switzerland, and in conformity with Swiss law, currently having its legal domicile in Zurich, Switzerland, hereby adopts the following statutes, repealing all previously adopted statutes.

Servas International is an accredited non-governmental organisation with the three UN agencies: New York, Geneva and Vienna.

**Fundamental principle and values**

The fundamental principle of Servas International is the belief in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of all human beings as well as the conviction that respect and care of the environment lay as a foundation for a more peaceful world.

Our key values are caring for people and the planet, tolerance, openness, hospitality and generosity.

**1. Definition**

Servas International is an international network of hosts and travellers which has the overarching, long-term vision of a peaceful world, and its mission is to contribute to achieving this goal.

**1.2. Purpose**

The purpose of Servas is to develop friendship based on trust and respect, to improve tolerance and understanding between the peoples worldwide, to promote peaceful coexistence, diversity and inclusion that extends far across cultures, traditions and religions, in order to contribute to world peace.

The association pursues neither profit-making nor self-help purposes.

**1.3. Means**

Through travel, hosting guests and other opportunities to meet, Servas provides and develops opportunities for personal contacts between people of different nationalities, cultures, ethnic and religious backgrounds, thereby creating conditions for exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. In this way, Servas enables its members to interact, share, learn from each other and enrich each other's lives.

**1.4. Organisation & structure**

Servas International is an international, nonprofit, non- governmental federative organisation of national Servas member groups, interest groups and individual members.

Three groups (five Servas members each) regularly attend the UN meetings and participate in sub-groups. Opportunities for official statements are used as often as possible.

**1.5. Financial means**

The association has the following means at its disposal for the pursuit of its objects:

- Fee of the national Servas groups
- Donations and contributions of all kinds
- Legacies”

**6. Explanation for the motion.** The motivation must contain a clear description of the benefit of this proposal for the Servas community; its member groups, individual members and Servas International as an international non-governmental organisation. It should also contain information on how it is different from current practice. It should indicate how the proposal is intended be implemented. Finally, the motion should explain the metrics that will be used to measure benefits from this proposal.

SIGA 2025 should approve this motion because (one or more motivations):

- The purpose of this motion is to clarify the purpose of Servas International with reference to and in accordance with the legal framework proposed by the CAGI (Welcome Centre of International Geneva), given that SI is an association registered in Switzerland. ([Model statutes of the CAGI](#))
- The current text is the result of numerous additions and amendments made over the years, making it less clear. ([comparative table explaining the proposal](#))
- In order to mobilise members around the same project and to ensure that this project is clearly shared, the object of an association must not allow for divergent interpretations in its wording. It must be clear and comprehensible to all members. In addition, a confusing wording gives way to different interpretations of the identity of the association and is liable to weaken it.
- The statutes must clearly set out the purpose of the association and the activities carried out to achieve this purpose. In their object, they delimit its field of action.
- The simple reorganisation of the introduction and article 1 of the current statutes that we are proposing, with a matching of the headings and content of the paragraphs, will make it possible to clearly present the characteristics of Servas as an NGO, its values, its identity, its purpose, its activities, its organisation and structure, and its financial resources.

## **7. SI budget implications**

Describe what financial resources are needed to accomplish the aims of this motion.

Use the money currency Swiss francs, which is the currency used for SI's budget:

- Costs of translation, verification of conformity with Swiss legislation, and registration: about 3000CHF.

## **8. Other resources needed – time, experts with specialist competences or knowledge or other human resources.**

- A person in charge of administrative procedures in Switzerland

**9. Proposed timeline/timetable for accomplishing the aims of the proposal?**

The proposed action should ideally:

Start on this date:

- Date of SIGA 2025 approval of the motion.

Be accomplished on this date:

- The amendment will be recorded in the Statutes within one month of the date on which SIGA 2025 approves the motion.

The person(s) or group(s) will report the results of this motion to SI Exco:

- SI secretary

**10. Which person(s) writes/write this motion and is/are responsible for the proposal?****Name and Functions/titles in Servas of the writers of this motion:**

Annie Bonnefont, regional coordinator, ServasOnline User ID 3469

Céline Boute, vice-présidente, User ID 4397

Geneviève Lebouteux, regional coordinator, User ID 3227

Marie-Brigitte Sarbach, président, User ID: 3444

In collaboration with the other members of the Board of Directors

**Responsible for this motion:**

Servas-France

**Contact information**

Email address/adresses:

[president.e@servas-france.org](mailto:president.e@servas-france.org)

[vicepresident@servas-france.org](mailto:vicepresident@servas-france.org)

Mobile number/numbers (Signal, WhatsApp etc):

Céline Boute: +33628324512 on WhatsApp

Marie-Brigitte Sarbach: +33625825427 on WhatsApp

If applicable:

Other communication channels:

**11. Who or which group will be responsible for accomplishing the aim/aims of the proposal in this motion? (SI committee, SI Team, SI member group or Servas individual member/members.**

- EXCO

**For SI Exco Use Only:**

<b>12. SI Exco comment on this motion</b>
Date: 2025-MONTH-DAY Comment:

**For Minute Taker Use Only:**

<b>13. Amendments (Passed or defeated)</b>