

**3<sup>er</sup> CONGRESO DE LA UIS  
PyJ DE LA FSM**

15 y 16 de abril 2024 - Atenas

*Reforcemos la  
organización mundial de  
pensionistas de la FSM*

**3<sup>rd</sup> CONGRESS OF  
THE WFTU TUI P&R**

April 15-16, 2024 - Athens

*Let's strengthen the  
International pensioners'  
organization of the WFTU*

**3<sup>ème</sup> CONGRÈS DE L' UIS  
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**3<sup>ο</sup> ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΟ  
ΤΗΣ ΔΙΕΘΝΟΥΣ  
ΚΛΑΔΙΚΗΣ ΟΡΓΑΝΩΣΗΣ  
ΣΥΝΤΑΞΙΟΥΧΩΝ  
ΤΗΣ ΠΣΟ**

15 - 16 Απρίλη 2024 - Αθήνα

*Ενδυναμώνουμε  
την Διεθνή Οργάνωση  
των Συνταξιούχων της ΠΣΟ*



**Pensionistas  
y Jubilados**

UIS de la FSM

**PROPOSAL TO AMEND  
THE STATUTES**



## **INTERVENTION BY LYSSYMACOS AT THE III CONGRESS**

Five years have passed since the Second Congress, during which time I was only able to communicate with you through graphics, videos, and a few documents in my capacity as propaganda secretary of the TUI. Now that I'm here in person, I've been asked to talk about the reasons for the statutes changes and the importance of the ideological struggle.

In December 2023, I already explained the proposal to reform the statutes. I pointed out then that our TUI could be better if each of the responsibilities were fulfilled, but for various reasons, some things have not been fulfilled. The proof of this is that when we read the reports or listen to them at the various meetings we have held, a report on the national situation of your country is substituted for a report on what has been done in accordance with the global or regional function or responsibility of the organisation.

In the event of repeated non-compliance with a function, the person responsible should be replaced, without having to wait until the end of the period to be replaced at the next congress, which is part of the proposal we are making.

In the proposal for a better functioning of our organisation, only a few statutory modifications appear, which must be accompanied by changes in behaviour and personal attitudes, of each of us who occupy management functions in the TUI, but also of all our militancy. It will never be enough to make changes on paper without changing attitudes, behaviours, and skills.

The explanatory statement, the principles and the programme remain unchanged; it is in the section corresponding to the Articles of Association that changes have been made:

Article 15 is new, it doesn't change anything, it just recognises what happens during the Congress, so all the organisations that exist before the Congress disappear.

Article 25 mentions the secretary or deputy general secretary, who previously appeared in Article 24, which existed on paper but not in reality; from now on, the secretary or deputy general secretary will be appointed and will exercise his functions.

Previously, there were 5 vice-presidencies, but as the presidency is global, these vice-presidencies were not global but rather regional and for this reason they are now called the vice-secretariats of the Organisation which will act and work with the Secretariat of the Organisation, they are incorporated into the structure of each of the 6 regional secretariats that we have today, these 6 vice-secretariats plus the 7 secretariats, they will form the Executive Council, which will have members as members. This is what we will call the leaders who represent specific regions.

At the same time, a true vice-presidency is being created to ensure that the president can be replaced if necessary. In future, we should extend this replacement provision to all responsibilities.

On the other hand, propaganda tasks, in an organisation like ours, are propaganda with a deep criterion and ideological meaning; a large part of the propaganda is aimed at ed-

education, ideological orientation and has a class content. Propaganda and education go hand in hand, which is why it is proposed that these two secretariats form part of a new secretariat, called the Ideological Secretariat, which will combine the functions of education and propaganda.

The Technical and Research Committee, which has not had much activity either, has been reduced to two, due to the needs of our operation. A Study and Research Committee which will coordinate its activities with the Ideological Secretariat, being a support for the preparation of proposals, documents and training, and a new Technical Committee for Translation and Information Technology, which will aim to ensure good collective functioning in two areas: that of translations and that of information technology.

In addition, to give a graphic idea of our organic structure, we have also created an organisation chart.

We are making progress, but the class enemy is not sleeping and will not sleep as long as he is alive. That's why we need to look back at how far we've come, to realise the mistakes we've made, to correct what needs to be corrected, and to do that we need a statutes reform that will allow us to continue to advance in the fight for our demands, our economic rights and our political interests, which can only be the seizure of power by the working class.

All our propaganda must be blurred, smeared, covered with ideology, with our class position. And our whole class position, our thinking and our struggle must be the subject of propaganda. Propaganda and ideology go hand in hand, but both require financial means, because if we don't have resources, we can't do much.

That's why, although I've been working on proposals for statutes reform, I realised in the run-up to this Congress that we needed to go a little further, to be a little more demanding of ourselves, and that's why, last March, I circulated an additional proposal, so that Congress could express itself on the subject, aimed at adding three articles to the Articles of Association, dealing with ideological training, finances, communication and propaganda, which would be found in Chapter VI - Rights and Obligations, numbered as Articles 47, 48 and 49.

**Article 47-** All ISU activists, and particularly those who exercise a certain level of leadership or participation in the organisations and committees that make up the P&J ISU, have the obligation to strive to continually raise their ideological level, both through educational events and through study and self-education.

**Article 48-** Each member of the UIS must contribute to its organisation as far as he or she is able.

Anyone who belongs to the P&R UIS and who does not contribute or does not contribute to a national pensioners' organisation must do so directly to the world organisation (UIS).

In the case of members and organisations of the UIS Division, all must, as far as possible, be taxpayers of the UIS.



**Article 49** - Those in leadership positions within the TUI, both in world and regional and national organisations, shall establish virtual communications networks for the dissemination of our materials, statements, activities, and all matters relating to the propaganda, education and organisation of the TUI of the WFTU P&R.

This last article is an insistence I made shortly after the second Congress, to no avail. We can do great things, we can have great ideas, we can devise great propaganda or ideological education materials, but they don't come down, in some cases they get to the administration and don't go from there. There are statistics on the number of times documents published on the Internet are opened, and very often this number is lower than that of colleagues in management positions.

We must create regional networks that lead to national networks and, in each country, distribute local networks so that regional, national and trade union organisations know what we are doing and what we think. We must confront the big transnational media companies, through which the bosses, the bourgeoisie, the imperialists and one of their masks, social democracy, broadcast their messages every day, and how are ours broadcast?

The media and the education system in most countries of the world are fundamentally ideological devices of the capitalist system and can therefore only produce, disseminate, and spread the capitalist system further. Anti-capitalism and anti-imperialism can only come from the ideological economic theory of the working class in permanent struggle with the bourgeoisie, it is the obligatory development of the class struggle and class organisations like our TUI participate in this struggle.

The bombings in the Gaza Strip are obvious, visible, and tangible, we condemn the genocide, but in the rest of the planet we are bombarded ideologically every day, imperceptibly, through the various mechanisms and theories of social democracy. This is why we see that many trade union organisations and many of their leaders, as well as international organisations, are preparing and delivering more and more «light speeches», sugar-free, lactose-free, fat-free, low-calorie, where anti-neoliberalism is just the sweetener. It's like waging war with rubber bullets. Our aim is not just to be anti-neoliberal, we are fundamentally anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist.

Retirement only concerns the world of work, but we are not withdrawing from life, any more than we are withdrawing from rights or from the fight for them. This struggle for life, the struggle of the most experienced in the world of work, is the struggle represented by our world organisation, and that is why it needs to be strengthened, and for that good intentions are not enough. We need to strengthen ourselves ideologically, we need financial resources, we need to improve our internal communications and our organisational networks.

Our organisations, the P&R TUI and the WFTU, are world class organisations, we are anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist and we must know how the capitalist system works, because we cannot be against what we do not know. Because workers cannot continue to

repeat the word of the capitalists. This is the necessity of ideological training; if we turn our backs on it, we turn our backs on everything.

I conclude by saying that when each of our members of the TUI does what is right, our organisation will be in the position we want it to be.

**LONG LIVE THE WFTU**  
**LONG LIVE P&J ISU**  
**LONG LIVE THE II CONGRESS**  
**THANK YOU**



INTRODUCTION: The Spanish text will be used as a reference in case of doubt about the interpretation due to an incorrect translation.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF PENSIONERS' UNIONS

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The International Trade Union Organisations (TUIs) of the professional or sectoral branches are organisations which are part of the organisational structure of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and which have a long history. For the WFTU, the TUIs are of great value and constitute one of the main pillars of trade union action.

Strengthening the TUI is a vitally important task for the WFTU. Any sectoral trade union organisation concerned may join each TUI, whether or not it belongs to a national member organisation of the WFTU. Likewise, member organisations of the WFTU and those which, although not members of an TUI, are invited or request to join, may join each TUI.

The TUIs freely formulate their policy within the framework of class unity with the WFTU and without contradiction with it. The TUIs participate in the activities of the WFTU and in its representative bodies. They also cooperate with the WFTU in implementing the decisions taken at the World Trade Union Congresses held by the WFTU.

The TUIs were set up in the various industrial sectors and industries in accordance with the World Trade Union Conference held in London and Paris in 1945, which led to the creation of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). The 2nd World Trade Union Congress, held in Milan (Italy) in 1949, established the forms of operation of the TUIs. Over time, these became international organisations with their own personality for trade union action, for unity and solidarity between the member trade union organisations of each TUI, and jointly and in solidarity (with unified objectives) for unity with the WFTU.

From 1949 to the present day, there have been nine TUIs in the following branches: Construction, Energy, Metallurgy and Mining, Agricultural and Related Food Products, Public and Related Services, Transport and Communications, Tourism and Hotels, Finance and Banking, as well as the FISE teachers' branch.

All of them have developed important struggles, some more than others, although they have had to overcome many difficulties in the most difficult periods of the class trade union struggle, but today they are in full improvement and development.

With the aim of leading a common struggle at international level, the proposals contained in these statutes aim to strengthen internationalist unity in order to be equal to the resistance of the working class and peoples, to define the forms of struggle that will lead

us to new conquests of rights and freedoms as they have developed on the different continents against neoliberal or non-neoliberal capitalist policies and against imperialist aggression.

The G-20 meetings, preoccupied only with how to save the banks and safeguard the interests of big business, preferred to adapt their decisions to guarantee more resources to the IMF (responsible for social disasters in Latin America, Asia and other regions), and deliberately forget, from the height of their exploitative class position, the millions of victims of the crisis who have lost their jobs.

The G-20 wants to sell the idea that the crisis, which it describes as financial, without accepting that it is a genuine crisis of the capitalist structure and system, is due to the dishonesty of certain individual economic players. They refuse to recognise that the crisis is structural. Reality shows that we are facing a deep, internal crisis of the capitalist system. They want to deny reality: markets will neither regulate nor resolve the crisis.

The crisis in the European Union continues to deepen. EU governments are stepping up the implementation of neo-liberal policies, privatising strategic sectors, raising taxes and cutting social benefits. In order to increase the rate of profit from the exploitation of workers, they choose, insofar as the struggle of the peoples and the working class allows: 1) to impose labour reforms, abolishing the labour rights acquired through long struggles; 2) to radically modify the rules of social security; 3) to apply drastic cuts in pensions; 4) to impose mass redundancies of workers, leading to an accelerated increase in unemployment; 5) to privatise public education and health care,

According to IMF figures, over the last three years alone, more than 30 million workers have been made redundant worldwide. These redundancies are compounded by early retirements and retirements under unfavourable conditions for those concerned. This is why it is increasingly important to strengthen the organisation of retired workers. In many countries, they represent more than 20% of the population (or even 30% of voters). These are people who have the State as their «employer», who cannot be made redundant, but who may see a gradual loss of purchasing power of what they receive as a pension, the money they use to continue living, and therefore in the last phase of their lives in great uncertainty and insecurity (which has led to several suicides). The right to a fair pension must also be recognised for all women who have worked all their lives «at home» and who continue to be denied the title of «working woman», concealing the economic value of this work and exacerbating the situation of insecurity, dependence and poverty in which they live. What's more, the last period of a person's life can be a difficult time in terms of health, loneliness, reduced mobility and solving everyday problems, etc. Trade unions can and must intervene in these different areas, as the retirees' demands framework shows.

If, as active workers that we were, we were exploited, oppressed and dispossessed of our work, our wages and our working, political or social conditions by capitalism, both by the liberal-conservative rulers and by social democrats of all kinds, all the members of this





new and young WFTU International Union of Retired Workers understand that the sole and general objective of capitalism at world level is to obtain maximum profit at any price, by robbing us both when we were active and now that we are retired. The increase in the number of pensioners in the world, which absorbs a large part of the public budget and ties up huge sums of money, could not be a closed space for the gluttony of capitalists in this period of crisis. Thus, the privatisation of this huge amount of money is a strategic objective of the utmost importance to the capitalists, and from this it becomes clear that the strategic tendency of capitalism is not to extend social rights where they do not exist or are totally inadequate and to reduce the already public pensions by: 1) increasing indirect and direct taxes; 2) transforming, non-negotiable and consensual, the criteria for calculating the consumer price index; 3) freezing all pensions or simply applying new laws leading to their disappearance.

All this is encouraged by international capitalism and its rulers in order to further their fundamental objective of concentrating even more capital in a few hands. They want to move in the main direction of privatising, now and in the future, as much as possible of this huge mass of pension money. Current conditions are creating fear among people who, while continuing to earn a more or less decent wage, are motivated to seek the individualistic outlet of joining a private pension fund.

The desire to privatise capital and its managers is not limited to the issue of pensions, but extends to everything that is public and can be turned into a business for a few. Social services relating to care and assistance for dependent people (children, the sick, the elderly, etc.), health, education, transport, telecommunications, the audiovisual sector, culture, energy, etc., everything that makes it possible to enrich oneself at the expense of the sacrifices of the majority of the population, are becoming profitable sectors for capital.

The public pensions that we have fought for and will continue to fight for at every moment and in every way, if we do not stop the current march with our struggle, will be transformed into care allowances that will simply make it possible to survive, that will force large sections of the population to sign, if they can, health and life insurance contracts that will be lower each year than the CPI (consumer price index) and that the vast majority of the population will not be able to sign. This could lead to a very critical general situation where, alongside the right to live with a decent pension, the charitable society would emerge.

But if we don't get organised and fight back, it won't just be pensions that will be affected, but the whole social services sector that will be decisively affected (special care needed for people with physical or mental problems, constantly rising prices for all foodstuffs, socio-cultural services, transport, telecommunications and medicines), because, like pensions, other services linked to retired people are subject to «preferential treatment», i.e. they are subject to the plundering of capitalist companies.

Therefore, in the context described above, this Constitution defines the principles and programme of the WFTU International Trade Union Organisation of Pensioners. The former are defined in the context of the class struggle and the latter express certain common de-

mands of workers throughout the world in the context of exploitation and in the context of pensioners.

The statutory provisions comprise 10 chapters and 51 articles, as well as two additional transitional provisions.

First of all, it establishes that the International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons is part of the WFTU, indicating its objectives and the people who make it up. It then establishes the structure and representation that will facilitate the functioning of the International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons, with the World Trade Union Congress as its supreme body. The Executive Board is chaired by the President of the International Trade Union Organisation and the Secretariat by the General Secretary.

Several secretariats, one for each function, were set up within the Secretariat in order to provide the best responses to specific sectoral policy problems and to coordinate the needs of the administrative structure and the organisation as a whole more effectively and dynamically. Thus, in principle, the Organisation, Finance, Health and Social Security, Propaganda, Women's and Trade Union Education Secretariats were set up.

The Regional Secretaries, the Financial Control Committee and the Technical and Research Committee also take part in the Executive Board.

The vice-presidents of each continent, elected at the Congress, will be responsible in their respective regions for the activities of the regional secretariat, whose members are elected at the respective regional assemblies and comprise at least 3 members.

This proposal defines the responsibilities and functions of each of the responsibilities of the International Organisation of Retired Persons and the members of the Committees.

With regard to the forms of membership or integration, the following are proposed: a) member unions and b) friendly unions. The International Organisation of Retired Workers accepts the affiliation of organisations without any discrimination, provided that they are class-based and accept the decisions of the WFTU.

The cooperation of member unions is established through moral, financial and intellectual cooperation to achieve (in accordance with the challenges and objectives of the WFTU) the aims of the International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons. For the member unions of the International, we propose financial support based on the number of retired workers who are members of each organisation. Financial contributions will also be made by friendly organisations.

Members have the right to elect and be elected. All officers are elected by the World Congress of Trade Unions, with the exception of the regional secretariats, which are elected by the organisations in their respective regions.

Matters not mentioned or described in this Constitution and amendments thereto shall be the sole responsibility of the World Congress of Trade Unions.



## APPLICATIONS

We, workers and peoples, live in a world determined by class struggle and we defend our immediate and historic rights. We seek to achieve social transformation and to participate in the construction of a society without classes or hierarchies of gender or race.

The unity we want to achieve in order to attain the historical objectives we have as a class is a means of defining our own programme. The class struggle is global in scope and the struggle we are proposing develops at national, regional and international levels within the framework of the global struggle we have mentioned.

Developing programmes, building organisations and exercising international solidarity are our trade union tasks in these times.

Trade unions are fundamental organisations of resistance and struggle against capitalism, which adapt to the reality of class consciousness and the possibilities of each country.

We defend the need to make trade unions real tools of democratic struggle. Independence as a class is a necessary condition for the development of our own trade union policy.

The struggle of workers is no different from the struggle of peoples to defend their resources, their land, their independence, their sovereignty and their social rights. Together with other social strata, workers are taking part in the same struggle which, through alliances, will enable us to create a new society based on solidarity, another better world, the one to which the exploited and the peoples aspire today, namely a socialist society.

Natural resources are the collective heritage of the world. We defend natural resources and the natural infrastructure of nations as a social right of peoples.

In this fight, we are putting international solidarity at the service of political action to share experiences, support and make proposals.

## PROGRAMME

**The Pensioners' International Trade Union Organisation is an organisation that fights for**

- ▶ The unity of the members of the International Trade Union Organisation of Pensioners and other pensioners throughout the world, on the basis of class principles.
- ▶ The practice of democracy and independence as a class to liberate ourselves from the exploitation of capital and the oppression of patriarchy, which are inextricably linked.
- ▶ The exercise of the right to political and trade union autonomy as a working class.
- ▶ The defence of natural resources as a concrete expression of the struggle of peoples and nations for national sovereignty.
- ▶ The defence and nationalisation of strategic public companies, such as the banking, financial and insurance system and other strategic sectors (transport, energy, oil,

etc.), and the constant fight against privatisation, always guided by a policy against oligarchs, monopolies and imperialists.

- ▶ The universal right to decent and secure work (which can only exist when we put an end to capitalism, imperialism and patriarchy), to decent wages and pensions and to a solidarity-based social security system with decent benefits and universal coverage in all countries of the world.
- ▶ For full respect for the labour and social rights of migrant workers and a frontal fight against all forms of discrimination.
- ▶ For full respect for human rights and the preservation of life in conditions conducive to human development.
- ▶ Recognition of productive work and the reproduction of human beings (biological reproduction, care and assistance to people, domestic work, etc.), by calculating their economic value (in GDP) and assigning them their social value.
- ▶ The right to consider productive and reproductive work as «work», i.e. paid work, and that it comes with labour rights, the right to a decent pension, among others.
- ▶ The right for productive and reproductive work not to be «naturally» assigned to women, but to be considered as socially necessary work, which must be shared and covered by the respective social services.
- ▶ The right to collective bargaining, respect for the rights of pensioners and beneficiaries, and the defence and extension of the social achievements of peoples. In addition, pensioners, through their trade unions, must participate in the negotiation of their rights in all countries.
- ▶ The right to trade union freedom and the exercise of political democracy (applying true proletarian democracy to false bourgeois democracy).
- ▶ The right to independent social organisation, as a class, in all countries.
- ▶ The implementation of class unity and solidarity with all trade union organisations and peoples. Solidarity with Cuba, with the countries of Latin America currently accused by imperialism and with all the peoples who need it.
- ▶ The continued growth of democracy to build a fairer and more humane society, free from economic exploitation and political, ideological and patriarchal oppression, however manifested. Our political objective is to overthrow the capitalist system, imperialism and patriarchy throughout the world, in order to help build socialism.
- ▶ The promotion of international solidarity by demanding a new, just international world order, which necessarily involves a profound change in the United Nations and other international organisations, such as the International Labour Organisation (currently monopolised by governments, employers and a World Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) defending capitalism as a system.



- ▶ The peaceful and rational use of scientific and technological progress in the service of humanity as a whole, and the promotion of production and consumption models based on respect for and protection of the environment.
- ▶ Against all forms of racism, xenophobia and discrimination in society based on gender, social status, illness, age, language, religion, political opinion, sexual orientation, ethnic, national or cultural origin.

## STATUTES

### Chapter 1 - Establishment and objectives

**Article 1** - The trade unions and class organisations of pensioners form the International Trade Union of Pensioners (R&P ITU) to defend our class rights and interests.

**Article 2** - The Pensioners' International Trade Union Organisation is a sectoral international organisation which is part of the structure of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), i.e. it accepts, defends and implements the decisions of the WFTU Congresses.

**Article 3** - The International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons comprises the class-based trade unions and associations of retired persons who voluntarily join it and undertake to accept and respect the present Constitution. There is also another way of participating in the International Organisation of Retired Workers: collective and/or individual cooperation.

**Article 4** - The headquarters of the Pensioners' International Trade Union Organisation shall be determined by the World Trade Union Congress.

### Chapter II - Structure and representation

**Article 5** - The administration and representation of the International Organisation of Retired Workers shall be ensured by the following bodies: the World Trade Union Congress, the Executive Council, the Secretariat and the Regional Secretariats.

### Chapter III - World Trade Union Congress

**Article 6** - The supreme body (supreme authority) of the International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons shall be the World Trade Union Congress.

**Article 7** - All member organisations and friends of the International Organisation of Retired Persons shall participate in the World Trade Union Congress through the delegates provided for in the text convening the Congress.

**Article 8** - The International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Persons shall hold ordinary and extraordinary Congresses. Ordinary Congresses shall be held every five (5) years. Extraordinary Congresses may be held at any time upon convocation by the Executive Council. Regular meetings are those which elect the Executive Council and the Audit Committee.

**Article 9** - Regional Conferences shall be held every five (5) years with the same procedure and rules as those formulated for the World Trade Union Congress, provided that its functions and powers are limited to the respective fields.

**Article 10**- The World Congress of Trade Unions shall decide on the questions proposed in the respective appeal.

**Article 11** - The World Trade Union Congress shall adopt and amend the Constitution by a vote of at least two-thirds of the participants.

**Article 12**- The World Trade Union Congress shall be convened by the Executive Board of the UIS des retraites, at least one (1) year in advance, if it is an ordinary Congress. In the case of an extraordinary Congress, the timetable and content will be determined at the time of convening.

**Article 13** - At each Congress, the Executive Board's activity report, including the financial report, must be presented.

**Article 14** - The quorum of the World Trade Union Congress shall be the delegates representing the majority of member organisations.

**Article 15** - The World Trade Union Congress shall be presided over by a «provisional presidency», since during the Congress the bodies and functions shall not be in force until the new bodies are elected at the end of the Congress.

#### Chapter IV - Executive Board

**Article 16** - The Executive Board shall represent the general interests of the Pensioners' International Trade Union Organisation, in accordance with its Constitution and the decisions of the World Trade Union Congress.

**Article 17** - The Executive Council of the UIS of Pensioners' Associations shall be composed of the heads of each of the seven secretariats and each of the six regional secretariats. In addition, the possibility of including members representing specific regions will be examined.

**Article 18**- The Executive Council shall have the following powers and functions: a) To represent the International Trade Union Organisation of Retired Workers to all international trade union organisations in the respective branch; b) To implement the decisions of the World Trade Union Congress; c) To coordinate the activities of the Secretariat, the Regional Secretariats and the Commissions whose creation is deemed appropriate; d) To convene World Trade Union Congresses in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution; e) To submit the activity and financial reports to Congresses; f) To meet once a year to evaluate the activities of the TUI; g) To meet once a year to evaluate and submit the action and financial reports to Congresses; h) To meet annually to evaluate the activities of the TUI; i) To elect the Technical and Research Commission on the proposal of the General Secretary.

**Article 19** - The President of the Pensioners' International shall chair the Executive Council.



## Chapter V - Secretariat

**Article 20-** The secretariat of the UIS des retraites is composed of the president, the vice-president and the following members: the secretary general, the deputy secretary general, the secretary for organisation, the secretary for finance, the secretary for health and social security, the secretary for gender and the secretary for ideology.

**Article 21** - The Secretariat shall have the following responsibilities and functions: a) It shall be the executive body of the Pensioners' TUI; b) It shall carry out the programme of the Pensioners' TUI; c) It shall implement the resolutions of the World Trade Union Congress and the decisions of the Executive Board; d) It shall maintain permanent contact with the various member organisations of the Pensioners' TUI, with the WFTU and with other TUIs; e) It shall be responsible for international relations.

**Article 22-** The General Secretary shall preside over and direct the work of the secretariat of the Pensioners' TUI.

## Chapter VI - Managers

### Chairman and Vice-Chairman

**Article 23-** The President shall have the following responsibilities and duties: a) To chair meetings of the Executive Board; b) To represent, together with the General Secretary, the Pensioners' TUI in dealings with the WFTU and relevant international organisations; c) To participate in the various activities organised by the Pensioners' TUI and the WFTU.

A person will be elected by the Congress or the Executive Board, as appropriate, to act as vice-president and guarantee the replacement of the president if necessary. This replacement guarantee should be considered and gradually extended to other mentoring responsibilities.

### The secretariats

**Article 24** - The General Secretary shall have the following duties and responsibilities: a) to represent the Pensioners' TUI; b) to chair meetings of the Secretariat; c) to coordinate the activities of the Secretariat; d) to sign or certify official documents on behalf of the Pensioners' TUI; e) to certify documents relating to financial movements; f) to present to Congress the written report of the activities of the Executive Board; g) to coordinate with the Organising Secretary the activities of the Regional Secretariats;

**Article 25** - The Deputy General Secretary shall cooperate with the General Secretary and shall replace him/her in his/her absence, with the consent of the Executive Board.

**Article 26** - The Organising Secretary shall: a) draw up the organisational programme and the programme of applications for membership of the Pensioners' Association; b) inform of applications for membership and withdrawals and monitor the various structures; c) coordinate the activities of the regional secretariats. It will draw up a list of organisations, associations and individuals who are members and friends of the Pensioners' Association.



**Article 27** - Organisational sub-secretariats: 1 per region, elected in each of them and responsible for the operation of the regional secretariats in the respective regions, they shall cooperate and act jointly with the Organisational Secretary, who may delegate some of his responsibilities to the sub-secretariats and shall constitute, with the secretariats, the Executive Council.

**Article 28**- The Financial Secretary: a) shall be responsible for the financial operation of the Pensioners' TUI; b) shall promote initiatives aimed at raising financial resources for the Pensioners' TUI; c) shall certify with the General Secretary the financial movement; d) shall inform the Secretariat of the activities carried out; e) shall inform the World Trade Union Congress of the Pensioners' TUI's financial report.

**Article 29** - The Secretary for Health and Social Security shall: a) carry out studies on health and other issues concerning pensioners and beneficiaries, taking into account the «gender» variable; b) carry out studies on environmental protection; c) carry out studies and promote activities in defence of social security; d) inform the secretariat of the activities carried out; e) coordinate work on these issues with the regional officers.

**Article 30**- The Secretary in charge of gender equality issues: (a) oversee the rights of pensioners to equal opportunities, against discrimination of their rights in their daily lives and in their dignity and promote initiatives for the elimination of the division of labour according to sex; (b) promote awareness-raising initiatives for the definitive elimination of male chauvinism, for women's rights and gender equality; c) promotes militant actions and demonstrations against all forms of discrimination and violence against women; d) develops campaigns of solidarity with the struggles for women's rights; e) promotes initiatives aimed at creating relations of solidarity and cooperation between the sexes, in the face of current relations of oppression and hierarchy.

**Article 31** - The Ideological Secretariat combines the functions of education and propaganda: (a) to organise and disseminate the campaigns decided by the governing bodies of the Pensioners' TUI; (b) to promote and disseminate the class solidarity of the trade union organisations in struggle; (c) to explain and document the confrontation of the ideological struggle against the class enemy; (d) to organise educational activities;

(e) to coordinate the activities of the regional secretariats.

#### ***IV.1 - Regional secretariats composed of at least three people and chaired by the Vice-President of the region concerned.***

**Article 32** - The structure of the regional sites shall be in accordance with the structure of the World Trade Union Congress. The Executive Board and the Secretariat of the UIS des Travailleurs Retraités may propose changes according to the needs of each region.

In this case, the proposal will be made to the Secretariat, which will submit it to the Executive Council for final approval. The territorial area of each region will correspond to each of the regional areas available to the UIS.





**Article 33-** Their powers and duties are as follows: a) To represent by tacit delegation the Pensioners' TUI in matters specific to the region; b) To promote and coordinate the development of Pensioners' TUI activities in the region, approved by Congresses, Regional Conferences or the Executive Board; c) To promote organisational activities, unity and solidarity among the members of the region ; d) to promote communication, information and solidarity among the members of the region; e) to inform and coordinate with the General Secretariat and the Organising Secretary of the Pensioners' TUI the activities in the respective regions.

#### **IV.2 - Committees**

**Article 34** - TUI Pensioners' Committees are created with specific objectives and functions and are of a permanent nature.

**Article 35** - The Financial Audit Committee shall consist of a Chairman and two Secretaries. The responsibilities and functions of the Financial Audit Committee shall be: a) to monitor the proper functioning of the Financial Secretariat; b) to supervise the economic and financial functioning of the ICO of Pensioners; c) to approve, in the first instance, periodic financial reports; d) to inform the Executive Board and the World Trade Union Congress of its activities.

**Article 36** - The purpose of the Technical Committee for Translation and Informatics is to ensure the smooth collective operation in two areas: translation and informatics.

This committee will have a head appointed by the secretariat, will carry out its tasks in a combative manner, like the other decent services of the UIS, and will have, as far as possible, at least two translators for each of the languages most used at our meetings, in addition to the official languages. Companies will only be hired to provide simultaneous translation for conferences or congresses with a physical presence.

**Article 37** - The Studies and Research Committee shall have a Chairman appointed by the Congress or by the Executive Council. Its objective shall be to contribute to the knowledge of the global reality, in particular on issues related to the activities, rights and demands of older people, pensioners and beneficiaries. The Committee shall be responsible for updating the data file at global level. It will promote and implement partnerships at international level, trying to have someone to help it operate in every country in the world, starting with someone responsible for each of the 6 regions. It will coordinate its activities with the ideological secretariat, providing support for the preparation of proposals, texts and training courses.

#### **Chapter V - Members of the Retirees' TUI**

**Article 38-** The organisations of the UIS des retraites are divided into two categories: members and friends.

**Article 39** - The members shall be the pensioners' organisations and unions which are members of the WFTU, as well as organisations (whether trade unions or associations)

which, from a class perspective, may not be members of the WFTU, but which have decided to become members of the Pensioners' TUI and have been accepted by it.

**Article 40** - Sister organisations are (individually or collectively) pensioners' organisations or organisations of a social nature or persons who, with a clear anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist and anti-patriarchal class commitment, participate in the activities with opinions, work and proposals in accordance with the terms of these Articles of Association.

**Article 41** - In order to become a member of the Pensioners' TUI, one must (a) Submit a written application addressed to the General Secretary of the Pensioners' TUI, declaring the will to comply with the Constitution, who will express an opinion and present the application for evaluation by the Executive Board of the Pensioners' TUI; (b) The application must be ratified by a majority of the members of the Executive Board of the Pensioners' TUI, which will then inform the World Congress of Trade Unions.

**Article 42** - Organisations which voluntarily withdraw and those which, for serious reasons (violation of the present Constitution), are deregistered by the Executive Board (decision to be approved by the next Ordinary Congress) shall cease to be member organisations of the UIS.

### Chapter VI - Rights and obligations

**Article 43** - The rights of member unions shall be as follows: a) to debate, elect and be elected at the Congresses of the Pensioners' TUI; b) to benefit from the assistance of the Pensioners' TUI in fighting for the rights of pensioners; c) to enjoy wide freedom of initiative in the interests of the objectives of the Pensioners' TUI; d) to participate in all activities decided by the Pensioners' TUI.

**Article 44** - The obligations of member unions are as follows: a) to offer their moral, intellectual and material cooperation to enable the Pensioners' TUI to achieve its objectives; b) to participate in the activities carried out by the Pensioners' TUI; c) to exercise the responsibilities they have assumed or to participate in the committees entrusted to them in accordance with the decisions of the Pensioners' TUI; d) to pay the agreed dues in good time; e) to comply with the decisions taken by a majority vote of the bodies of the TUI.

**Article 45** - The rights of unions of friends are as follows: a) to participate, with the right to speak, in all activities convened by the Pensioners' TUI; b) to collaborate in activities on their own initiative or on the initiative of the Pensioners' TUI, to make proposals to the Secretariat, and to register on the Technical Committee's list to receive material drawn up by the Pensioners' TUI; c) to benefit from the support and solidarity of the Pensioners' TUI.

**Article 46** - The obligations of friends' unions are as follows: a) to offer their moral, intellectual and material cooperation so that the UIS can fulfil its objectives; b) to invite the UIS of pensioners to take part in their events with the right to speak and to demand its cooperation; c) to send the technical committee of the OSP of pensioners their work and publications in any form whatsoever.



### Chapter VII - Elections, voting and revocability

**Article 47** - All the responsibilities of the Executive Council of the Pensioners' TUI shall be shared between persons from member and friendly organisations, representing a grass-roots organisation.

**Article 48** - Voting for the election of the Executive Board of the Retired Workers' TUI shall take place at the World Trade Union Congress, by direct, universal and secret ballot or by a show of hands if the Congress so decides, with the participation of at least half plus one of all member organisations.

**Article 49**- Regional secretariats shall be elected at the regional congress of the UIS des retraites.

**Article 50**- Any liability may be revoked at any time by the body which elected him, if the majority of its members decide that the person elected has seriously failed to fulfil his statutory obligations.

### Chapter VIII - Assets

**Article 51** - The assets of the Pensioners' TUI consist of its present property, donations and inheritances, as well as those it will acquire in the future through the accomplishment of its mission.

Its assets also include the resources generated by the subscriptions paid by its member organisations and friends, as well as those generated by legal donations made to it, and its archives and working and research documents.

**Article 52**- The member organisations of the UIS des Retraites will contribute, for each member they count, by means of regular dues, in a flexible manner adapted to the reality of each union, an amount equivalent to two dollars per year for the economically most powerful unions (North America, Australia, the Persian Gulf and Japan), one dollar a year for the economically less powerful unions (those in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific) and half a dollar for the other unions (those in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa).

### Chapter IX - Unity and solidarity

**Article 53** - The Pensioners' TUI, in order to contribute to the development of the workers' movement, will promote unity and class solidarity, with a view to political unity and the struggle of the entire international trade union movement against capitalism, imperialism and patriarchy.

### Chapter X - General provisions

**Article 54** - The Pensioners' TUI may be dissolved or transformed only if three quarters of the unions represented at the World Trade Union Congress so decide. In the event of the

dissolution of the TUI, all its assets, material, financial and documentary shall become the property of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

**Article 55** - The Pensioners' TUI shall adopt in its Constitution the logo by which it is identified. Any changes will be made at the World Trade Union Congress.

## **TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

**FIRST** - The present Constitution and its amendments shall come into force after approval by the TUI World Congress.

**SECOND** - The elected members of the Executive Council will present their respective work plans at the first meeting of this body. These plans will include the holding of regional conferences, at which the respective leaders will be elected.



## ADDED TO THE STATUTES

Finances and ideological training must be considered as pillars for the strengthening of our organization, strengthening which is the motto of our Third Congress. It is necessary to strengthen the sense of identity and belonging to the UIS, on the part of all of us who are part of it, because we are the only ones who support it financially and consequently the only ones who make the decisions.

Consequently, although I worked on the reform of the statutes, I have subsequently found it necessary to include two articles, one referring to ideological training, another to finances and another related to propaganda, training and organization.

These three articles would be in Chapter VI - Rights and Obligations, numbered as articles 47, 48 and 49.

**Article 47-** All UIS militancy and, in particular, those who exercise some level of leadership or participation in the organizations and commissions that make up the UIS of PyJ, have the obligation to strive to constantly raise their ideological level, both through training events, as well as through study and self-training.

**Article 48-** To the extent of their possibilities, each member of the UIS must become a contributor to their organization.

Whoever belongs to the UIS of P&J, and does not contribute or contribute to a national organization of retirees, must do so directly to the world organization (UIS).

In the case of members of the UIS Directorate and organizations, to the extent of their possibilities, all will have to be UIS taxpayers.

**Article 49-** People who occupy management positions in the UIS, both in global, regional and national organizations, must establish virtual communication networks for the dissemination of our materials, statements, activities and everything related. with the propaganda, training and organization of the UIS of P&J of the WFTU.

Lisimaco Velasco

3/31/2024

# **3<sup>rd</sup> CONGRESS OF THE WFTU TUI P&R**

April 15-16, 2024 - Athens



***Let's strengthen  
the International pensioners'  
organization of the WFTU***



