



Young Leaders Society

Constitution

The founding governance instrument of Young Leaders Society

DRAFT - PENDING RATIFICATION

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youngleaderssociety.org

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Preamble

We, the members of the Young Leaders Society, in order to empower youth for meaningful and lasting social reform, to cultivate principled and capable leadership, and to serve our communities with integrity, do hereby adopt this Constitution as the supreme governing instrument of the organization. All members, offices, chapters, and bodies of the Society derive their authority from, and are bound by, this Constitution.

Article I - Name, Identity and Status

1.1 The organization shall be known as the **Young Leaders Society** (hereinafter “YLS” or “the Society”), operating in Pakistan as Young Leaders Society Pakistan (“YLSP”).

1.2 YLS is a non-partisan, non-profit, volunteer-driven youth organization. It is not affiliated with any political party and does not exist for private gain.

1.3 The Society maintains a single official identity, brand, and digital member portal. Use of the YLS name and marks is governed by the Society's brand and communications standards.

Article II - Mission, Vision and Values

Vision. A generation of principled young leaders driving inclusive, sustainable change.

Mission. To identify, develop, and mobilize young people through service, training, and structured opportunity, advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Core values.

- **Integrity** - we act honestly and hold ourselves accountable.
- **Service** - we measure success by the good we do for others.
- **Merit and inclusion** - opportunity is open to all; advancement is earned.
- **Stewardship** - we safeguard the Society's people, resources, and reputation.
- **Respect and safety** - every member is treated with dignity in a safe environment.

Article III - Membership

3.1 **Eligibility.** Membership is open to individuals aged 18 years or older who subscribe to the Society's mission and agree to abide by this Constitution and the Code of Conduct. YLS is an adult-only organization.

3.2 Classes of membership.

- **Volunteer** - the entry tier. Free and open; the on-ramp through which prospective members participate before applying for full membership.
- **General Member** - a verified, dues-paying member admitted by application and approval; eligible to hold a department position and, in time, office.
- **Senior Member** - a General Member recognized for sustained contribution.

- **Executive Member** - the most senior contributing tier.
- **Alumna / Alumnus** - a member who has stood down from active service while retaining their record, history, and access to the Alumni and Advisory space.

3.3 **Admission.** A Volunteer becomes a General Member by submitting a membership application, which is routed to the President of the applicant's chapter (or the appropriate President in the chapter-up chain) and approved within scope. Email verification and the 18+ declaration are required.

3.4 **Rights of members.** Members in good standing may participate in Society activities, access the member portal and their unit's spaces, stand for and hold positions for which they are eligible, and receive recognition and credentials they earn.

3.5 **Duties of members.** Members shall uphold this Constitution and the Code of Conduct, fulfill the responsibilities of any position they accept, keep their information current, and pay any applicable dues.

3.6 **Dues and good standing.** General Membership may carry a periodic subscription fee set by the leadership. A member is in good standing when current on obligations and not under disciplinary suspension.

3.7 **Resignation and data.** A member may resign at any time. A member may request deletion of their account and personal data; the Society retains de-identified institutional records as permitted by its privacy policy.

Article IV - Organizational Structure

4.1 The Society is organized into nested units, from the widest to the most local:

- **Global** - the Society as a whole.
- **National** - a country organization (e.g. YLS Pakistan).
- **Zone** - a region within a nation.
- **Chapter** - a local unit, typically at a campus or city.

4.2 Each unit operates within, and is accountable to, the unit above it. Authority and oversight flow downward through this hierarchy (global \supset national \supset zone \supset chapter); service and reporting flow upward.

Article V - Offices and Authority

5.1 **Office-bearers.** At each unit level the Society recognizes three lines of office:

- **Directors** hold a specific department's mandate for their unit.
- **General Secretary** coordinates and inherits the authority of every Director at their level.
- **President** leads the unit, inherits the General Secretary's authority, and holds the president-exclusive powers of membership control, reporting, and org-unit management.

5.2 **Inheritance and scope.** Authority flows upward within a level (Director \subset General Secretary \subset President) and a President's authority extends to all units below their own. Every power is bounded by the office-holder's unit and its subtree.

5.3 **One office per unit.** Each office is singular within its unit: a unit has at most one President, one General Secretary, and one Director per department. A global office is singular for the entire Society.

5.4 **Assignment ceiling.** No office-bearer may appoint another to an office of higher authority than their own. A higher-scope office may only be conferred by a higher-scope authority.

5.5 **Oversight.** Internal Auditors (national) and the Global Internal Auditor provide independent, read-only financial and governance oversight.

5.6 **Platform administration.** A single platform administrator account secures the digital systems. It is a technical custodianship, conferred only by direct, manual action of the Society's stewards, and never through ordinary appointment.

Article VI - Departments

6.1 The standing departments of the Society are:

Human Resource	Members, recruitment, recognition, internships, welfare.
Finance	Budgets, dues, payments, expenses, financial oversight.
Research & Development	Research, the blog, programs, and strategy.
Media	Event media, photography, and the visual record.
Marketing	Outreach, partnerships, communications, and the CRM.
Technology	Systems, the member portal, and the technical registry.
Logistics	Assets, vendors, and event operations.

6.2 Each department is led at a unit by its Director, who is accountable to the General Secretary and President of that unit. Department membership is open to General Members by interest and appointment.

Article VII - Appointment, Election and Succession

7.1 Offices are filled by appointment or election as determined by the leadership of the relevant unit and the unit above it, subject to the assignment ceiling (5.4) and the one-office-per-unit rule (5.3).

7.2 **Succession.** No unit shall be left without its required leadership. A President or sole top office-holder must ensure an orderly handover before vacating office; their account cannot be deleted while the office is held.

7.3 Terms, eligibility, and election procedures may be detailed in by-laws consistent with this Constitution.

Article VIII - Advisory and Alumni

8.1 Alumni are members who have stood down from active service. They retain their record and history and have access to a dedicated Alumni and Advisory space, but hold no operational authority. The transition is reversible (reinstatement) and is not removal for cause.

8.2 Advisors and the Chair Advisor are advisory appointments that carry counsel and standing but no operational power.

Article IX - Meetings, Quorum and Decisions

9.1 Units shall hold regular meetings (including General Body Meetings) and may convene special meetings as needed.

9.2 Unless by-laws provide otherwise, quorum is a simple majority of the eligible members of the body, and decisions are by majority of those present and voting. The presiding office-holder may break a tie.

Article X - Finance and Accountability

10.1 The Society's funds shall be used solely to advance its mission. All income and expenditure shall be recorded.

10.2 Expenditures require approval by an authority above the submitter, within scope. Internal Auditors provide independent review.

10.3 No member shall derive private financial benefit from their position beyond reimbursement of approved expenses.

Article XI - Code of Conduct and Safeguarding

11.1 All members shall conduct themselves with integrity, respect, and professionalism, and shall comply with the Society's Code of Conduct and Community Guidelines.

11.2 **Adults-only and safeguarding.** YLS is an 18+ organization. Harassment, discrimination, hate speech, and exploitation are prohibited. The Society maintains channels to report harmful conduct and treats child-endangerment matters as urgent.

Article XII - Discipline, Grievances and Removal

12.1 Members may report concerns and grievances through the Society's reporting channels. Matters are reviewed fairly by the appropriate authority.

12.2 Breaches of this Constitution or the Code of Conduct may result in counseling, suspension, removal from office, or termination of membership, proportionate to the breach and subject to a fair process.

Article XIII - Amendments

13.1 This Constitution may be amended by the Society's highest governing body. A proposed amendment shall be circulated in advance and adopted by the threshold set in by-laws (and, absent such, by a two-thirds majority of that body).

Article XIV - Dissolution

14.1 In the event of dissolution, the Society's remaining assets, after settling obligations, shall be transferred to one or more non-profit organizations with compatible aims, and never distributed to members for private gain.

Ratification

Adopted by the Young Leaders Society. (Draft - signatures and ratification date to be affixed on approval.)

President

General Secretary

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