

A.N.F.I.
ITALIAN *FINANZIERI*/ NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

CHARTER

Rome 2013

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Charter approval decree

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In accordance with Presidential Decree n. 361 of 10 February 2000, ANFI, the Italian *Finanzieri*(Officers of Guardia di Finanza) National Association, was incorporated in the Register of Corporates Bodies at n. 958/2013.

Ministry of Economy and Finance

The Minister of Economy and Finance

Having regard to Royal Decree n. 377 of 11 March 1929, which established and set-up the National Association of discharged soldiers belonging to the Guardia di Finanza (ANFI) as moral body and approved its Charter;

Having regard to Legislative Decree n. 66 of 15 March 2010, containing the military legal system Code;

Having regard to the ANFI Charter, approved by its own decree on 5 October 2001;

Having particularly regard to art. 1 of the Charter which confers the legal protection and supervision of the Association to the Minister of Economy and Finance and, on his behalf, to the Commanding General of Guardia di Finanza;

Having regard to Legislative Decree n. 300 of 30 July 1999, containing the reform of Government organization;

Having regard to the proposal by the National Council of the Association of updating the text of the Charter, expressed during the meeting dated 24 March 2010;

Having regard to the Association Communication dated 5 April 2011, stating the positive outcome of the national referendum that had taken place on 5 March 2011, in accordance with art. 76 of the above mentioned Charter;

Considering the need to adapt the Charter to the unexpected necessities of widening the institutional aims of the Association, in their contents;

Considering the need to redefine the organization structure of the Association, both at central and local level, in order to make it more corresponding to such aims;

DECREES:

Art. 1

1. The Charter of ANFI, the Italian *Finanzieri* National Association, is approved, as attached in the present decree.
2. Decree of 5 October 2001, concerning the ANFI Charter approval, is repealed.

Rome, 20 February 2013

The Minister

TITLE I

General information

CHAPTER I

General provisions

Art. 1

Legal status and headquarters

1. ANFI, the Italian *Finanzieri* National Association:

- a) was founded by the Congress of Rome of 16-18 January 1927;
- b) was set up as moral body with Royal Decree n. 377 of 11 March 1929;
- c) is an apolitical, non-party and non-profit association;
- d) is under the legal protection and supervision of the Minister of Economy and Finance, who implements them through the Commanding General of the Guardia di Finanza;
- e) forms part of Corps Associations Permanent National Council, is registered in the Corps and Ex-servicemen's Associations Roll, run by the Ministry of Defense, in conformity with art. 937 of Presidential Decree n. 90 of 15 March 2010, containing the Unified Code of regulations relating to the military legal system.

2. The Association has its headquarters in Rome. The central and territorial organization is set up in Title III.

Art. 2

Aims

1. The Association pursues the following aims:

- a) To promote and strengthen the union among all serving and discharged soldiers of the Guardia di Finanza, keeping alive the patriotic feeling, esprit de corps, military spirit and sense of honour, in the cult of memory of the glorious traditions of the Corps and ANFI;
- b) To maintain and reinforce the feelings of brotherhood and solidarity among the serving and discharged soldiers of the Guardia di Finanza and among them and those belonging to the Armed Forces and Police and their respective associations;

- c) To promote any activity to facilitate the access of the Association to the various inter-associative bodies, established by other associations for similar purposes;
- d) To worthily honour all those fallen in war or for reasons of service;
- e) To participate in military events and memorials, together with the serving members, other Armed Forces and Police and other Corps and Ex-servicemen's Associations;
- f) To develop and implement, through its own representatives, the in all aspects-assistance to the members and their families, carrying out, within the various intervention areas, a constant support action for the improvement of their lives, also thanks to the central and territorial promotion of collateral non-profit organizations;
- g) To promote the assistance for retired members, thanks to the Retirement and Legal Assistance Centre and similar local structures;
- h) To establish the necessary relations with all central and territorial Institutions, in order to achieve the purposes in the above letters f. and g.;
- i) To develop any possible voluntary activity, aimed at overcoming moral and material difficulties belonging to the community;
- j) To contribute to civil protection activities and ensure cooperation to local and national Institutions, in conformity with the specific skills we acquired in our experience;
- k) To volunteer with aims of social solidarity, within the framework of urban safety. Serving members do not take part in this type of activity.

TITLE II

Members

CHAPTER I

Categories of members. Membership acquisition and loss. Members' rights and obligations

Art. 3

Categories of members

1. The Association is composed of ordinary, honorary, meritorious and sympathizer members.
2. Ordinary members are: all - ranks Guardia di Finanza Officers (*Finanzieri*) and Cadets, Inspectors and Agents attending the Guardia di Finanza Military Institutes, both serving and discharged, widows, widowers and adult orphans of ordinary members.

3. Honorary members are appointed through determination of the National President. They are:
 - a. the Commanding General, the Second-in-Command and the Guardia di Finanza Chief of Staff at the General Headquarters, when they are assigned their respective offices;
 - b. the National Board's members who carried out at least one term, at the end of their office.

4. Others who can be appointed as honorary members, subject to approval of the National Board:
 - a. the Lieutenant Generals, the Major Generals of the Guardia di Finanza, public persons and those belonging to the ecclesiastical ministry, eminent-ranking, subject to proposal of the Association's National President or National Councilor;
 - b. the Brigadiers and Colonels of the Guardia di Finanza, both serving and discharged, the Generals of other Armed Forces, serving in Guardia di Finanza, who received any particular reward of merit;
 - c. any other member forming part of the Association, who was awarded an outstanding honorary title and/or specific merit.

Referring to the above letters b. and c., the proposal for appointment can be formulated by every member, passing through the Section and previously opened by the National Executive Committee.

5. Meritorious members are appointed by the National Executive Committee, at the proposal of the National President or the Section Board, through the responsible National Councilors. They can be: all - ranks Guardia di Finanza Officers (*Finanzieri*) and Cadets, Inspectors and Agents attending the Guardia di Finanza Military Institutes, both serving and discharged, as well as those not belonging to the Guardia di Finanza, who were awarded a merit for concrete work or service done in favor of the Association.

6. Sympathizer members may be appointed among the adult relatives of all - ranks Guardia di Finanza Officers (*Finanzieri*) and Cadets, Inspectors and Agents attending the Guardia di Finanza Military Institutes, both serving and discharged, as well as discharged soldiers from other Armed Forces and Police and those not belonging to the Guardia di Finanza who earned their citizenry's respect. Sympathizer members are appointed by the Section Councilors, subject to merit assessment. They can not be more than 35 % of ordinary members.

7. Who pays the annual membership fee to an extent of no lower than twice the amount of the estimated one becomes supporter member.

Art. 4

Membership acquisition

1. You become ordinary or sympathizer member if in possession of the requisites provided in the Charter and, nevertheless, not mentioning any of the causes of exclusion as in art. 5, everyone who applies for it on a specific form, in conformity with the model approved by the Association National Presidency, addressed to the Section of the Municipality of residence or, in lack of it, to the favourite Section, subject to positive resolution of the Section Board and payment of the membership fee. The transfer among Sections do not except the length of service acquired.
2. The same member can enroll in more Sections. In this case he is entitled to electorate and candidates only in the Section included among those in the above paragraph 1.
3. The enrollment becomes effective on the date of the application, subject to positive resolution of the Section Board.
4. An appeal to the National Executive Committee can be lodged against the resolution rejecting the application, within 30 days from the date of the receiving of the registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. The decision by the Committee is irrevocable.

Art. 5

Causes of membership exclusion

1. You can not form part of the Association if:
 - a. sentenced, even not definitely, for committing an offence with criminal intent;
 - b. left the service in the Guardia di Finanza, upon expulsion provision or refusal to continue the work relation;
 - c. not kept an acceptable moral and civil behavior or not deserving to belong to the Association for any reason;
 - d. expelled from the Armed Forces, Military organized Corps or Military Institutes, or dismissed from public offices.

Art. 6

Members rights and obligations

1. The member has to:

- a. pay the annual membership fee to the Section in which he is enrolled, within the time limit, as provided by the National Board. If in the family there are more than one member, the others have to pay half of the fee and are not entitled to receive the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames);
 - b. observe the Charter and the inspiration principles of the Association;
 - c. participate in the daily activities of the Association and cooperate for its moral and material strengthening;
 - d. keep a respectable and loyal behavior so as not to contradict the aims of the Association, nor to compromise the honour and prestige of it, its social bodies and the Guardia di Finanza, besides the respect towards the other members;
 - e. inform the Association of any fact, concerning each member, which may affect the membership relation.
2. The failure to abide by the obligations in the above letters leads to the beginning of a procedure for serious breach to the Charter, liable to expulsion.
3. The member has the right to:
 - a. receive the social card proving his membership and the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames). The ordinary member who is appointed to honorary or meritorious member, keeps his card as ordinary member;
 - b. cooperate to the achievement of the aims of the Association;
 - c. take advantage of the benefits the Association provides to its members.
4. As far as the central and territorial social offices elections is concerning, the only discharged Guardia di Finanza Officer (ordinary or meritorious member), enrolled in the Association since at least one year on the date of the election, is entitled to electorate and candidates. The serving Guardia di Finanza Officer, the widow, the widower, the adult orphan, as ordinary members, can vote for social offices, but can not be elected.
5. The minimum enrollment period in the Association is not required to hold social offices in new-established Sections.
6. The discharged Guardia di Finanza Officer, as ordinary or meritorious member of the Association, is entitled to electorate and candidates after one year from his appointment, subject to payment of the membership fee.
7. Performances by the members are not paid, but their incurred costs, if proven, are repayable to each member. Who serves for the functioning of central and territorial bodies may receive a reimbursement to the extent provided by the respective Boards.

Art. 7

Membership loss and precautionary suspension

1. You lose your membership for:
 - a. resignation;
 - b. failure to payment, without justification, of the membership fee within the time limit as provided by the National Board;
 - c. unexpected lack of the requisites required for obtaining the membership as in art. 5, except for non-definitive sentence for committing an offence with criminal intent.
2. The member who failed to pay the fee, due to force majeure or other justified reason, is allowed to readmission, within the end of the year, subject to the proper payment. The late payment beyond the end of the year is considered as new enrollment.
3. The membership precautionary suspension takes place following:
 - a. indictment or alternative proceedings for an offence with criminal intent, until the definitive sentence;
 - b. suspension from the office or service.
4. In case of definitive acquittal, the member is reintegrated in the Association.

Art. 8

Relations among members

1. Hierarchy is not based on ranks, but offices. Nevertheless, members are not exempted from the obligation to mutual respect and consideration towards senior or higher-ranking members, or office-holder.
2. The repeated breach of the obligations in the above paragraph 1 may be punished upon chapter two.

CHAPTER II

Sanctions

Art. 9

Sanctions measures

1. Sanctions measures have mainly moral value. Some of them may affect the right to keep the social office within A.N.F.I. or its membership.
2. Sanctions measures are taken against members who act in breach of their obligations, Charter aims or principles and commit offences to social and moral behavior rules. The provided sanctions measures, which are commensurate with the type of failure, its seriousness and reiteration, are the following:
 - a. warning: for soft failure or omission caused by remissness, not fitting his own duties;
 - b. admonition: for behaviors which are not in compliance with the aims and principles of the Association and unsettle the social life;
 - c. suspension from three to six months: for conduct which is contrary or unrelated to the Charter aims, or if sentenced, for no less than three times, for the sanctions in the above letters a. and b.;
 - d. expulsion from the Association for:
 - definitive sentence for committing an offence with criminal intent;
 - behaviours which caused at least two sentencing upon letter c. or particularly serious failures which unsettled the activity and the daily life of the Association and/or attracted public opinion attention, with following repercussions on the Guardia di Finanza and A.N.F.I. reputation.
3. All sanctions measures are subject, except from cases of urgency, to a written statement of objections and acquisition of the respective defences.
4. The member upon sanctions procedure may be assisted by an other member, by his choice, subject to written communication to the responsible bodies.

Art. 10

Authority for the implementation of sanctions measures

1. The member is imposed the warning and the admonition, relating to the social office he is holding, by:
 - a. The National President for the member belonging to central bodies;
 - b. The National Deputy President, responsible for the Section President;
 - c. The Section President for the Section member.
2. The membership loss, as provided in art. 7, paragraph 1, letter c. and the suspension, as in art. 7, paragraph 3 and 9, and 2, letter c., are adopted, for the member belonging to central bodies, by the National Board, at the proposal of the National President, by a two-thirds majority.

3. Sanctions measures, as in the above paragraph 2, are imposed to the member by the National Executive Committee, at the proposal of:
 - a. The National Deputy President, responsible for the Section President;
 - b. The Section President, heard the Section Board, for the Section member.

In case of urgency, the National President is responsible for it, subject to following ratification by the Executive Committee.
4. The expulsion of any member is decided by the National Executive Committee, at the proposal of the National President, the responsible National Deputy President, the responsible National Councilor and the Section President, subject to the opinion by the Board of Senior Members. As regards the members belonging to central bodies, the measure is adopted as provided in the above paragraph 2.
5. In the case the proposal of suspension or expulsion concerns the member of a collegiate body, he does not participate in the session.
6. All deeds have to be notified within sixty days by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.

Art. 11

Sanctions measures effect

1. The membership loss and suspension, as well as the expulsion, shall not confer entitlement to the return of the already paid membership fees.
2. The member is obliged to return his social card.

Art. 12

Appeals

1. The member who was imposed a sanction measure, as in art. 10, paragraph 1, letter b. and c., paragraph 3 and 4 may lodge an appeal, within thirty days from its notification:
 - a. to the National Executive Committee for the sanction as in art. 10, paragraph 1, letter b.;
 - b. to the National Deputy President for the sanction as in art. 10, paragraph 1, letter c.;
 - c. to the National Board for the sanction as in art. 10, paragraph 3 and 4.

Resolutions by the National Board, subject to the opinion by the Board of Senior Members, are irrevocable.

2. The appeal referring to sanctions measures as in art. 10, paragraph 1, letter a., paragraph 2 and 4, adopted against one member belonging to central bodies, has to be lodged to the Board of Senior Members, within thirty days from the notification.
3. The body or social office to whom the appeal is lodged, after ensuring the requisites of acceptability, may dispose for new inspections, if necessary.
4. The appeal does not suspend the sanction measure.

Art. 13

Sanctions towards the serving member

1. The National Presidency communicates violations committed by the serving member to directly upper Guardia di Finanza Officers. On the basis of the Charter, A.N.F.I. will consider adopting sanctions measures, as in art. 9.

TITLE III

Members

CHAPTER I

Legal system

Art. 14

Organization

1. The central bodies of the Association are:
 - a. the National Presidency, including:
 - the National President;
 - the Substitute National Deputy President;
 - two National Deputy Presidents (one for Northern Italy and one for Central and Southern Italy), in accordance with the territorial division established by the National Board;
 - the Secretary General;
 - the Deputy Secretary General;
 - the Bursar;

- the Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames);
 - the Retirement and Legal Assistance Centre;
- b. the National Board;
 - c. the National Executive Committee;
 - d. the Board of Statutory Auditors;
 - e. the Board of Senior Members;
 - f. the Board of Directors of the periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames).
2. For specific and proved needs, the National Presidency may employ external staff, upon resolution by the National Board.
 3. As regard the territorial coordination, the National Presidency may rely on regional National Councilors, while those residing in Rome carry out specific tasks.
 4. The Board of Statutory Auditors, the Board of Senior Members, the Board of Directors and the Editorial Committee of the periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames) have their headquarters at the National Presidency.
 5. The territorial bodies of the Association are:
 - a. the Section, including:
 - the Assembly;
 - the President;
 - the Deputy President;
 - the Section Board;
 - the Executive Committee, if present;
 - the Board of Statutory Auditors;
 - the Secretary;
 - the Bursar;
 - b. the Unit, in case it was established within the Section.
 6. The administrative structure of the Section includes the Secretary and the Bursar.
 7. Non-social offices members may hold the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Bursar’ administrative tasks, both central and territorial.

Art. 15

National Presidency, National Councilor and Section tasks

1. In pursuing the Charter aims, the National Presidency, the National Councilor and the Section, at their own level:
 - a. integrate in the society in which they work;
 - b. promote initiatives for solidarity, assistance in every sector and spirit of association and participate in voluntary activities, civil protection and urban safety, within their possibilities;
 - c. take part in official celebrations of the Commands of the Guardia di Finanza and State Institutional Bodies, which require their presence and Honours to the Fallen of the Armed Forces and Police;
 - d. contribute to keep alive the historic memory of the values we acquired in our experience and activities carried out by the Association;
 - e. have relationship with the competent territorial Command of the Guardia di Finanza.

Art. 16

Election and duration of social offices

1. The social office lasts five years. You can not hold the same office for more than two consecutive mandates. The member who is holding a social office at the date the Charter entered into force, he may apply to the same office for only one mandate.
2. The National President, the Substitute National Deputy President, the National Deputy Presidents, the National Councilors, the Board of Statutory Auditors and the Board of Senior Members are elected at the same time. The end of the mandate and the dissolution for any reason of the National Board entails the forfeiture of all central bodies, as in art. 14.
3. The offices of National President and Section President which could be vacant for any reason are held by the Substitute National Deputy President and Deputy Section President, until the end of the mandate. The candidates for the same office who received the highest number of votes in the latest elections substitute them.
4. All other elective social offices, which could be vacant for any reason, are held by the members who were candidate for the same office and received the highest number of votes, after those elected. In an absence of members, new elections are called.
5. The social offices and collegiate bodies of the Section are elected at the same time. The end of the mandate and the dissolution for any reason of the Section Board entails the forfeiture of all other social offices.

Art. 17

Provisions of early suspension and forfeiture of collegiate bodies and social offices

1. In case of resignation of a collegiate body, in its entirety or majority of its members, the National Executive Committee decides for the suspension and appoints a Commissioner to carry out the ordinary administration, calling new elections, to take place within three months from the resolution.
2. In case of serious and proved reasons, the National Board may:
 - a. deliberate on the forfeiture of a collegiate body;
 - b. decides for the dissolution of Sections or Boards;
 - c. appoint a Commissioner with the charge of calling new elections, to take place within three months from the resolution.
3. If the cases in the above paragraph 1 and 2 concern the National Board or the National Executive Committee, the Tutelary Authority or the National Board are competent.
4. The early suspension from the social office may be caused by unexpected loss or precautionary suspension of the membership as in art. 7 and for suspension or expulsion as in art. 9, or for impediment, resignation or forfeiture.
5. Sickness and unjustified absence which do not permit the exercise of your own activities for more than six months are considered causes of impediment.
6. Behaviours and activities which are manifestly contrary or unrelated to the Charter aims may be the causes of the forfeiture of held social offices, after acquiring the opinion by the Board of Senior Members.
7. The President of each collegiate body forfeits his assignment when omits to call the body he chairs without justified reason, after thirty days from the Charter time limit.
8. The member of each collegiate body forfeits his assignment in case of unjustified absence in at least three consecutive gatherings during a two-year period within his mandate.

9. The member belonging to a social body, who ended his assignment ahead of time, is substituted as in art. 16, paragraph 3 and 4. It is not allowed that more than the half of the members belonging to the social body in question replace them.
10. The member holding a central or territorial office is declared forfeited through resolution of the National Board, at the proposal of:
 - a. The National Executive Committee, if the member holds a central office;
 - b. The competent National Deputy President, if it is the case of a Section President or the competent National Councilor, subject to resolution of half plus one of the members belonging to the Section Board, if the member holds an other territorial office.
11. The forfeit measure is adopted with the majority of two thirds of the members belonging to the National Board or the National Executive Committee.

CHAPTER II

Social bodies common rules

Art. 18

Decision-making Association bodies

1. Deliberative power belongs to the members who exercise it in accordance within the ways and time provided in the Charter. Members meet in Assembly at the enrollment Sections:
 - a. to elect the members of collegiate bodies in central and territorial headquarters;
 - b. when the National Board and Section Boards consider it is necessary;
 - c. on reasonable request by at least one tenth of the members.
2. Are delegated to exercise the deliberative power:
 - a. The National Board;
 - b. The Section Board.
3. For the achievement of the Association purposes, the National Board and the Section Board deliberate, each of them within its competences, according to principles of democracy, transparency and mutual respect.
4. The other bodies of the Association respond, exercising the functions assigned to them by the Charter, to the National Board and Section Board.

Art. 19

Convening of collegiate bodies meetings

1. The central and territorial collegiate bodies are called by the respective Presidents, with prior notice, by means of fax or e-mail or printed document, sent to the respective members at least ten days before the scheduled date. The convening notice contains agenda, place and time of the meeting.
2. If on the first call the majority of the members is not present, the meeting is valid on the second call, regardless of the number of members present.
3. In case of convening not in accordance with the respective deadlines and whenever the collegiate bodies deem it appropriate, they may ask for a new meeting by means of letter to be signed by at least one third of the members.

Art. 20

Resolutions by collegiate bodies

1. Resolutions by collegiate bodies:
 - a. are passed, unless otherwise stated, with the favorable vote of the majority of the members present. At a parity of votes, the vote of the person chairing the meeting shall prevail;
 - b. are recorded on an appropriate minute, undersigned by the President and the Secretary which, following the transcription, is considered to be tacitly approved, unless written exceptions to come out within thirty days from the date it is sent to the members of the Board;
 - c. are binding for the Association within the subject of the ordinarily approved minute. In case of missing recording, each member shall take personal responsibility of his action.
2. The members belonging to the collegiate body are exempt from any possible responsibilities, relating to the subject of the resolution, as long as they recorded their disapproval.
3. Resolutions are usually taken by open vote, unless one of the member submits the request to proceed by secret vote.
4. Resolutions by the National Board shall be publicized on the web site of the Association.

Art. 21

Other forms of resolutions

1. In cases of urgency or other particular reasons, the National Executive Committee has the right to hear the National Board on issues within its competence.
2. In the case of the above paragraph 1, the National Executive Committee drafts the agenda and sends it to the members of the National Board, who express their vote on each issue.
3. The National Executive Committee compares the votes and, in accordance with the verified majority, adopts the resolutions which are recorded and sent to the members of the National Board, together with their respective minutes.
4. Making video-conference meetings or using other technological instruments is permitted.

CHAPTER III

Obligations and tasks

Art. 22

National President

1. The National President of the Association is also President of the National Board and the National Executive Committee.
2. The National President is elected, on a national basis, among the candidates for that specific office. He:
 - a. represents the Association to all intents, maintaining contact with the Tutelary Authority, to be informed on the outstanding facts, and with the Civil Authorities, military and religious, as well as the Corps Associations Permanent National Council.;
 - b. has the legally binding signature of the Association;
 - c. monitors the social activity and the correct use of the distinctive signs of the Associations, safeguarding its reputation and prestige;
 - d. convenes the National Board and the National Executive Committee, scheduling the agenda;
 - e. calls the general elections and national referendums;
 - f. submits the appointment of the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Bursar and Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames) to the approval of the National Board, pointing out the respective names, chosen among the members. If one of the National Councilors residing in Rome is elected for one of those offices, he is substituted with the candidate who received the highest number of votes;

- g. defines, by his own determination, for what is not provided by the Charter, the organization structure of the National Presidency;
- h. issues general provisions he deems necessary for the correct implementation of the rules in the Charter and resolutions of the National Board, as well as for the efficiency of the Association;
- i. has the right to confer assignments or mandates to Deputy Presidents or members of the National Board;
- j. may propose or impose sanctions to discharged personnel of the National Presidency;
- k. has the right to inspect and check the bodies of the Association, as well as confer inspection tasks, aimed at assessing particular situations, to the National Deputy Presidents or regional National Councilors.

Art. 23

National Deputy Presidents

1. The Substitute National Deputy President is elected, on a national basis, among the candidates for that specific office. He:
 - a. is member of the National Board and the National Executive Committee;
 - b. cooperates with the National President and may be assigned specific mandates or representative tasks, at national and local level, as well as inspecting and checking the bodies of the Association;
 - c. participates in the most important associative events with the National President and substitutes him, in case of his absence;
 - d. replaces the National President, in accordance with art. 16.

2. Two National Deputy Presidents, residing in the geographical areas within their competence, are elected among the candidates for that specific office, by the members who are enrolled in the Sections of the relevant Region. They:
 - a. are members of the National Board and the National Executive Committee;
 - b. cooperate with the National President and may be assigned specific mandates or representative tasks, at national and local level, as well as inspecting and checking the bodies of the Association, within their competence;
 - c. implement, in agreement with the National President, every activity and adopt the suitable actions for the achievement of the associative aims, within their competence;
 - d. participate in the most important events, at national and local level, as in their organization, if under their competence;
 - e. are informed of every outstanding situation by the regional National Councilors;
 - f. take action for all is provided in art. 10, 12 and 17, paragraph 10, letter b..

CHAPTER IV

National Board and National Executive Committee

Art. 24

National Board tasks

1. The National Board expresses the will of the Association and is the major body regulating its activity on a national level. It meets at the headquarters of the Association, or, if necessary, at another place as well, subject to prior communication to its members.
2. The National Board:
 - a. is responsible for the achievement of the aims of the Association;
 - b. oversees the overall performance by the association;
 - c. sets up the general national program and the criteria to which the activity of the National Executive Committee has to conform to.
 - d. analyzes and approves the annual estimate budget, the balance sheet of revenue and expenditure and the economic and patrimonial financial statement;
 - e. decides, for serious reasons, the dissolution or forfeiture of the collegiate bodies,
 - f. appoints the Secretary General, the Deputy Secretary General, the Bursar of the National Presidency and the Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), at the proposal of the National President, among the members;
 - g. appoints, in cases foreseen by rule, a Commissioner with the charge of calling new elections, to take place within three months from the date of the resolution, with the same tasks as the Section Board;
 - h. without prejudice to art. 17, paragraph 6, declares, at the proposal of the two thirds of its members, the forfeiture of the President, National Deputy Presidents, National Councilors and, at the proposal of the President, the forfeiture of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General;
 - i. proposes amendments to the Charter of the Association;
 - j. establishes the minimum amount of the membership fee, including the share intended to contribute to the expenditure of the National Presidency, for the fulfilling of the institutional aims, at central level;

- k. decides the amount that the National Presidency donates every year to the periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames), for contributing to its publications and shipment costs;
 - l. appoints the honorary social offices, within its competence;
 - m. establishes the territorial division for two National Deputy Presidents and the number of regional National Councilors as in art.14;
 - n. determines the rotation of regional National Councilors participating in the Executive Committee.
3. The National Board adopts provisions in the above paragraph 2, letters e., f. and g. by a half plus one majority of its members, entitled to vote. Those in letter h. are adopted by a majority of at least two thirds of its members, entitled to vote.
4. For provisions different from those in paragraph 3, the National Board deliberates in accordance with art. 20, paragraph 1.

Art. 25

National Board composition

1. The National Board is composed of:
 - a. the National President;
 - b. the Substitute National Deputy President;
 - c. two National Deputy Presidents;
 - d. the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, appointed by the National Board, without the right to vote, unless National Councilors;
 - e. regional National Councilors, usually one for each Region or group of Regions, according to the indications of the National Board;
 - f. three National Councilors, residing in Rome, elected on a national basis.

Art. 26

Extraordinary and ordinary gatherings

1. National Board ordinary gatherings usually meet once a semester. Extraordinary gatherings take place when the National President deems it necessary or in case it is requested by at least one third of the members of the National Board, entitled to vote, with the specification of the issues to deal with.
2. Gatherings are called by the National President and the date and the agenda are communicated at least ten days before the scheduled date.

3. Members of the National Board, entitled to vote, may request to insert problems of general interest in the agenda, by sending, in good time, specific proposal, together with its related report.

Art. 27

Validity of gatherings

1. For the gatherings of collegiate bodies to be valid it is necessary the presence of at least the half of its members, entitled to vote.

Art. 28

National Councilors obligations

1. Regional National Councilors, elected on a regional basis, have functions of promotion, coordination, assistance and public relations, within the area of their competence, for the achievement of the aims of the Association. For this activity, they may rely on the structure of the competent Sections. To this aim, they:
 - a. are part of the National Board and participate in the meetings of the National Executive Committee, according to the rotation established by the National Board;
 - b. convene the meetings of the Section Presidents at least once a year and every time it is necessary. Callings are suspended from the beginning of the procedure for the election of central bodies until the proclamation of the elected.
 - c. provide assistance, consulting services and support to the organization, development and strengthening of the Sections and watch over the compliance of the Charter and the aims of the Association;
 - d. maintain relations with the territorial Commands of the Guardia di Finanza, the military and civil Authorities and other Corps Associations;
 - e. implement justified inspections and inquiries, by delegation of the National President or the responsible National Deputy President or on their own account;
 - f. have the right to inspect the Sections of their competence and participate in the SectionBoards;
 - g. are informed on the programs, initiatives and activities of the Sections by the Sections Presidents and are responsible for their coordination when concerning more provinces;
 - h. take part in the most important events regarding the Association in their respective territorial area;

- i. receive, for information, copy of the minutes and financial statements of the Sections of their competence;
 - j. inform the National President and the National Deputy President of any outstanding situation.
2. National Councilors in the above paragraph 1 acquire the denomination of National Councilor for the Region/Regions of competence.
3. Three National Councilors, as in art. 25, letter f.:
 - a. are part of the National board and participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee;
 - b. carry out specific tasks, in accordance with the program lines, the resolution by the National Board or on mandate of the National President.

Art. 29

National Executive Committee tasks

1. The National Executive Committee is the ordinary managing body of the Association, direct expression of the National Board.
2. It usually meets once a month at the headquarters of the Association in Rome and, if necessary, in another place as well, subject to prior communication to its members.
3. The National Executive Committee:
 - a. promotes the initiatives and activities for the achievement of the Charter aims;
 - b. implements the National Board resolutions;
 - c. oversees the Association life, in all its aspects, informing the National Board of every worthy situation;
 - d. adopts the sanctions measures of its competence and prepares the cases of those transferred to the National Board;
 - e. schedules the annual general program of the activities of the Association, subject to the approval by the National Board;
 - f. approves the usually monthly financial statement;
 - g. defines the annual estimate budget, the balance sheet of revenue and expenditure, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement of the National Presidency, subject to the approval of the National Board;
 - h. administrates the social assets, fostering the necessary resolutions by the National Board for extraordinary administration costs;

- i. prepares the documents for the appointment of honorary members, on the basis of the in-coming proposals, which shall be approved by the National Board;
- j. checks the documents and post of its competence, coming from the Sections, ensuring their compliance to the provisions and rules of the Association;
- k. deliberates on the appointment as meritorious member and Honorary Section President;
- l. in case of urgent necessity, replaces the National Board for decisions of its competence, with the obligation to submit them to ratification at the first meeting of the National Board;
- m. analyzes and approves the proposals, presented and justified by the social bodies, aimed at obtaining subsidies and grants for Sections and members in need, taking into account, where possible, the criteria adopted by the Commands of the Guardia di Finanza;
- n. nullifies the minutes of the elections held at the Sections and those of the meetings of the Section Boards and possibly established Committees, if containing resolutions not in compliance with the Charter rules or aims of the Association. These provisions are subject to ratification by the National Board.

Art. 30

National Executive Committee composition

1. The National Executive Committee is composed of:
 - a. the National President;
 - b. the Substitute National Deputy President;
 - c. two National Deputy Presidents;
 - d. the Secretary General, who performs the functions of the Secretary of the Committee and (of) the Deputy Secretary General, who is not entitled to vote, if they are not National Councilors;
 - e. three regional National Councilors, who participate in the meetings with periodic rotation established by the National Board, and three National Councilors who resides in Rome;
2. At the meetings of the National Executive Committee, the President may call the competent regional National Councilor to hear him on issues of his Region interest and issues regarding the good functioning of the Sections.
3. At least one member of the Board of Statutory Auditors, not entitled to vote, usually participates in the meetings of the National Executive Committee. His absence does not affect the validity of the meetings and decisions of the Committee.

Art. 31

National Executive Committee's members tasks

1. The Deputy Secretary General, in cooperation with the Bursar, drafts the monthly balance sheet of revenue and expenditure, the estimate budget and annual financial statement, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement of the National Presidency.
2. Other members may be assigned specific tasks or particular documents to deal with by the National Executive Committee.

CHAPTER V

Tasks of the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Bursar and Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), Retirement and Legal Assistance Centre

Art. 32

Secretary General

1. The Secretary General:
 - a. is appointed by the National Board upon the proposal of the National President and is chosen among the members. If holding the office of National Councilor, he is entitled to vote;
 - b. manages and coordinates the organization structure of the National Presidency according to the guidelines of the President;
 - c. signs, together with the National President and Substitute National Deputy President, the minutes of the meetings of the National Board and National Executive Committee and separately signs the acts of ordinary management of the National Presidency, in the absence of the National President;
 - d. implements the resolutions by the National Board and National Executive Committee;
 - e. supervises the logistical-administrative activities;
 - f. is part of the Board of Directors of the periodic magazine of the Association "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), as entitled to the status of member.

Art. 33

Deputy Secretary General

1. The Deputy Secretary General:

- a. is appointed by the National Board upon the proposal of the National President and is chosen among the members. If holding the office of National Councilor, he is entitled to vote;
- b. arranges for:
 - logistical-administrative activities of the National Presidency and the periodic magazine of the Association "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), respectively calling on the Bursar and the Chief Executive Officer to collaborate, according to the principles of good administration;
 - what is provided in art. 31, paragraph 1;
- c. performs the functions as Secretary of the National Board and Executive Committee, in the absence of the Secretary General;
- d. is responsible for the conservation of the archive and property of the National Presidency and the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames).

Art. 34

Bursar and Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames)

1. The Bursar of the National Presidency and the Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), appointed by the National Board, at the proposal from the National President, each of them for its own competences:
 - a. are responsible for the bookkeeping;
 - b. are responsible for the cash service and cooperate with the Deputy Secretary General in drafting the monthly balance sheet of revenue and expenditure, the annual estimate budget and annual financial statement, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement of the National Presidency and the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames);
 - c. guard and update the inventories of moveable goods and real estate of the National Presidency and the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames).
2. The Bursar of the National Presidency and the Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames) have the right to keep some cash holdings, for current needs, for an amount not exceeding that one which is allowed by the National Executive Committee or the National Board. The exceeding amounts are deposited in a Credit Institute or transferred on the postal account, according to the indications of the National Executive Committee or the National Board, with the disjointed signatures of the National President and the Bursar of the

National Presidency and the Chief Executive Officer of the periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames).

Art. 35

Retirement and Legal Assistance Centre

1. The Retirement and Legal Assistance Centre has tasks of information, expert advices and assistance regarding retirement issues in favour of retired members.
2. The responsible of the Centre, whose office is for free:
 - a. is chosen among the experts with acknowledged competence and is appointed by the National Board, at the proposal from the National Presidency;
 - b. annually presents a report of the activities done to the National Board;
3. His office, the conditions of his relation with the other retired members, the duration, the causes and terms of the possible dissolution of his mandate are ruled by a specific convention, approved by the National Board.
4. The regional National Councilors may establish, within the territory of their competence, a similar activity in compliance with what is provided in the above paragraph 1, 2 and 3, informing the National Presidency.

CHAPTER VI

Board of Statutory Auditors

Art. 36

Headquarters and composition

1. The Board of Statutory Auditors has its headquarters at the National Presidency and is composed of three effective members and two substitutes who elect, within their competence, their own President. Statutory Auditors can not hold other social offices.

Art. 37

Tasks

1. The Board of Statutory Auditors:
 - a. has to verify the accounting records to be regular and the related documents to be corresponding;
 - b. carries out, at least once every three months, the accounting and administrative control to ensure the cash and the existence of social-property securities and assets. The result of the control is recorded in a minute to be delivered to the Deputy Secretary General;
 - c. presents a report to the National Board on the balance sheet of revenue and expenditure of the last financial year, at the end of each year;
 - d. participates, without the right to vote, in the meetings of the National Board and one of its member may take part in the meetings of the National Executive Committee, as auditor.
2. The Deputy Secretary General communicates to the Secretary General and the National Executive Committee the possible remarks by the Board of Statutory Auditors, during the control.

CHAPTER VII

Board of Senior Members

Art. 38

Headquarters and composition

1. The Board of Senior Members has its headquarters at the National Presidency and is composed of threememberswho elect, within their competence, their own President. Senior Members can not hold other social offices.

Art. 39

Tasks

1. The Board of Senior Members:
 - a. deliberates, in the last resort, on the appeal as in art. 12, paragraph 2;
 - b. decides on every issue the National President, the National Board or the National Executive Committee refer to him;
2. The deliberation and the opinion as in paragraph 1 have to be expressed by the majority within sixty days after their receiving and recorded in a minute, signed by all participating members.

3. The National Presidency deals with the deliberation as in paragraph 1, letter a., which has to be notified in writing to the person concerned.
4. The Board of Senior Members may inspect all social documents related to subjects under his assessment, requiring their exhibition to central and territorial bodies of the Association. It may invite the parties to appear for testifying on the subject, even separately, and ask for testimonies and depositions it consider necessary.
5. One member of the Board of Senior Members may participate, without the right to vote, in the meetings of the National Board.

CHAPTER VIII

Section

Art. 40

General information and organization

1. The Section is the territorial body which implements the aims of the Association.
2. The establishment of the Section is approved by the National Executive Committee, which, during the constitutive period, appoint a Committee who acts as the Section Board.
3. The identification of the Section is due to its name and the place where it has its headquarters.
4. The Section can not have less than fifteen members entitled to vote.
5. The President has legal representation powers of his Section; he is the responsible for its organization and functioning. He is supported by a Deputy President, who substitutes him in case of his absence and carries out the tasks he is given.
6. The territorial jurisdiction of the Sections broadly corresponds to the Municipality where it is located and may extend to the neighbouring ones. In big cities, when the number of Section members exceeds five hundred people, new Sections may be founded, upon authorization by the National Executive Committee.
7. Subject to the approval by the National Executive Committee, the Section may be named after those fallen in war, serving or decorated with Military or Civil Value or

awarded with some particular merits, during their services in the Guardia di Finanza or Association.

8. The request for the establishment of a Section may be proposed by the National Presidency, by means of the regional National Councilor who is competent for his Region or group of Regions, at least fifteen applicant members of the Association, residing in the Municipality (or neighbouring ones) where the Section should be founded.
9. In case of dissolution of the Section, its members shall be enrolled, on their request, in another Section according to what is provided in art. 4. The social office possibly held in the past section is a valid requisite for the new eligibility.

Art. 41

Tasks

1. The Section, beyond what is provided in art. 15, schedules and implements its initiatives in the respect of the Charter.
2. The annual plan of the Section includes, in any case, the initiatives and outstanding activities, among which those as in art. 2, letters i., l. and m. have a particular importance, together with those emerged during the meetings called by the competent regional National Councilor.
3. For any reason connected with the office work, the Section has to directly communicate with the central bodies of the Association, informing, according to the Charter and for any more relevant reason, the National Deputy President and the regional National Councilor, except from the necessary and suitable contacts with the competent territorial Commands of the Guardia di Finanza.
4. The Section keeps updated the register of members and the cash journal, where all accounting facts, the inventory of provided goods, the protocol register, the binder of minutes and those of the estimate budget of revenue and expenditure, as well as the financial statement are recorded.

Art. 42

Section Board

1. The Section Board:

- a. exercises the deliberative power at territorial seat, on proxy of the members' Assembly;
 - b. supervises the general functioning of the Section;
 - c. approves the annual plan of the activities of the Section and establishes the criteria the management has to comply with;
 - d. is the body responsible for the life of the Section and allows the expenditure exceeding the ordinary administration.
2. The Section Board is composed of:
- a. the President and Deputy President of the Section;
 - b. a Councilor every fifteen members, with a minimum of two and a maximum of ten. Possible exceptions shall be subject to the prior decision of the Executive Committee.
3. The Section Board:
- a. is called by its President at least twice a year and whenever it is necessary;
 - b. prepares the schedule of the social activities, compatibly with the estimate available financial resources, the budget of revenue and expenditure, the balance sheet as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement;
 - c. may demand the members to pay extra fees exceeding the membership one, if extraordinary and/or unexpected costs turn up.
4. The President, Deputy President and Councilors performs similar functions to those of the corresponding central bodies, in compliance with the same rules.

Art. 43

Section Executive Committee

1. In the Section having at least five hundred members, following a deliberation by the Section Board, a Section Executive Committee may be established. It would be composed by the President, Deputy President, Secretary, four members of the Section Board, with similar tasks and functioning to those of the National Executive Committee. The Committee meets whenever necessary.

Art. 44

Unit

1. The Unit usually includes not less than eight members. It takes its name from the Municipality it is located in and is part of the nearest Section, from which it depends for managing and patrimonial functions.
2. The establishment of a Unit is decided, for valid reasons, by the Section Board and has to be ratified by the National Executive Committee.
3. The Unit, which may have its own headquarters, is managed by a trustee who is appointed by the Section Board. He acts as an intermediary between the President of the Section and the Unit's members and may participate in the meetings of the Board.
4. The Section Board, for serious reasons, may decide for the dissolution of the Unit, subject to ratification of the National Executive Committee who defines the effective date.

Art. 45

Minutes of the meeting

1. The minutes of the meetings of the Section Board and Section Executive Committee, if present, are signed by the Section President and Secretary and then their copies are sent to the National Executive Committee and, for information, to the regional National Councilor, within thirty days.

Art. 46

Section Bursar and Secretary appointment and tasks

1. The Section Secretary and the Bursar are appointed, at the proposal of the Section President, by the Section Board. The connected tasks may be performed by any member, who, if not Councilor, participates in the meetings, without the right to vote.
2. The Section Secretary carries out, within his possibilities, tasks that are similar to those of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General (art. 32 and 33).
3. The Section Bursar:
 - a. carries out, within his possibilities, tasks that are similar to those of the National Presidency's Bursar(art. 34);
 - b. has the right to keep some cash holdings, for current needs, for an amount not exceeding that one which is allowed by the National Executive Committee. The exceeding amounts are deposited in a Credit Institute or transferred on the

postal account, with the disjointed signatures of the Section President and the Bursar.

Art. 47

Board of Statutory Auditors

1. The three effective Statutory Auditors and the two substitutes perform similar functions to those of the corresponding central body, in compliance with the same rules.

CHAPTER IX

Honorary Offices

Art. 48

Appointment procedure

1. The National President, National Deputy Presidents and Honorary National Councilors are appointed by the National Board. The Honorary Section Presidents are appointed by the National Executive Committee.
2. For the appointment to the honorary office it is required at least one exercise mandate.
3. The proposal for the appointment as National President, National Deputy President or Honorary National Councilor may come from every member holding a central social office; that one for the appointment as Honorary Section President may come from every singular member, with the approval of the competent Section Board. Proposals have to be adequately justified.

TITLE IV

Financial provisions

CHAPTER I

Assets

Art. 49

Association assets

1. The Association assets includes every moveable goods and real estate, as well as every security, stocks or patrimonial property, owned by the National Presidency.
2. Goods, securities, stocks and properties as in paragraph 1, owned by every singular Section, are part of the Association assets.
3. Assets and financial means of the National Presidency and every Section are exclusively intended to ensure the exercise of the activities provided in the Charter.
4. In case of dissolution of a Section, its relative residual assets shall be transferred to the National Presidency. In case of termination of the Association, its assets shall be transferred to the Finanziari Assistance Fund, that is another association having similar aims (public interest according the provisions provided by the National Board or, in lack of them, according to the Civil Code).

CHAPTER II

Financial resources

Art. 50

Incomes

1. The Association has ordinary and extraordinary incomes.
2. Ordinary incomes come from patrimonial yield and membership fees, in the minimum part, established year by year, by the National Board or, in the maximum part, by the Section Board.
3. For each enrolled member, as a contribution to the expenditure for the implementation, at central level, of the institutional aims, the Section has to pay an amount which is established by the National Board to the National Presidency.

4. Extraordinary incomes are voluntary donations from serving personnel of the Guardia di Finanza, as well as subsidies, inheritances and donations by the State, bodies or privates.

CHAPTER III

Financial year

Art. 51

Beginning and end of the financial year

1. The financial year of the Association begins on 1 January, while ends on 31 December of each year.

Art. 52

Accounting documents

1. Accounting documents of the National Presidency and Section include:
 - a. estimate budget of revenues and expenditure;
 - b. balance sheet of revenues and expenditure;
 - c. economic and patrimonial financial statement;
 - d. cash journal;
 - e. book of inventory.

Moreover, the National Presidency drafts the monthly balance sheet of revenues and expenditure.

2. The estimate budget of revenues and expenditure of the National Presidency, including that one concerning the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames), as regards the financial year, is prepared by the National Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames). It is usually arranged in January and approved by the National Board within the end of March. The National Presidency, until the approval of the National Board, may use, for each month of the new financial year, one twelfth of the

amounts which are estimated on each chapter of the previous year-budget of revenues and expenditure.

3. The monthly economic and patrimonial financial statement of the National Presidency, prepared by the Deputy Secretary General in collaboration with the Bursar, is approved by the National Executive Committee or National Board.
4. The balance sheet of revenues and expenditure, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement of the National Presidency are prepared by the National Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames). Such documents, with attached the reports of the Board of Statutory Auditors, are approved by the National Board within the following March.
5. One copy of the balance sheet of revenues and expenditure, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement, with attached the report of the Board of Statutory Auditors, approved by the National Board, is sent, for acknowledgement, within a month from the approval, to the General Headquarters of the Guardia di Finanza and publicized on the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames).
6. The accounting documents of the Section, as in paragraph 1, letters a. and b., are sent, within one month from the approval of the Section Board, to the National Executive Committee for the ratification and the copy to the competent National Councilor.
7. The National Presidency and the Section, each of them within its competence, have decision-making, managing and patrimonial autonomy, in compliance with the specific civil and fiscal rules in force.

TITLE V

Banners, representative uniform and periodic magazine

CHAPTER I

Banners

Art. 53

Flag and collection of Medals

1. The National Presidency and the Section have the National Flag, symbol of the State. The Section may also have a Labarum, on a decision of the National Board.

2. The National Presidency has in custody the collection of Medals, embellished with the badges of all awards and medals of Military Valor and for Civil Merit, given to the Flag of the Guardia di Finanza and the singular soldiers.
3. Flags and the collection of Medals have the following characteristics:
 - a. The Flag of the National Presidency:
 - is a tricolor silk banner, one hundred-centimetre high and one hundred fifty-centimetre large, with an eight and seventy-centimetre light blue ribbon and a three-centimetre ending golden fringe, on which it is written "Italian *Finanzieri* National Association". Letters are embroidered in gold and are three-centimetre high;
 - is supported by a bent chromed flagpole, with a twentyfive-millimetre long cane, including the lance having in its centre the Corps badge. The flagpole is totally around three-metre high;
 - b. the Section Flag is similar to that one described in letter a., except from the writing on the light blue ribbon, that is the following: "Italian *Finanzieri* National Association – Section of _____" (Municipality where the Section is located);
 - c. the collection of Medals:
 - is a sixty and eighty-centimetre light blue silk banner. It has double-layer fabric with an eight-centimetre high based golden fringe, in which it is embroidered the around twentyfive-centimetre high Corps badge, showing the writing "Italian *Finanzieri* National Association". The Corps badge and the writing are put on the base of the banner;
 - is supported by a chromed metal pole, two metre and ten-centimetre high, with a thirty-millimetre cane, including the lance having the Corps badge on it.
4. The collection of Medals, the Flag and the Labarum attend, in the provided cases, the official ceremonies, accompanied by the ensign and guard of honour.
5. The collection of Medals participates, in particular, in commemorative ceremonies, celebratory events and similar at national level, established by the competent authorities.
6. The Section Flag, or the Labarum, participates in the other ceremonies at local level, including funerals of the members, with the black ribbon as a sign of mourning.

7. In cases as in paragraphs 5 and 6, the ensign and the guard wear, if possible, in white shirt and dark suit, with the provided badges.
8. During transfers and stops, both the National Flag and the collection of Medals, guarded in their own case, are watched, in turn, by the ensign and guard, if it is not possible to guard them in a safer place.
9. The National Flag and the collection of Medals are given individual and collective honours provided by the Rules on territorial service and garrison.

CHAPTER II

Representative uniform

Art. 54

Representative uniform

1. The representative uniform includes the combination of pieces of clothing and accessories, approved by the National Board, to be worn by members whenever participating in official ceremonies or specific institutional activities.
2. The National Presidency informs the General Headquarters of the Guardia di Finanza on deliberations, as in paragraph 1.

CHAPTER III

Association periodic magazine

Art. 55

Periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames)

1. The periodic magazine “FiammeGialle” (Yellow Flames) is the official magazine of the Association and it is published by the National Presidency, in compliance with the Law on publishing 8February 1948, n. 47 and following amendments.
2. It arranges the spreading of cultural, military, legal, retirement, historic, literal and sport articles, as well as news and useful information to inform members about the

life of the Association. It is opened to the collaboration of every member, for the discussion about problems or general interest situations.

3. Only members receive the periodic magazine.
4. The magazine usually has monthly installment, except from particular circumstances and situations causing the reduction of published copies.
5. The magazine has organizational, managing and administrative autonomy.
6. The bodies of the magazine are appointed every five years, following the renewal of central social offices of the Association; they are:
 - a. Managing Director;
 - b. Board of Directors;
 - c. Editorial Committee;
 - d. Board of Statutory Auditors.
7. The office of Managing Director belongs to the National President and, in case of his renouncement, to another member of the Association, appointed by the majority of the National Board. He is assigned the tasks provided by current provisions on printing and publishing.
8. The Board of Directors:
 - a. is composed of five members (three of them deserving it): the National President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General and two appointed by the Executive Committee, at the proposal of the Managing Director;
 - b. prepares, for the approval of the National Board, the estimate budget of revenues and expenditure , the balance sheet of revenues and expenditure, as well as the economic and patrimonial financial statement.
9. The Editorial Committee is composed of seven members (four of them deserving it): the Substitute National Deputy President, two National Deputy Presidents and the Secretary General and three National Councilors, appointed by the Executive Committee, at the proposal of the Managing Director.
10. The Editorial Committee is the advisory body of the managing and editorial staff of the periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames). It meets at least twice a year and whenever necessary. It has to express opinions and general guidelines as regards the best typeset, publishing and contents of articles as in paragraph 2, as well as the spreading of news and information of the Association interest.

11. The periodic magazine "FiammeGialle" (Yellow Flames) receives, annually, by the National Presidency, an amount as contribution to the expenditure for its publishing and shipment, established by the National Board at the proposal of the Board of Directors of the same magazine.
12. The Board of Statutory Auditors as in art. 36 performs the same tasks provided in art. 37 as regards the periodic magazine.

TITLE VI

Elections

CHAPTER I

General information

Art. 56

Social offices elections

1. The elections for the appointment and renewal of social offices, both central and territorial, occur every five years.
2. The candidates for following offices are elected, on a national basis, by all members who are entitled to vote:
 - a. National President;
 - b. Substitute National Deputy President;
 - c. Three National Councilors as in art. 25, letter f.;
 - d. Effective and substitute Statutory Auditors;
 - e. Senior Members.
3. Candidate National Deputy Presidents for Northern Italy and Central and Southern Italy and candidate National Councilors for Regions, all of them residing in one of the Municipalities included in the corresponding geographical area, are elected by the members, entitled to vote, who are enrolled in the Sections located in the same area.
4. The candidates for following territorial social offices:
 - a. President;
 - b. Deputy President;
 - c. Councilors;

d. Effective and substitute Statutory Auditors,

all of them residing in the territory of the belonging Section, are elected by the members, entitled to vote, who are enrolled in the same Section.

Art. 57

Candidates requisites for social offices

1. The candidates for social offices have to be in possession of the competent requisites, esteem and consideration, acquired during military or civil life and do not have to be assigned any demerits towards the Guardia di Finanza and the Association.
2. The National Executive Committee is responsible for the assessment of the existence of the requisites, for central offices, while as regards the territorial ones, the Section Board is responsible.

CHAPTER II

Central bodies elections

Art. 58

Beginning of the procedure

1. At national level, the date on which the elections of central bodies take place is decided by the National Board and communicated to the Sections, by the National Presidency, at least one hundred fifty days before.
2. The sending date of the provision which determinesthe call and methods of execution of the election represents the official beginning of the procedure.

Art. 59

Candidates

1. The members, entitled to vote, in possession of the requisites as in art. 57 and in good standing with the enrollment, who are aspirant to central offices have to send a request on unstamped paper, with attached a document containing personal information, in compliance with the form of the National Presidency, to the belonging Section, within thirty days from the beginning of the procedure.
2. Members can not candidate for more than one office.
3. The request, addressed to the National President, has to be sent, by registered letter, through the belonging Section, including the non-binding opinion of the Section Board, within forty-five days from the beginning of the procedure.

Art. 60

Preliminary operations

1. Requests coming to the National Presidency are held by the National Executive Committee which, after ensuring their formal regularity, groups them in the following eight lists:
 - a. n. 1: candidates for National President;
 - b. n. 2: candidates for Substitute National Deputy President;
 - c. n. 3: candidates for National Deputy President for Northern Italy;
 - d. n. 4: candidates for National Deputy President for Central and Southern Italy;

 - e. n. 5: candidates for regional National Councilor for each Region or group of Regions;
 - f. n. 6: candidates for National Councilor having their residence in Rome;
 - g. n. 7: candidates for Statutory Auditors Board;
 - h. n. 8: candidates for Senior Members Board.

Art. 61

Number of candidates

1. The number of candidates for each social office to be elected has not to be less than the double.
2. In case of lack of requests for one office, the appointment shall be done by the National Board, upon acceptance by the persons concerned. If it is not possible to achieve the number of candidates as in paragraph 1, the National Board, as an

exception to the provision as in art. 16, paragraph 1, may authorize the member who already held the same office for two consecutive mandates to candidate.

Art. 62

Candidates enrollment into the voting sheet

1. The enrollment into the voting sheet is subject to the approval of the National Board which meets, to this purpose, within ninety days from the date of the beginning of the procedure.

Art. 63

Formation of the voting sheet

1. On the basis of the decisions of the National Board, the National Presidency prepares the voting sheet which shall be definitely approved by the National Executive Committee.
2. In the singular boxes, corresponding to the different offices to be elected, candidates are written in alphabetical order (surname and name).

Art. 64

Shipment of the voting sheet

1. The National Presidency shall send the right number of voting sheets to each Section, not less than thirty days before the date of the elections.

Art. 65

List of voting members

1. Within forty-five days from the beginning of the procedure, the Section prepares three copies of the list of voting members.
2. One copy is sent to the National Presidency by registered letter as in art. 59, paragraph 3.

3. The other two copies are delivered on the day of the elections to the polling station Presidency, which uses it for the identification of the voting members.

Art. 66

Call of members

1. The convocation notices are sent to the members, at least thirty days before the date of the elections. They are usually delivered by hand, upon acknowledgement of receipt; by post, upon stamping on a dedicated list by the post office official; by fax or e-mail, through the Section.
2. In the footnote, it is provided a proxy form, if the member could not personally come to vote. In this case, it has to be filled in and signed by the holder and delivered to another member, who is entitled to vote.

Art. 67

Execution of elections

1. Elections shall take place on the day, at the time and through the method provided by the National Presidency.
2. The Section Board appoints the President, two scrutineers and the polling station Supervisor and, if necessary, one Deputy President. Once explained the formalities of the case, elections begin. The polling station Supervisor tasks can not be carried out by the candidates.
3. The member has to identify himself to be authorized to vote.
4. If the member did not receive or lost his convocation notice, he may vote anyhow, subject to authorization of the President and checking his identity on the member list.
5. If the member complied with the enrollment after the dispatch of the list as in art. 65, he may be given the right to vote, subject to authorization of the President who adds him in the list.
6. The member who is delegate to represent other members has to exhibit the relative convocation notice, together with the proxy signed by the absent member.
7. A maximum of two proxies for each member are allowed.

8. One voting sheet is delivered to each voting member. In case of mistake, on request by the person concerned, it may be substituted, prior to its destruction.
9. Voting sheets provided by the National Presidency are subject to financial statement; for this reason, those which are not used have to be given back.

Art. 68

Counting of votes

1. At the end of the elections, in an open session for all members, counting of votes begins. It finishes with the reporting, in duplicate, of the minute of the establishment of the polling station, containing the results.
2. The minute is attached the member list as in art. 65, integrated with the notes and signatures required on the form.

Art. 69

Deeds transmission

1. Voting sheets, collected in a bundle, duly sealed and signed by the President, are delivered, together with a copy of the minute for the establishment of the polling station, to the Section President who shall keep them in the storage available to the National Presidency for any control, until the following elections.
2. The second copy of the above minute, with attached the member list as in art. 68, paragraph 2, is sent within twenty-four hours, by registered post, to the National Presidency, with the unused voting sheets.

Art. 70

Final counting of votes in the main headquarters

1. The National Executive Committee carry out the final counting of votes, on the basis of the results of the minutes for the establishment of the polling stations and the attached member lists.
2. In case of doubt, it requires the bundle containing the voting sheets as in art. 69 to the Section, for the control.
3. Counting of votes by the National Executive Committee is completed within thirty days from the date of the elections.

4. Final results are reported by the National Executive Committee and then disclosed so as to proclaim the new elected.
5. In case of equality, the member with the major seniority in the Association is elected and, following, who held, in order of precedence, territorial and/or central social offices.

Art. 71

Power handover

1. Since the proclamation of the new elected, central social bodies in charge lose their functions.
2. The previous National President has to update the new one on the outstanding issues of the Association.
3. The previous Secretary General ensures the continuity of the functions of the National Presidency until the first meeting of the new National Board.

CHAPTER III

Territorial bodies elections

Art. 72

Call of members

1. The election of the central offices of the Section has to be implemented before the mandate expires, except for particular circumstances which are previously assessed by the National Executive Committee.
2. The date of the elections, decided by the Section Board, is usually communicated to the members at least one hundred fifty days before the expiry date of the mandate, informing the National Presidency.
3. The convocation notices are sent to each member entitled to vote by hand, post, fax or e-mail at least thirty days before.

Art. 73

Candidates and formation of the voting sheet

1. For the Section with more than forty members entitled to vote, you may candidate for one office only.
2. The number of candidates to enroll on the sheeting vote:
 - **for the office of President and Deputy President:** has not to be lower than the double of the candidates to be elected, if the number of members entitled to vote is more than fifty persons;
 - **for the office of Councilor:**
 - has not to be lower than the double of the candidates to be elected, if the number of members entitled to vote is more than three hundred persons;
 - has to be increased of at least two persons, relating to the number of candidates to be elected, if the number of members entitled to vote is lower than three hundred persons;
 - **for the office of Statutory Auditor:** has to be increased of at least two persons, relating to five candidates to be elected (among effectives and substitutes), if the number of members entitled to vote is more than three hundred persons;
3. In case of lack of candidacies, the appointment to these offices shall be done by the Section Board, prior to appreciation of the concerned. If it is not possible to achieve the number of candidates as in paragraph 2, the National Executive Committee, by derogation from art. 16, paragraph 1, may use the candidacy of the member who already held the same office for two consecutive mandates.
4. The Section Board decides the formation of the voting sheet. The candidates are enrolled in alphabetical order (Surname and name).

Art. 74

Elections, counting of votes, communications

1. Provisions in Chapter I and II of the present Title are observed.

Art. 75

Proclamation of new elected

1. The minute for the establishment of the polling station, containing the results, has value for the proclamation of the new elected, who are in charge from the following date.
2. The National Executive Committee ratifies the results.

TITLE VII

Transitional and final provisions

CHAPTER I

Final provisions

Art. 76

Dissolution of the Association

1. The National Board, in case of impossibility to achieve the social aims, heard the Tutelary Authority, call a referendum to propose the possible dissolution of the Association. The following destination of the social assets shall be transferred in compliance with art. 49, paragraph 4.
2. The relative deliberation shall be approved by positive vote of at least three quarters of the voting members.

Art. 77

Amendments of the Charter

1. Amendments to the Charter of the Association are proposed by one third of the National Boardmembers or members entitled to vote and are deliberated by the National Board by majority of two thirds of its members.

CHAPTER II

Transitional provisions

Art. 78

Exceptions

1. The new composition of the Section Board enters into force at the moment of the renewal of territorial social offices.

Art. 79

Entry into force of the Charter

1. The Charter enters into force on the fifteenth day from the date of the approval Decree.