

## **Center for Somali Studies Bylaws**

### ARTICLE 1 – *Scope*

1. The Center for Somali Studies (from now on referred to as ‘Center’) is hereby established as an independent, interdepartmental research institution endorsed by the Dipartimento di Biologia, the Dipartimento di Linguistica, the Dipartimento di Progettazione Educativa e Didattica, and the Dipartimento di Studi Internazionali, of the Università degli Studi Roma Tre.
2. The Center shall be headquartered at the Università degli Studi Roma Tre.
3. The Center is administratively autonomous.

### ARTICLE 2 – *Purpose Entitlements*

1. The Center works in three program areas:
  - Promoting research in the area of Somali language, society, history, arts, and natural environment; sharing the outcome of research, by means of conferences, workshops, and publications; building cooperative relations with other institutions, both domestic and foreign (according to the article 66 of the Law 382/80)
  - Collecting all available documents relative to Somalia ( and other countries in the Horn of Africa) to make them available for consultation.
  - Promoting education in Somali language and culture for students and teachers, by organizing language classes and cultural courses, at different degrees of proficiency, and in all contexts they may be required.

2. With regards to management, financing, accounting, and granting, the Center is entirely autonomous (according to the Università di Roma Tre regulations).

In order to realize a project, the Center is entitled to draw up contracts with public and private institutions (according to the art. 66 of Law, D.P.R. 382/80).

By establishing agreements with public or private institutions, the Center is entitled to offer services in keeping with its mission.

### ARTICLE 3 – *Membership*

1. Founders are members of the Council of the Center.
2. Scholars of the Università Roma Tre, who have done significant research in the field of Somali studies, in its broader context, can apply for membership, by requesting it to the Chair. The request must be approved by the Council of Members.
3. Scholars of other universities or institutions, both in Italy and abroad, can apply for membership under recommendation by a member of the Center and approval by the Council of Members.
4. Each member of the Council can recommend a scholar to the approval of the Council of Members as Honorary Member of the Center. The number of Honorary Members cannot exceed 25% of the membership.
5. Each member of the Council can recommend an institution – both public and private, both in Italy and abroad – to the approval of the Council of Members to become an institutional member of the Center.

### ARTICLE 4 – *Governance*

1. The Center's governance is constituted by the Council of Members, the Board, and the Chair.

## ARTICLE 5 – *Council of Members*

1. The Council of Members is composed by all the members of the Università Roma Tre, the Secretary-Treasurer, plus representatives of the other members in a number that cannot exceed 40% of the membership. Representatives are proposed to the Council of Members' approval by the Chair.
2. The Council of Members meetings are called by the Chair.
3. The Council of Members shall establish broad policies and objectives, and review the annual program of activities.
4. The Council of Members shall approve annual budgets, contracts, and agreements for scientific cooperation.
5. The Council of Members' regular meetings shall be held twice a year, as a minimum, and are called and presided at by the Chair (except in respect of what stated by art. 5 this section).
6. The Council of Members shall elect the Chair and the Board. The meeting shall be presided by the Dean of the Council. The election shall be held within 90 through 15 days before termination of term.
7. Honorary Members, Representatives of Institutional Members, and Ordinary Members other than Members of the Council can attend the Council of Members' meetings, but are not entitled to vote. The Secretary-Treasurer attends the Council of Members' meetings as a non-voting Member.
8. The Council of Members can propose an Honorary President, in case this is helpful to represent the Center's interests on an institutional basis. The election shall be presided by the Dean of the Council.

## ARTICLE 6 – *Board*

1. The Board is composed by the Chair, five Members (at least one for each constituent Department), and the Secretary-Treasurer.
2. The Board shall be elected by the Council of the Center, among its voting-members. Each voting-member can vote for a candidate

only. The five Members that receive the majority of votes will be elected in the Board (modulo what stated by art. 1 this section).

3. The Board shall serve four-years terms. When a vacancy on the Board exists mid-term, the Council of the Center shall elect another Member.
4. The Board shall assist the Chair in the following duties:
  - identifying the criteria to grant funds for the Center's projects;
  - evaluating the Members' projects for partial or total funding;
  - developing the annual program of activities;
  - developing the annual budgets;
  - developing syllabi, in cooperation with the University's local and national governance, in order to build, or rebuild, professionals in the field of cross-cultural education, training, and intervention, with particular reference to the East Africa.

#### ARTICLE 7 – *Chair*

1. The Chair is elected by the Board and nominated by the University of Roma Tre's Principal (i.e. 'Rettore').
2. The Chair of the Centre shall be appointed for a four-year term of office. The Chair shall be selected from among the (voting) Members of the Centre/Members of the Board.
3. The Chair shall represent and act for the interests of the Center with regards both to the University of Roma Tre and to other institutions; shall preside the Board and the Council of the Center, shall be responsible of carrying out their resolutions, and shall act in compliance with the Center's By-Laws.
4. The Chair's duties are as follows:
  - the Chair, in cooperation with the Board, shall propose the annual program of activities to the Council, shall take steps in order for it to be realized, and shall arrange agreements with other institutions, when necessary;
  - the Chair shall submit the requests of funds to granters to support the annual program of activities;

- the Chair, in cooperation with the Board, shall develop the annual budgets and shall report them to the Council;
  - the Chair is responsible of orders of all materials needed for the functioning of the Centre;
  - the Chair defines duties of administrative staff according to general criteria set up by the Board.
  - The Chair can appoint a Vice Chair among the (voting) Members of the Centre/Members of the Board, to serve as Chair in the absence of the Chair, or when a motion involving the Chair is being discussed.
5. The Chair can appoint a Member of the Center as a representative of the Center vis-à-vis other institutions.

#### ARTICLE 8 – *Associates*

Apart from its Members, the Center can cooperate with other scholars, both in Italy and abroad; with personnel of the Departments which endorse the Center; with university students, to attend the Center's courses.

#### ARTICLE 9 – *Funding*

In order for the program of activities to be financially supported, the Center can be funded by the following grants:

1. University of Roma Tre and endorsing faculties and departments' grants;
2. grants by institutional members of the Center;
3. CNR, Ministries, and other public and private institutions' grants, both at home and abroad;
4. public and private grants assigned to a Member or group of Members of the Center (under the granting Institution's agreement);
5. income derived from services on behalf of a third party;
6. grants derived from agreements and contracts;
7. revenues derived from sales of publications produced by the Center;

8. revenues derived from fees for courses and workshops organized by the Center;
9. private grants and donations.

#### ARTICLE 10 – *Finance and Accounting*

1. Finance and accounting management will be hosted in one of the endorsing departments.
2. The Secretary-Treasurer of the department which is responsible for the Center's finance and accounting management shall act as the Center's Secretary-Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE 11 – *Amendments*

These bylaws may be amended when necessary by the Council of the Board. Amendments must be submitted to the University of Roma Tre's Governance.

#### ARTICLE 12 – *Provisional rules*

1. Founders of the Center are Members of the Center.
2. Within 20 days after the Center's establishment, the Dean of the Center's Founders shall call a meeting for nominating a slate of prospective Chair nominees and Board members.
3. The Council of Members shall elect the Chair and the Board. The meeting shall be presided by the Dean of the Council. The election shall be held within 90 through 15 days before termination of term.

#### ARTICLE 13 – *Final provision*

For matters not covered by these By-Laws, reference shall be made to the By-Laws and to the Administration, Finance and Accounting Regulation of the University Roma Tre, as well as to the regulations relevant for General Government Institutions, and namely to Universities.