

International Student Activities and Societies

Election Rules and Regulations

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In order for all elections to be free and fair, there are a number of rules and regulations that must be followed, and this document outlines these rules and regulations for student societies elections.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that they take reasonable steps to understand the election rules and regulations before the election commences.

All campaigns should act within the spirit of the election, if candidates are in any doubt about the interpretation of these rules and regulations, please contact the Election Officers.

Note that breaches of these rules and regulations may result in sanctions including disqualification.

Election

Election Officers

The Election Officers are assigned by the Governing Board of International Student Activities and Societies Unit. The election is overseen by the Election Officers who are responsible for the good conduct of the election and interpretation of the rules and regulations of the elections. They also determine complaints about the election, candidates and campaigns. We are the first point of contact, responsible for candidate engagement, day to day supervision and management of the election.

Principles

The rules and regulations for the Students' Societies Elections are intended to provide our students with guidance on how to stand as a nominee and get involved in elections. These rules are developed under the following basic principles:

- a) Election activity and campaigning should be conducted in line with the University Policies, Constitution and Laws, other relevant University or Society Regulations, and the law. And these Laws and Society Regulations are all in full force and shall apply to student societies elections
- b) Students must be free to cast their vote without undue pressure or influence
- c) Candidates must treat other candidates, students, staff and members of the public with respect
- d) Candidates must not undermine the fair and democratic running of elections
- e) Candidates must not do anything to gain an unfair advantage
- f) Candidates must respect the campus environment and the community
- g) Elections should be open to all our students on an equal basis.
- h) Elections should be fair. No candidate should gain or attempt to gain a significant advantage unfairly (through their own actions or those of others).
- i) Information available to voters should be full, transparent, and accurate.
- j) Election activity and campaigning should be conducted with respect towards other students, staff, and the local community and should not cause a nuisance to any of these groups.
- k) Campaigning should also show respect to other candidates and their campaign teams.
- l) The Election Officers will make use of these principles in the way that they conduct the election and interpret the rules that follow.

The Election Officers reserves the right to make changes to the rules but will ensure that all candidates are informed of any alterations. Changes to rules will come into effect immediately, unless otherwise stated.

Nomination, Roles, Voting and Participation

- a) Nomination shall take place via EMU student portal.
- b) A candidate must be a registered student
- c) A candidate shall maintain/have a CGPA of; 2.5 (Undergraduate), 3.0 (Postgraduate) or higher to be a nominee and eligible to contest for presidency.
- d) A candidate shall maintain/have a CGPA of 2.0 (Undergraduate), 3.0 (Postgraduate) or higher to be a nominee of any other role (other executive roles) other than the presidency.
- e) For presidency, eligible candidate must be fully EMU registered (not provisional) student and have spent at least four semesters at EMU, and he/she must have at least two semesters to graduate.
- f) A newly registered Masters or Ph.D. student who has completed his/her program in the university (Undergraduate or Masters) is eligible to run for presidency provided he/she had not held the position before.
- g) Nominees and Cabinet members must not have a police or school disciplinary record
- h) Once the nomination period has closed, no new nominations can be added to the election.
- i) Once the voting period has commenced, no new nominations can be added to the election.
- j) Voting shall take place online via EMU student portal.
- k) The vote(s) for society shall be determined by a simple majority of individual votes by the society members
- l) Those who are elected shall take up their role from the ____ for the remainder of the ____ academic year.
- m) In order to be eligible to contest one of the roles, you must be eligible and a registered student at the point of nominations and before the election date.
- n) Election can only take place if there are at least one candidate
- o) The embassy may be granted permission to nominate a candidate or cabinet members, conduct society elections or fix a date for the elections.
- p) Societies
- q) A society can only be formed if members are more than ten, in a situation where the number of students is less than ten, a representative will be selected/appointed
 - i) Core Roles: must be filled by a Society Member who is also Student Members of the Society:
 - (1) President
 - (2) Treasurer
 - (3) Secretary
 - ii) Non-Core Roles: must be filled by a Society Members who are Student Members of the Society

(1) Any Additional Positions that relate to the society, that were submitted by the deadline outlined in pre-elections communication. There may be no more than 8 roles total, including 5 Non-Mandatory Roles.

iii) Candidates can only contest one mandatory committee position per Society.

iv) Only Student Members of the Society who are also members of the Society shall be able to vote.

v) **A society shall be comprised of Graduate Students and Undergraduate Students**

vi) This is the last opportunity to elect committee members for the academic year. If a society/post does not receive any votes or the candidate for this post is disqualified or steps down, the post will remain vacant and the society will be deemed inactive for the remainder of the academic year.

If any of the officials is not active, and in any case of internal conflict, the International Student Activities and Societies Unit shall decide on how to amicably resolve this issue.

Conduct and Campaigning

- a) Offensive language of any kind will not be tolerated.
- b) Candidates are encouraged to participate in healthy debate but should only criticize manifesto points and not candidates personally.
- c) Campaigners must not cheat, lie or defame other candidates or campaigners.
- d) It is strictly prohibited for candidates to supply electronic devices or to handle voter's devices.
- e) Candidates and supporters of candidates who have an official role within EMU, whether this be permanent staff, student staff, volunteers must not abuse their position including: endorsing candidates in an official capacity, campaigning while on duty or utilizing resources that others do not have access to.
- f) Societies may not endorse specific candidates for any Societies roles.
- g) Candidates must not campaign in any form before campaigning has officially opened. This includes social media.
- h) Candidates must not split/pool resources with other candidates.
- i) Candidates are responsible for their own campaign material.
- j) All campaign materials must be thoroughly removed before the announcement of the election result.
- k) Campaign materials that pose a health and safety risk will not be tolerated.
- l) Candidates may only campaign in spaces created by their society such as Teams, closed group chats, social media pages, club or society meetings, activities or socials.

If you have any questions about the rules regulating the election, please contact us ia.societies@emu.edu.tr