

Global Labour University Statute

I Preamble

Trade Unions throughout the world are facing the challenges of rapid economic and social changes through a globalisation process that is undermining existing regulations and arrangements without providing an adequate new regulatory framework. On national and global level trade unions need to strengthen their analytical capacity, their organisational efficiency and their political ability to represent working people effectively in social and economic policy debates in general and to promote pro-poor social and employment policies.

The Global Labour University initiative exists as a network to address these needs on an international level. The objective is

- a) to support the provision of university-level qualification programs for trade unionists and other interested people on the political, economic and social dimensions of globalisation from a labour perspective;
- b) facilitate discourse and stimulate research on global labour issues.

As a first step a network of universities, trade unions and the ILO developed and implemented a one year Pilot Masters Programme on “Labour Policies and Globalisation” within the Global Labour University framework. In developing this programme it became evident that a “one fits all” approach is not suitable and that the international labour movement needs different qualification programs and research initiative that complement and support each other.

II Objective

The Global Labour University is a network of universities, trade unions, the ILO and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung to develop and implement international university programs on “Labour policies and Globalisation”, undertake joint research and organise international discussion fora on global labour issues. The GLU will in particular qualify trade unionists and other labour experts through high-level post graduate university programs

III Activities

The main activities of the GLU are in three areas

Teaching: Joint Development and implementation of university programs on labour policies and globalisation.

Research: A yearly GLU conference will focus on economic, social and political effects of globalisation and the role of labour. Joint research initiatives among the network partners will substantiate the research agenda of the annual conference and promote a discourse about the global challenges labour is facing. The GLU will cooperate with the Global Union Research Network and other labour networks to enable broader dissemination and outreach to other interested and interesting researchers and trade union experts.

Publication: The GLU will publish textbooks, research papers and books on labour and globalisation issues.

IV Membership

Full membership

International and national trade union organisations, universities, research institutes, and other organisations (ILO, FES) participating in the direct network collaboration to provide master programmes on 'Labour and Globalisation', to cooperate on joint curriculum development, faculty exchange and joint research initiatives are full members of the GLU network. Existing members decide about the affiliation of new members. Membership ends by declaration or by not attending three annual council meetings in a row. Full members have voting rights at the annual council meeting. There are no obligatory membership fees, but voluntary contributions are welcome.

Associated institutional membership

International and national trade union organisations, universities, research institutes and other organisations who have teaching or research interests in the field of labour and globalisation and collaborate with the GLU in teaching, research, curriculum development or publishing. Existing members can propose institutions for associated membership. The annual council decide upon the affiliation of new members. Associate members can participate in all GLU activities. Associate membership is offered on a three years basis. There are no obligatory membership fees, but voluntary contributions are welcome.

Associated fellows

Fellows are academics, researchers and trade union experts who work in an area of relevance to the GLU. Fellows participate actively in GLU activities like seminars or conferences, research, assessing publication proposals, and teaching on the GLU postgraduate programmes. Existing members can propose associated fellowships. The annual council decides upon the affiliation of new associate fellows. Fellowships are offered on a three year basis. There are no obligatory membership fees, but voluntary contributions are welcome.

V Organs of the Global Labour University at international level

A. Council

Each member is represented by one representative in the Global Labour University Council. The council decides the overall direction of the Global Labour University and

- elects the steering group of the GLU;
- discusses the annual report of the GLU steering group;
- discusses and gives feedback on qualification programs jointly developed within the network
- defines criteria for membership
- affiliates new members.;
- Decides the topics of the annual GLU conference;

The council meets once a year in the context of the annual GLU conference.

The council works in the spirit of consensus as the desirable decision making mechanism. The university representatives and the labour representatives are electing as separate groups their representatives for the steering group. All other decisions require, if a consensus cannot be found, a majority of all registered delegates and a majority within these two groups. Members of the steering committee will represent the Global Unions, the ILO and NGOs and Foundations participating in the programme and will be elected by all delegates of the council. In electing the steering committee the need for representation from the North and the South, both genders and national and global trade union organisations have to be reflected. The students will be represented by two delegates at the council meeting. One representative can also be a student of the previous course. The (Alumni) network of friends and supporters of the GLU and the Donors are invited as non-voting participants to the council meeting. The Steering committee sends the invitation for the annual meeting at least two month in advance.

B. Steering committee

The steering committee is elected by the Annual Council on an annual basis. It will be formed by representatives of participating universities and research institutes, representatives from participating national trade unions and representatives from international trade union organisations and labour supporting organisations. The members of the Steering Committee decide on a consensus basis the distribution of work within the Committee. The Committee has a solely facilitating role. Trade unions and universities that offer a programme within the GLU framework should be represented at the Steering committee to ensure technical coordination between the programmes.

The steering committee is acting as the coordinator of the GLU. It is coordinating the international cooperation and networking initiatives. One of the institutions represented in the steering group acts as the technical secretariat of the GLU

C. Alumni and friends' network

Well-known scholars, trade union leaders and former students of the Global Labour University Programs will be invited to become members of an alumni & friends network. Network members will be informed regularly about GLU activities and will be asked to give advice and assistance to the further development of the GLU

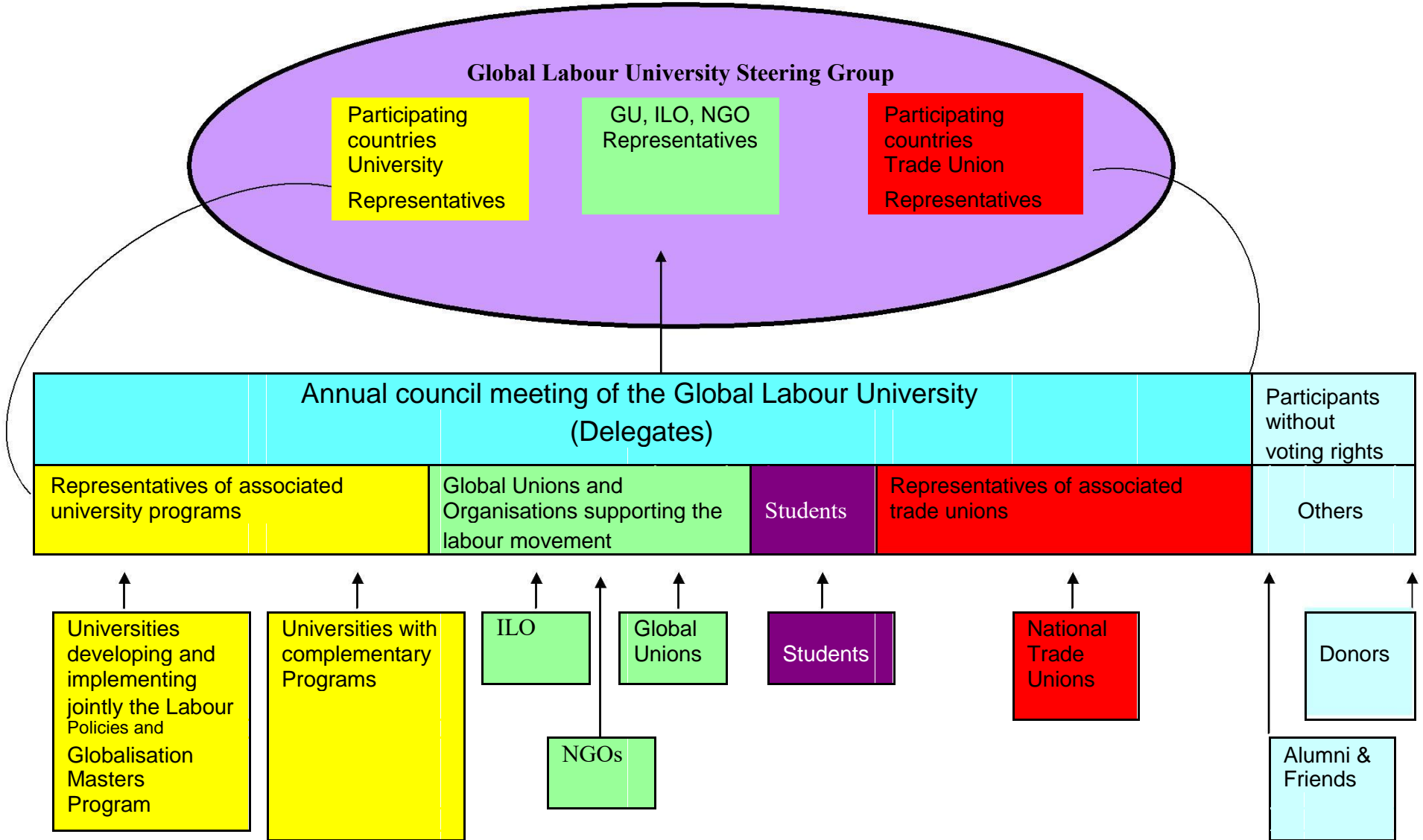
VI Organs of the Global Labour University at the national level

National partners decide about the adequate form of cooperation at national level between universities, trade unions and other partners in the different programs.

VII Attachments

The attached organisational structure is part of the Global Labour University Statute.

Organisational Structure



Activities of the GLU

