

# Constitution of WeHope

## ***Article I***

### **Name**

The name of this organization shall be WeHope.

### **Purpose**

WeHope will seek to spread awareness and support the former 'comfort women' in collaboration with the chapters in Boston University, Northeastern University, Brandeis University, MCPHS, Berklee College of Music. The organization will host fundraisers to support the 'comfort women' that are still alive and to fund projects that will help shed a light into this tragic history and other ongoing human rights/women's rights issues while spreading awareness including but not limited to students and faculty at OSU.

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, WeHope expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

## ***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.***

### **Membership**

II.a. Membership is open to all students interested in supporting the goals of the organization (advocating for and learning about the comfort women issue), regardless of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law.

### ***Article III - Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

III.a. If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

III.b. Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

III.c. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

### ***Article IV - Election/Selection of Organization Leadership.***

IV.a. The Executive Board of WeHope will be selected through an application and interview process at the beginning or end of each semester depending on the organization's needs.

IV.b. The term for each office shall be 1 year and then voted on for the following year. There is no limit to the number of times officers can run for office. They may also run for the same position during their time at OSU.

IV.c. President, Vice President, Treasurer, and all Chair positions shall be chosen through an election process at the end of the previous officers' terms. Selection of each office will be 100% based on election results, and the president should be approved by the faculty advisor. In case of a tie, there will be a re-election with only the tied candidates on the ballot, and the votes of the members on the executive board will account for 50% of the vote.

IV.d. Elections should be held at the end of every Fall semester. The chapter's president and vice president is responsible for counting the ballots and announcing the results.

IV.e. Presidents may register as a Board of Director of the official NPO after their term and upon graduation.

## ***Article V - Executive Board: Officer Roles***

V.a. At the beginning of each semester, all Executive members should meet to decide on a meeting schedule for the upcoming semester.

### **President**

- Conduct all meetings.
- Be in contact with the chapters in other schools.
- Responsible for everything the organization does.
- Responsible for obtaining guest speakers at meetings.
- Responsible for sharing important announcements with the members and the presidents of the chapters in other schools.
- Co-signs all checks.

### **Vice President**

- Carry out duties with the President.
- Help with recruiting.
- Conduct meetings when President is absent.
- Responsible for weekly history sessions.

### **Treasurer**

- In charge of organization's bank account.
- Co-signs all checks.
- Responsible for organization's ledgers.
- Responsible for obtaining fundings for the organization.
- Responsible for organizing budget with project teams.
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- Give Account Report at each Executive Board meeting.

### **Project Chairs (2)**

- Each in charge of fundraising or raising awareness project teams.
- Responsible for organizing events throughout the semester.
  - Responsible for organizing the needs of the event and communicating with the Treasurer.
  - Responsible for sharing the implementation process of the events with the organization.
- Responsible for leading team meetings.

### **Media Chair**

- Responsible for the organization's posters, card news, logos, social media, etc.
- In charge of advertising the events and news.

### **Communications Chair**

- Responsible for internal and external communications of the organization including contacting venues, other organizations, and any necessary contacts.
- In charge of communicating within the general body groupchat.
- In charge of organization emails.
- In charge of signing up the organization for Clean Up Columbus every month.

## ***Article VI - Committees: Names, purposes, and composition.***

### **Project Teams**

VI.a. There will be two types of project teams in WeHope: fundraising and raising awareness. Both teams will have the same structure as written below, but might differ in size depending on the needs of the project.

#### **a. Fundraising Team**

- Responsible for planning and leading the implementation process of the fundraising.
- Responsible for organizing the needs of the events and communicating with the organization.

#### **b. Raising Awareness Team**

- Responsible for planning and leading the implementation process of the raising awareness events.
- Responsible for organizing the needs of the events and communicating with the organization.

### **Media Team**

VI.b. Media team will be responsible for advertising events, creating posters, card news, logos, etc while updating the organization's social media.

### **General Body Membership**

VI.c. General Body Membership includes free access to all WeHope's events and is open to any Ohio State students that wish to join.

## ***Article VII - Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.***

VII.a. The advisor of the organization should be an active faculty member on Columbus campus of The Ohio State University.

VII.b. They do not need to be directly affiliated with the organization's purpose.

## ***Article VIII - Meetings and events of the Organization***

**Meetings**

VIII.a. The organization will meet weekly, and all members are required to attend unless otherwise noted.

**Attendance**

VIII.b. Attendance at all meetings and events hosted may be required for membership each academic term except for summer.

VIII.c. Members will be required to attend all meetings that are marked mandatory by the leadership.

VIII.d. Any member with more than 3 unexcused absences per semester from executive board meetings will be expelled from the organization after review from the executive committee. 3 unexcused tardies are equivalent to one unexcused absence. Any member expelled for poor attendance may submit a letter of appeal to the executive committee for review.

VIII.e. An excused absence is determined by the executive board. All excuses should be submitted to the president or the vice president via email or any primary communication method at least an hour prior to the meeting. In case of an event, all excuses should be submitted at least a day prior to the event date. In case of extenuating circumstances, the excuse must be submitted within twenty-four hours following the absence. The executive board shall have the final say on granting of excused absences.

**Article IX - Affiliation**

The organization shall be affiliated with and responsible to the WeHope in Boston. It is understood that the organization will work in collaboration with the chapters in Boston University, Northeastern University, MCPHS, Brandeis, and any other schools that establish a chapter in the future.

**Article X - Adoption and Amendment of the Constitution**

This constitution shall become effective upon majority vote of members. The power to alter, amend, or repeal this constitution shall be vested in the executive committee, subject to the majority approval of the general body and the advisor. Any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted at the general meeting with the chapters in other schools for further discussion and final approval.

***Article XI - Method of Dissolution of Organization.***

In case of dissolution of the organization, every member's vote is needed. This should also be discussed with the advisor and the chapters in other schools in order to initiate the dissolution process.