

The Laws/Charter

Of the Association (union) of Nigerian students, post-graduate students, interns and the trainees who are studying at the Peoples Friendship University Russia (PFUR).

We, students, post-graduate students, interns and trainees from the Federal Republic Nigeria, studying at the Peoples Friendship University Russia, understanding the necessity of joining our efforts in realizing the task of preparation of highly skilled experts and specialists for our country, and also strengthening of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding with people and the youth of the Russian Federation and other countries, are hereby united under the Nigeria Student Union of Peoples Friendship university Russia.

This Association is not a political organization and acts in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, within the realms of the charter of PFUR and this present charter.

Article I. The Name.

The Association accepts the name - Nigeria Student Union of Peoples Friendship University Russia.

Article II. The Aims and Objectives:

The basic aims and objectives of the Union are:

- 2.1. Offer all-round assistance to the administration of the University, to the offices of the dean of all the faculties, aimed at increasing the progress and well being of Nigerian Students, rendering necessary help to those lagging behind, encouraging students to take active part in the students' scientific circles and other social groups.
- 2.2. Strengthening unity among Nigerian Students of PFUR
- 2.3. Strengthening friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding between the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Russian Federation through wide acquaintance of students from Nigeria with the achievements of the Russian people, and on the other hand by publicizing the history, culture and the customs of the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the wider Russian public, organizing cultural and sport events.
- 2.4. Strengthening of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding with youth from other countries studying in PFUR, via the means of organizing and carrying out of joint activities, meetings, social events discussions, etc.
- 2.5. Maintenance of good working relationship with the administration of the University, offices of the deans of all the faculties, national and international student's organizations, participation in resolving of all questions connected to study, life and personal well-being of Nigerian students.
- 2.6. Maintenance of close contacts with the graduates of PFUR from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, encouraging them to render feasible aid, procurement of studying materials literature, etc to those that may need them.

Article III. Membership.

Members of Nigeria Student Union **may** be students, post-graduate students, interns and trainees from Federal Republic of Nigeria, studying in PFUR, recognizing this Charter, paying membership dues and takes part in the activities of the organization.

Membership of the union ceases as a result of a change of citizenship, completion of studies, official request to terminate membership or as a result of expulsion from the university (without chances of reinstatement).

Article IV. Rights and Duties of Members.

4.1. Members of the union have the right:

- To participate in the meetings and other activities organized by the union and the university.
- take part in the election of the executive committee of the union
- be elected to the executive committee of the union
- Request for help and support from the leadership of the union on any question within its competence.

4.2. Members of the union are obliged:

- strictly observe the principles of this present charter, charter of PFUR, internal rules, orders and the laws of the Russian Federation.
- adhere to discipline and obey all decisions of the leadership of the union
- take active part in the life and activities of the union, attend general meetings.
- Struggle to mention high and credible reputation as a Nigerian student.
- Persistently and ardently strive to acquire knowledge
- To, on time pay membership dues, amount which is to be generally agreed by the general meeting.

Article V. Ruling Organs.

5.1. The highest ruling organ of the union is The General Meeting which is to be held twice within an academic session. Time, place and agendas of the General Meeting should be made known to members not later than one week before the meeting.

5.2. A general meeting can be termed legitimate provided that not less than 50% of members of the union are present.

5.3. Decisions are accepted through simple majority votes (50 + 1 vote) of members present with the right to vote.

5.4. The competence of the general meeting includes:

- a) Approval of the union's charter, carrying out changes and additions to it
- b) Taking decisions concerning reorganization or liquidation of the union
- c) Defining priorities, direction of actions and confirmation of the union's working plan for an academic year.
- d) Electing members of the union's executive committee

5.5. For the period between the general meetings, activities of the union will be managed by the executive committee.

5.6. Structures of the executive committee are as follow:

1. President
2. Vice president
3. General Secretary
4. Deputy general secretary
5. secretary for Sports
6. Secretary for culture
7. Financial secretary
8. Public Relation Officer (PRO)
9. Provost

For a successful work of the union, the general meeting should also elect the following committees and commissions

- Guardianship Counsel
- Consultative (Advisory) Committee
- Electoral Commission
- Auditory Commission

Article VI. Functions Executive Members

6.1. The president.

- is responsible for all the works of the union
- maintain constant contact with the university administration, the PFUR ruling council, with the sector for works with students and other organizations in the university
- represents the union in governmental, Social, cultural and other organizations
- Provides for effective functioning of the executive committee
- Takes the most visible active part during discussion of academic, disciplinary and other questions concerning Nigerian students in the university
- Not later than 2 weeks after election, has to present new members of the executive committee to the administration of the university
- Possess veto power which can be used during serious disagreement in the process of decision making.
- Signs checks of the union
- gives account of his/her work to the general meeting

Vice President

- In the absence of the president carries out his functions and stands in for him when necessary
- Answers for organizations and carrying out of events organized by the union
- Takes care of problems or questions concerning academic performance of members of the union, maintains constant contact with the deans of faculties, informs the committee of any academic problems and suggests means of their resolution.
- encourages students to participate in science clubs and societies
- gives account of the general academic condition of students to the general meeting and about graduates
- Gives account of his/her work to the general meeting

General Secretary

- Answerable to all works to the union
- sees that the executive works in a united front, maintains constructive relationship with students and other national and international organizations
- Preserves the account of the union and all other correspondence.
- gives account of his work to general meeting

Assistant General Secretary

- performs the work of the general secretary in his absence
- Carries out all duties entrusted to him/her by the executive committee
- organizes seminars, symposiums, conferences and other educational programmes of the union.
- gives account of his work to general meeting

6.5. The secretary for sports:

- is responsible for the organization and the conduction of sports events
- maintains relationship with sport's club of the university and the sector in charge of sports in other unions
- maintains good working relationship with secretary for sports of the association of African students.
- gives an account of his work at the general meeting
- Works closely with the secretary for culture

6.6. Secretary for culture:

- is responsible for the organizing and the conducting cultural events, social events, excursions, exhibitions and so on;
- maintains relationship with the sector for mass culture of the university and other unions
- takes care of all the social questions that may arise among the new students and maintains contact with them.
- Works closely with the secretary for sports
- gives an account of his work at the general meeting.

6.7. Deputy-secretary for culture, sports and social welfares:

- helps the secretary in resolving all the problems at hand with his best ability and replaces the secretary when necessary.

6.8. Financial secretary:

- collects membership dues
- realizes financial control;
- keeps of the union's funds and presents the financial account to the executive committees and also at the general meeting;
- prepares receipts for all financial documents both incoming and outgoing; (the receipts must be signed by the financial secretary, the receiver, and approved by the president and the general secretary).
- signs all the bills of the union;

6.9. The public relation (PRO)

- takes care of communication between the executive committees and the union members and also between the union and the other external organizations;
- is responsible for providing needed information to all members of the union;
- passes information about all activities organized by the union
- passes word of congratulation or other regards on behalf of the union;
- gives an account of his activities during the general meeting.

6.10. Secretary for organizing questions and protocol:

- Together with the other executive members, organizes meetings, conferences etc and sees that all protocols and other rules and regulations are strictly adhered to during all activities of the union

Article VII. Committees and Commissions

Guardianship Counsel:

- consist of respectable representatives of the federal republic of Nigeria (diplomats and their wives, businessmen, graduates from PFUR and any other person working in Moscow and Russian Federation) willing to and able to help the student union.
- They offer both moral and material assistances to the union.

Consultative committee

Consists of 5 members of the advisory committee and 7 ordinary members, 5 of which must be graduates of PFUR.

- helps the executive committee in resolving serious & complicated problems concerning members of the union.
- guarantees continuous and stable performance of the union, initiates activities be carried out by the executive committee
- can initiate the conduct of a special general meeting if it feel that the executive committee is not carrying out its duties effectively
- Can initiate the impeachment of any member of the executive committee if found guilty of any form of misgiving.
- exists independent of the executive committee and cannot infringe on its authority.

Electoral committee

For the purpose of conducting elections the electoral committee/ commission is created; it consists of 5 people that are chosen by the General Meeting of the union.

Duties of the Election Committee

- Registration & selection of candidates
- preparation of the election materials
- conducting of elections, counting of votes and announcement of the elections results.

Auditory committee

Chosen by the general meeting and consists of 3 persons, it reviews and audits of all financial operations of the union and all material valuables, belonging to the union.

The head of the revision committee and yearly gives account of its activities in a general meeting.

Article VIII Elections

1. Elections of the executive committee holds yearly in September in a general meeting
 2. Elections are organized and conducted by the electoral committee/commission.
 3. Candidates for a post in executive committee must not later than 3 days contact the committee/commission and indicate the post they wish to contest. A candidate can be accepted in the floor of the general meeting with the acceptance of 2/3 majority of members present.
 4. Results of the elections are defined by the simple majority of the votes (50+1 vote) in the presence of the general meeting.
 5. By the decision of the general meeting, elections can be open or secret.
 6. members of the union have the right to be elected if he or she - passes through an elimination process of the executive committee
 - has not occupied the same posts more than twice.
 - has not disobeyed or broken the rules and regulations of the union, rules of PFUR, and laws of the Russian Federation.
 - all the candidates for the posts of president, vice president, general secretary, secretary for culture and sports should have been studying in PFUR for not less than 2 years including preparatory.
- other positions can be occupied by any person willing to work.
- candidates for the posts of president and other posts should inform the executive committee in written form.

Article IX. Discipline.

1. The executive committee has the right to carry out disciplinary measures on any member of the union acting outside the laid down rules, against the principles of this present charter or any other action that requires disciplinary actions. Measures can come in the form of warnings, fines, denial of voting right, suspension or outright exclusion from the union.
2. Any disciplinary measure can be appealed in a general meeting in the presence of the attending members or through a consultative committee.
3. A general meeting of members has the right to take disciplinary measures on any member of the executive who go against the rules and regulations of the union in his designated work in the union.

Article X. Code of Conduct.

1. No member of the executive committee reserves the right to use his position to his personal gains or to the detriment of other members.
2. No member of the union has the right to seize or use the union's property for personal gains.
3. No member of the union has the right to display any form of unbecoming behaviour be to another member based on his or her ethnic, racial or religious affiliation.
4. No member of the union should blackmail, falsely accuse or misinform other members of the union.
5. No member of the union should disobey this present charter or act against the aims and objectives of the union.

Article XI. Ratification, Addition and effecting Changes to the Charter.

1. The charter comes into actions from the moment of its confirmation in the general meeting.
2. The charter is prone to confirmation by the council of PFUR president
3. Changes or addition to this charter can only be legitimate with the 2/3 in favour votes of those present in a general meeting, also, such change(s) or addition(s) is prone to confirmation by the leadership council of PFUR.