

FIILI Association

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

1.1 The name of the Association shall be: **FIILI**
(hereinafter referred to as “FIILI”).

1.2 **FIILI** stands for **Festival of Italian and Irish Literature in Ireland**.

2. Nature and Legal Status

2.1 FIILI is a voluntary, independent, non-sectarian, and non-political organisation.

2.2 FIILI shall operate on a not-for-profit basis, and any surplus income or assets shall be applied solely towards the promotion of FIILI’s objectives.

3. Aims and Objectives

The aims of FIILI are:

- a) To promote and celebrate **Italian and Irish literature, culture, and intellectual exchange** in Ireland;
- b) To organise and deliver the **FIILI Festival**, including literary events, talks, readings, workshops, performances, and related cultural activities;
- c) To foster **cultural dialogue and collaboration** between Italian and Irish writers, scholars, translators, artists, and readers;
- d) To support **translation, publishing, and dissemination** of Italian and Irish literary works;
- e) To engage the wider public, including schools, universities, libraries, and cultural institutions, in literary and cultural activities;
- f) To collaborate with national and international cultural bodies, embassies, universities, publishers, and arts organisations;
- g) To promote diversity, inclusion, and freedom of expression through literature.

4. Powers

In furtherance of its objectives, FIILI may:

- a) Organise festivals, events, lectures, conferences, and workshops;
- b) Apply for and receive grants, sponsorships, donations, and funding, subject to compliance with applicable laws;
- c) Publish books, journals, programmes, digital content, and promotional materials;
- d) Employ or engage staff, contractors, or volunteers as required;
- e) Open and operate bank accounts;
- f) Acquire, lease, or use property and equipment as necessary;
- g) Do all lawful things necessary or desirable to achieve the objectives of FIILI.

5. Membership

5.1 Membership shall be open to individuals who support the aims and objectives of FIILI.

5.2 FIILI may establish categories of membership, including but not limited to:

- Ordinary Members
- Supporting Members
- Honorary Members

5.3 Membership shall be granted upon application and approval by the Committee.

5.4 Initially FIILI will not charge membership fees or a subscription. Donations to FIILI are of a purely voluntary nature.

5.5 Members shall have the right to:

- Attend General Meetings;
- Vote at General Meetings (except where otherwise specified);
- Stand for election to the Committee (except Honorary Members).

5.6 Membership may be terminated by:

- Resignation;
- Non-payment of membership fees (if applicable);
- Decision of the Committee for conduct detrimental to FIILI, subject to fair procedure.

6. The Committee

6.1 The affairs of FIILI shall be managed by a Committee, also referred to as the Executive Committee.

6.2 The Committee shall consist of:

- Chairperson (OR Co-Chairs)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Ordinary or Honorary Committee Members (optional; number to be determined by the Chairperson)

6.3 Election and Term

Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall serve for a term of **two years**, eligible for re-election.

6.4 Duties

- **Chairperson (or Co-Chairs):** Provides leadership, oversees artistic and programme direction of the FIILI Festival, chairs meetings, represents FIILI.
- **Secretary:** Maintains records, correspondence, and minutes.
- **Treasurer:** Manages finances and presents financial reports.

6.5 Meetings

The Committee shall meet as often as necessary. A quorum shall consist of **at least half** of the Committee members.

7. General Meetings

7.1 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

FIILI shall hold an AGM once each calendar year to:

- Receive reports from the Committee;
- Approve accounts;
- Elect Committee members;
- Consider amendments to the Constitution.

7.2 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

An EGM may be convened by the Committee or upon written request of a specified number of members.

7.3 Voting

Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of members present and voting, except where otherwise stated.

8. Finance

8.1 The financial year of FIILI shall be determined by the Committee.

8.2 All funds shall be used solely to further the objectives of FIILI.

8.3 Proper accounts shall be kept and made available to members at the AGM.

8.4 Cheques and electronic payments shall require authorisation as determined by the Committee.

9. Amendments to the Constitution

This Constitution may be amended by a resolution passed by a **two-thirds majority** of members present and voting at a General Meeting, provided that prior notice of the proposed amendment has been given.

10. Dissolution

10.1 FIILI may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a **two-thirds majority** at a General Meeting convened for that purpose.

10.2 In the event of dissolution, any remaining assets shall be transferred to another non-profit organisation with similar aims, as decided by the members.

11. Diversity, Equality and Inclusion

FIILI shall promote equality, diversity, and inclusion, and shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or age.

12. Adoption

This Constitution was adopted by the members of FIILI on:

Date: 10/01/2026

Place: 20, Sydenham Mews, Dun Laoghaire, A96Y296

Signed:

Co-Chair: CATHERINE DUNNE

Co-Chair: ENRICA FERRARA

Secretary: PAUL COFFEY