

# Introduction

These Policies are an agreement between the Global Speakers Federation (GSF) Board of Directors and the Not-for-Profit Professional Speakers Associations that are members of the Federation. They articulate how to perform the business of the Federation by providing guidelines and the basis for certain procedures. GSF Policies define beliefs and philosophies and allow everyone to work in the same system and move forward together. These Policies are designed to create a climate of fairness and to promote equitable decision-making. They provide guidelines in the execution of GSF business by officers, representatives, members, and appointed staff.

The GSF Bylaw is the primary governing instructions and the Policies support and expand on the direction set in the Bylaw.

These policies were originally adopted July 2005 as part of the process of becoming an incorporated organization under US law. Prior to this, the Federation operated within the guidelines of the Mechanics Agreement (i.e., a document outlining the agreement between NSA-US and the member associations). A formal update to this document was made in March 2015, in July 2015, and then in January 2017 to align to the new Board structure and its updated Bylaw.

In January 2017, the GSF officially moved from the Executive Council model to a Board of Directors structured model and, with this, a new Bylaw was created and approved.

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