

## **Rationale for an English School Section of ISA**

The main reason for establishing an English school section of ISA is to fill the gap created by the absence of such a section. The English school is widely recognized as one of the main theoretical traditions in the study of IR. The North American component of the worldwide English school community is substantial, and section status within ISA would consolidate its place in the global network. The English school tradition has successfully attracted an impressive following across three generations of scholars, with a fourth now in the making as a result of continued enthusiasm amongst doctoral candidates. During the last few years it has had a substantial revival, recovering much of the social cohesion that dissipated with the passing of the founding fathers during the 1980s. It now possesses a substantial website, and is a regular presence at most major IR conferences. Having an English school section of ISA will contribute both to supporting the development of these collective resources, and to facilitating the use of panels as a showcase for the school's current research output. The English school has long been distinct from both realism and liberalism, with its mainstream 'international society' approach being set up as a via media between the two. It also shares some ground with constructivism, and can generally be seen as a framework within which competing traditions can be brought together. We would expect the new section to cooperate actively in sharing panels with other sections whose interest overlap. Given recent calls for less conflict and more synthesis in debates about IR theory, the English school is well-placed to respond, and looks to have a bright future in the field.

## ***Charter of the English School Section of the International Studies Association***

### **Article I: Name.**

This organization shall be known as the English School Section (ESS) of the International Studies Association (ISA).

### **Article II: Affiliation.**

The ESS is one of the sections of the International Studies Association and as such subscribes to its purposes and supports its activities.

### **Article III: Purposes.**

The purposes of the ESS are to:

1. promote the exchange of ideas and intellectual resources among English School scholars and others across both disciplinary and international boundaries;
2. build a feeling of scholarly community and create a lobby in favour of English School approaches to investigating and understanding international phenomena;

3. facilitate networking among English School scholars and hence cooperation on joint projects;
4. strengthen research and teaching in the field and attract talented new scholars to it.

#### **Article IV: Relationships.**

The ESS will encourage cooperative relations with other organizations within and outside the ISA which share its interests.

#### **Article V: Membership.**

1. Any ISA member sharing the purposes of this section may become a member of the ESS upon payment of whatever dues shall be established.
2. Members are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM), be eligible for nomination to elective office, nominate and vote for officers, participate in ESS activities, and receive ESS-sponsored publications.

#### **Article VI: Officers.**

1. The officers of the ESS will consist of a chairperson, treasurer, secretary, and publications director.
2. The chairperson shall preside at meetings, coordinate section activities, act as liaison with the ISA, and authorize expenditure of funds in consultation with the treasurer.
3. The treasurer will be responsible for raising funds and approving their expenditure in consultation with the chairperson, keeping accurate financial records, and for drawing up an annual balance sheet to be presented to the AGM.
4. The secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the section and take the minutes of the AGM and other business meetings. Minutes of the AGM shall be published in the Section Newsletter.
5. The publications director will be responsible for preparation and circulation of a Section Newsletter to be published at least once a year. He or she shall also assist and coordinate the publication of writing in the field prepared under section auspices.

#### **Article VI: Elections to Office.**

1. Officers will be elected at the AGM of the section held in conjunction with the ISA annual convention. Nominations for office shall come from members present at the AGM and then be put to a general vote of members present. Officers shall serve for a term of two years in their designated positions.
2. If one of the officers resigns or is indisposed before the end of his or her term of office the other officers shall designate a replacement to act until the next AGM, when an election for that office will take place.

#### **Article VII: Executive Committee.**

An executive committee will be comprised of the section officers. It shall meet at the ISA annual convention and at such other reasonable times and places as the chairperson shall designate. Its duties are to review the annual budget, set membership dues, and consider the overall policy of the section, including ideas for panels and other relevant activities. The Committee recognizes that the Section has a responsibility to prepare an annual report for the Governing Council and a review document in the fifth year of the section's existence for the purpose of re-chartering.

**Article VIII: Amendments.**

Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee or upon petition of ten members of the ESS . Membership shall be informed of proposed amendments either through the Section Newsletter or by special mailing. Amendments shall be considered at the AGM and adopted if approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

***Officers of the Association 2003-2005***

Chair: Paul Sharp

Secretary: Bruce Cronin

Treasurer: Richard Little

Publicity/Publications: Barry Buzan