

**Charter of the Diplomatic Studies Section
of the International Studies Association**

Article I: Name. This organization shall be known as the Diplomatic Studies Section (DSS) of the International Studies Association (ISA).

Article II: Affiliation. The DSS 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 DSS are to:

1. promote the exchange of ideas among diplomaticists across both disciplinary and international boundaries;
2. build a feeling of scholarly community and create a lobby in favor of diplomatic studies;
3. facilitate networking among students of diplomacy 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 DSS 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 DSS 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 DSS activities, and receive DSS-sponsored publications.

Article VI: Officers.

1. The officers of the DSS 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.

Article VIII. Amendments. Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee or upon petition of ten members of the DSS. 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.