

The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Constitution

1. Name

The name of the organisation shall be the Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (herein referred to as CCND, but when a shortened version of the organisation's name is used externally, "Christian CND" is preferred.)

2. Basis

CCND is an Unincorporated Association and is established as a "Specialist section" of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in accordance with Part 2 of *Regulations made under section 56 of the Articles of Association of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament*

3. Aims

CCND seeks to follow the example of Jesus Christ and in doing so take the aims and objectives of CND into the Christian community. CCND members believe this is part of their Christian vocation.

CCND:

- Works for international peace and disarmament, and a world in which the vast resources now devoted to militarism are redirected to the real needs of humanity;
- Supports all genuine disarmament measures and attempts to build community and reconciliation;
- Opposes the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction and of threats to use them in any circumstances;
- Recognises all weapons of mass destruction are a serious threat to humanity and the future of God's creation. They are a sign of human disobedience to God's law for us, and also a rejection of international law. These weapons are immoral and do nothing to increase the security of any state;
- Rejects all 'defence' strategies based on weapons of mass destruction and calls for immediate and unconditional disarmament of nuclear weapons by the United Kingdom in order to play a part in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons;
- Seeks to be a distinctively Christian voice in the wider disarmament community.

4. Objectives

CCND shares the objectives of CND on matters of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction as set out at CND Annual Conference. In pursuing these objectives, CCND seeks to:

- See nuclear weapons abolished;
- Be a Christian voice fulfilling the objectives of CND, both in the Christian community and wider society;
- Secure debate and education at all levels within the Christian churches, and to help Christians work for a world free of nuclear weapons and towards a world based on peace and justice;
- Provide support, resources and a focus for those in the churches wishing to witness against such weapons and their underlying causes;
- Encourage Christians to actively support the work of CCND and CND in prayer by providing guidance and stimulation for prayer;
- Explore inter-faith understanding and co-operation in establishing justice and reconciliation.

5. Policy and strategy

- As a specialist section of CND, CCND policy will not be inconsistent with decisions made at CND National Conference.
- CCND strategy shall be determined by the CCND Executive Committee ("Exec"), in consultation with the wider membership where appropriate and wherever possible shall be laid out in strategy documents.

6. Membership

- a. Individuals who agree with the aims and objectives of CCND may become members of CCND by payment of the appropriate membership fee.
- b. Household membership is offered and gives full membership rights to everyone living at that address who is in agreement with the aims and objectives of CCND and takes an active interest in its work.
- c. Any church, group or other organisation in agreement with the aims and objectives of CCND may become a CCND Partner by payment of the appropriate fee.
- d. Membership and Partner fees shall be set by the Exec and reviewed annually at the first Exec meeting following an Annual General Meeting.
- e. CCND actively promotes membership among Christians living anywhere in the United Kingdom. Others are welcome to join if they wish, but it is primarily a UK-based organisation.

- f. By exception, individuals who have made a significant contribution to our aims may be offered honorary membership, either for life or for a specific period.

7. Finances

- a. The Treasurer shall prepare reports for Exec meetings and prepare the financial section of the Annual Report.
- b. The Treasurer shall lead work on preparing a budget to be agreed by the Exec and shall be responsible, along with the Co-Chairs, for ensuring the budget is monitored.
- c. Any non-recurring expenditure between £100 and £250 must be authorised by either the Treasurer or one of the Co-Chairs, either at the point of setting the budget or prior to expenditure being agreed.
- d. Any non-recurring expenditure of more than £250 must be discussed with, and agreed by, the Exec.
- e. From time to time CCND may make payments by way of grants. The procedure for this is set out in the Grants Procedure document.

8. Executive Committee (“Exec”)

a. Composition

The Exec shall be made up of no more than ten members as follows:

- Two Co-Chairs
- One Treasurer
- Seven Ordinary Members

Any staff members shall not be counted towards the ten, but shall be ex-officio members of the Exec with full voting rights.

b. Service periods

- i. Election to the Exec shall be valid for one year.
- ii. Election to the position of Co-Chair shall be valid for two years unless this would lead to both Co-Chairs’ term of office finishing at the same time, in which case the Co-Chair who was elected with the lower number of votes shall be elected for one year.
- iii. Election to the position of Treasurer shall be valid for two years.
- iv. Where a Co-Chair or Treasurer has been elected for two years, this is conditional upon their annual re-election as members of Exec.

c. Term

- i. There shall be no term limit on ordinary membership of the Exec.

- ii. There shall be a term limit of four years on the positions of Co-Chair, unless the Exec unanimously agrees to an extension.
- iii. At the end of a continuous four-year term, a Co-Chair is ineligible from standing for further election as a Co-Chair until three further years have elapsed.
- iv. There shall be no term limit on the Treasurer.

d. Elections

- i. Appointments to the Exec shall be made annually at the Annual General Meeting
- ii. Each member with at least 10 months' continuous membership on the date of the AGM may vote, either in person at the AGM or using postal and/or electronic methods. Members voting remotely may change their votes at the AGM if they attend it in person.
- iii. Honorary members have full voting rights.
- iv. CCND Partners may nominate one individual from among their membership, who shall have a single vote in CCND elections.
- v. Nominations may be made by any CCND member and can be made up until the time of voting and must be seconded by another CCND member. For remote voting, nominations will be accepted for a period of no less than four weeks
- vi. The Exec shall agree a timetable for remote voting. This shall include no less than two weeks from the issuing of ballots to the deadline for returns.
- vii. Those standing for the Exec will also indicate if they are willing to stand as Co-Chair or Treasurer. Members voting for the Exec will also vote for these positions. To be appointed to one of these positions the nominee must also have been appointed to the Exec.
- viii. Once the proposed appointments to the positions of Co-Chair and Treasurer have been announced at the AGM, the newly-appointed Exec (excluding ex-officio members) will ratify each of these appointments, requiring a simple majority. If any appointment is not ratified, the post will remain unfilled and will be decided at the first meeting of the new Exec.
- ix. In remote voting members shall vote for the positions of Co-Chair and Treasurer at the same time as voting for Exec members. If any individual is not appointed to the Exec, any votes they received for Co-Chair or Treasurer shall be discounted.
- x. All contested elections shall take place using the Alternative Vote system.
- xi. All votes must be counted by at least two individuals who are not standing and did not nominate individuals standing.

e. Meetings

- i. The Exec shall meet between Annual General Meetings, with the number of such meetings to be agreed at the first Exec.

- ii. For a meeting to be quorate, at least 50% of Exec members must be in attendance.
- iii. Notice of meetings, including agenda items and papers shall be circulated prior to meetings.
- iv. Where necessary, members of the Exec may attend using telephone/video conferencing
- v. The meeting will be facilitated by one of the Co-Chairs. An agenda will be produced and circulated in advance. Minutes will be produced and circulated.
- vi. The Exec may call an Extraordinary General Meeting by giving at least 4 weeks' notice to all CCND members.
- vii. By exception, and with the agreement of the rest of the Exec, other members of Christian CND or others in agreement with its aims may be invited to attend a meeting of the Exec, where they can participate at the discretion of that meeting's facilitator (but may not vote).

f. Decisions

- i. Decisions within meeting shall usually be made by a consensus of those present. Where this is not possible, but the Co-Chairs agree that a decision is required, this shall be done by voting on a resolution. This shall require a 75% majority in order to be adopted.
- ii. Exec members have a duty to consult with each other on proposed changes to agreed activities or new activities between meetings. This should generally be done by email in the first instance.
- iii. If a decision is required, then it will be facilitated by the facilitator of the most recent Exec meeting. This shall require a 75% majority of Exec members to be in agreement, in order to be adopted.
- iv. If a decision is not possible by email, then alternative arrangements will be made.
- v. Once an agreement is reached, a Co-Chair will inform the Exec of both the outcome and who will be responsible.

g. Eligibility

Any CCND member with at least ten months' continuous membership shall be eligible to stand for election to the Exec and any other positions.

h. Removal of members

Exec members may be removed from post by a unanimous decision of all Exec members who choose to vote. Any member subject to such a vote must be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the meeting where the matter will be discussed and will be given the right to respond to the reasons set out.

i. Working Groups

The Exec may wish to establish Working Groups to oversee an area of CCND's work. These shall be made up of no more than three Exec members and no more than two other CCND members, and shall report on their work to the full Exec at each meeting.

9. AGMs

1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held once each calendar year. The date of the AGM shall be determined at an Exec meeting, and members shall be given at least ten weeks' notice.
2. Non-members who are broadly in sympathy with the aims of CCND may attend the AGM and may speak at the discretion of the meeting's chairperson, but may not vote.

10. Amendment of Constitution

This Constitution shall be subject to amendment by agreement at any Exec meeting. Proposed changes to the Constitution must be submitted in writing at least two weeks prior to the Exec meeting. Decisions on amendment shall be subject to clause 8, f, i of this constitution.

This version of the Constitution was approved by Exec on: 6 March 2021

Signed (Co-Chair):

Rebecca Dillon