



**Fundación de la Comunidad Valenciana
Escuela de Posgrado y Red de Centros de
Investigación en Inteligencia Artificial**

BYLAWS



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CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Name.

With the name, Escola de Postgrau i Xarxa de Centres d'investigació en Intel·ligència Artificial, Fundació de la Comunitat Valenciana, a private foundation of scientific-educational character, permanent and non-profit nature, under the tutelage of the Protectorate exercised by the Generalitat Valenciana, is constituted.

The foundation may also use indistinctly its name in Spanish: Escuela de Posgrado y Red de Centros de Investigación en Inteligencia Artificial, and in English: Graduate School and Research Network of Artificial Intelligence, or its acronym, ValgrAI.

Article 2. Legal personality and capacity to act.

The Foundation shall enjoy full legal capacity and capacity to act, with no other limitations than those expressly imposed by the legal provisions applicable to this type of foundations, and those established in these statutes, by the fact of the granting of its foundation charter in public deed and its registration in the Register of Foundations of the Generalitat Valenciana.

Article 3. Scope of Action and Domicile.

The Foundation will develop its activity at regional, national, and international level with preference in the orientation of its activities and services to meet the specific needs of the industries of the Valencian Community and the public sector, where appropriate. The domicile of the Foundation is in Valencia, on the campus of the Universitat Politècnica de València located at Camino de Vera s/n, 46022; it may be transferred by agreement of the Board of Trustees, provided that the legal provisions in force are complied with.



Article 4. Purposes.

The purposes of the Foundation are:

- a) To contribute to increase knowledge in artificial intelligence and related disciplines.
- b) To develop and support postgraduate teaching, research and studies in artificial intelligence and related disciplines.
- c) To cooperate for these purposes with universities and research centers, companies, and any other natural person or public or private entity.

Article 5. Activities.

The Foundation plays a coordinating role between the Public Universities and other actors in training, research, dissemination and technology transfer activities on artificial intelligence and related disciplines. The development of all these activities will take place preferably through the partners of the Foundation, without prejudice that the Foundation may assume these activities with the prior agreement of the partners or when they are unable to carry them out. It will be able to develop its activities through its own resources or by contracting external services or other modalities admitted in Law. The Foundation may carry out the following activities for the fulfillment of its purposes:

- a) To develop postgraduate training studies and cooperate in the teaching of those already existing at the Universitat Politècnica de València, at the Universitat de València Estudi General, at the Universitat d'Alacant, at the Universitat Jaume I, at the Universitat Miguel Hernández and at other Valencian universities and recognized research centers in artificial intelligence and related disciplines.
- b) To develop and support research of all kinds in artificial intelligence and related disciplines.
- c) To organize, teach and hold courses, seminars, conferences, and congresses.
- d) To promote and carry out studies directly or in collaboration with other persons or entities.
- e) To promote technology transfer in artificial intelligence and advise the Valencian industry.
- f) To facilitate the recruitment of talent to the Valencian industry.



- g) To establish relationships and cooperate with any persons and entities, public and private, to serve the best development of its foundational purposes.
- h) Any other activity that effectively contributes to the development of the foundational purposes.

Article 6. Beneficiaries.

The Board of Trustees will determine the basic rules for the application of the resources to the foundational purposes, as well as the objective criteria for the determination of the beneficiaries, rules that will always be based on objectivity, non-discrimination for reasons of sex, creed, race, social origin and/or disability and that are directed to generic groups of people.

The specific choice of beneficiaries must be made by the Board of Trustees after evaluating the scientific and educational interest, the professional and technical capacity, and the feasibility of the project, considering the following aspects:

The actions of the Foundation must benefit generic groups of people. Whenever the delimitation of the beneficiaries is necessary, in cases such as the granting of scholarships or the financing of projects, the Foundation will mainly attend to those persons, entities or organizations most appropriate for the realization of the foundational objectives, always in accordance with the general criteria of impartiality and non-discrimination and the particular criteria of scientific and educational interest, professional and technical capacity and feasibility of the project. The Board of Trustees may agree on the specific requirements of each call for applications and the composition, if applicable, of the selection body, its criteria for action, the requirements and the merits to be assessed no one may claim, either individually or collectively, before the Foundation or its Board of Trustees, any right to the enjoyment of its benefits, before they have been granted, or impose their attribution to specific persons.

Article 7. Duration.

The Foundation is constituted for an indefinite duration. However, if at any time the aims of the Foundation may be considered fulfilled or impossible to fulfill, the Board of Trustees may agree to its extinction in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes.



Article 8. Legal Regime.

The Foundation is governed by the will expressed in the foundational deed, by these Statutes, by the provisions which, in interpretation and development of the same, may be established by the Board of Trustees and, in any case, by the provisions of the legislation in force regarding foundations. Established by the Board of Trustees and, in any case, by the provisions of the legislation in force regarding foundations.



CHAPTER II. ORGANS AND OFFICES OF THE FOUNDATION

Article 9. Bodies and offices of the Foundation.

The organs of the Foundation are:

- a) Board of Trustees
- b) Academic Council
- c) Business Council
- d) Scientific Council
- e) Board of Studies

2. The positions of the Foundation appointed by the Board of Trustees are:

- a) Honorary President
- b) General Director

Section I. Board of trustees

Article 10. Composition of the Board of Trustees and regime of the office of Trustees.

1. The Board of Trustees shall be composed of a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 25 members, except for the founding Board, which shall be composed of the number of persons designated in the articles of incorporation.

2. The position of patron or patroness has a duration of four years and can be renewed for identical periods of four years. However, when the quality of patron is attributed by reason of a position in an institution, the patron shall exercise his or her mandate for the time he or she holds the position for which he or she was appointed. Once the term of office has expired without the termination or renewal of the position of patron or patroness, they shall continue in office until their definitive replacement or renewal.

3. When the capacity of patron or patroness is attributed to the holder of an office, the person who replaces him or her, or the person designated in writing by the holder, may act on his or her behalf.



4. The appointment of the members of the first Board of Trustees shall be made by the founders and shall be recorded in the articles of incorporation. The founding Board of Trustees shall designate the members of the first Academic Council and the first Business Council. At the constitutive session of these bodies, they shall make the proposal of members of the Board of Trustees referred to in the following section.

5. Within a maximum period of one year from the registration of the deed of incorporation in the Register of Foundations, the Board of Trustees shall proceed to appoint the persons who are to form part of it in accordance with the following composition:

a) The Regional Minister responsible for R&D&I in the Generalitat Valenciana.

b) The Regional Secretary in charge of Universities and Research.

c) The Rector of the Universitat Politècnica de València.

d) The Rector of the Universitat de València Estudi General,

e) The Rector of the Universitat d'Alacant.

f) The Rector of the Universitat Jaume I de Castelló.

g) The Rector of the Miguel Hernández University.

h) Up to a maximum of two members of the Board of Trustees representing the Alumni and Friends of ValgrAI, who will be appointed by the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds majority.

i) A minimum of four and up to a maximum of six members of the Board of Trustees, proposed by the Academic Council of the Foundation in accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of these Statutes.



j) A minimum of five and up to a maximum of ten members of the Board of Trustees from institutions or companies that support the Foundation, proposed by the Business Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of these Statutes.

6. The first renewal of all the members of the Board of Trustees, except for the representatives of institutions, shall take place four years after the registration of the deed of incorporation in the Register of Foundations, regardless of the term of their mandate, and they may be re-elected, as the case may be, for new periods of four years.

Article 11. Acceptance and termination of members of the Board of Trustees.

1. The Board of Trustees, as the governing and administrative body of the Foundation, holds the representation and management, with all the powers that are necessary for the realization of the foundational purposes.

2. The members of the Board of Trustees shall enter into office after having expressly accepted the position in one of the ways established by the legislation in force. The members of the Board of Trustees may be dismissed by agreement of the Board of Trustees for any of the causes established in the legislation in force regarding foundations, as well as when there is an unjustified failure to attend four consecutive meetings of the full Board of Trustees. The members of the Board of Trustees who for any reason cease to hold office before the expiration of the term for which they were appointed may be replaced by agreement of the Board of Trustees, with the exception of the members of the Board of Trustees proposed by the Academic Council or the Business Council, who shall be replaced at the proposal of the bodies that appointed them. The member appointed as substitute shall be appointed for the time remaining for the term of office of the member to be replaced, with the exception of the Patrons appointed by the Academic Council and the Business Council, who shall be appointed for four years. The members of the Board of Trustees appointed as substitutes may be re-elected for the same terms established for the other members of the Board of Trustees.



3. The members of the Board of Trustees shall not be remunerated for the mere exercise of their office, without prejudice to their right to be reimbursed for the expenses incurred in the performance of the duties entrusted to them by the Board of Trustees, subject to prior justification thereof. The Board of Trustees may establish an appropriate remuneration for those patrons who provide the Foundation with services other than those involved in the exercise of their duties as members of the Board of Trustees (management, administration or teaching tasks), with the prior authorization of the Protectorate. In this case, they may be remunerated, for the exercise of these activities, within the framework of a contractual relationship, including those of an employment nature. In this case, the employment contract and its formalization shall be subject to the conditions and limitations established by the legislation in force.

Article 12. Functions of the Board of Trustees.

The powers of the Board of Trustees are, among others:

- a) To appoint the new members of the Board of Trustees if the number is increased, and also to cover the vacancies that may occur for any reason, in accordance with the requirements established in these statutes and in conformity with the provisions of the legislation in force. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the patrons proposed by the Academic Council, or the Corporate Council shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws.
- b) Termination or suspension of patrons, for the causes established in the legislation in force regarding foundations.
- c) To create management, administration, and direction bodies, to appoint the persons to occupy them and to grant the corresponding powers, with the limitations established in the legislation in force regarding foundations.
- d) To agree on the acts and legal business concerning the representation and governance of the Foundation, as well as the free administration and disposal of



all the assets that make up its patrimony, income and products and the exercise of all its rights and actions, within the statutory and legal provisions.

e) To approve the budget settlements and the annual accounts, which include the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the annual report of activities.

f) To interpret these statutes and to establish the complementary norms that are pertinent, in accordance with the legislation in force, as well as to resolve all the legal incidences that may arise.

g) To approve the modification of the statutes, or the merger, extinction, or aggregation to another Foundation; these acts must be registered in the Registry of Foundations of the Valencian Community, under the supervision and control of the Protectorate of the Generalitat Valenciana.

h) To grant general and/or special powers of attorney in favor of one or more persons, with the powers considered most appropriate in each case, complying with the prescriptions established in Article 15 of Law 8/1998, of December 9, 1998, of the Generalitat, of Foundations, of the Valencian Community.

i) And, in general, to carry out all acts, to intervene in legal transactions, and to grant any contract that may be convenient for a better administration and disposition of the income and assets of the disposition of the income and assets of the Foundation, and for the exercise of the rights, actions and faculties that may be appropriate for the most adequate realization and performance of the foundational purposes, within the legal provisions in force.

Article 13. President.

1. The President of the Board of Trustees, except for the first President of the Board of Trustees, who shall be designated in the Foundation Charter, shall be appointed from among the members of the Board of Trustees by resolution of the Board of Trustees adopted by a two-thirds majority.



2. The term of office of the President shall be four years and may be renewed for identical periods.

3. The President has the casting vote in the adoption of resolutions by the Board of Trustees.

4. The President exercises the ordinary representation of the Foundation and also presides over the Academic Council.

Article 14. Vice-president.

1. The Board of Trustees may appoint, by a two-thirds majority, a Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

2. The office of Vice-President shall have a duration of four years and may be renewed for identical periods.

3. The Vice-president, or, in the absence of the latter, the oldest member, substitutes the President in all his/her functions in the event of absence or illness and exercises all those functions that the President or the Board of Trustees may assign to him/her, always within the limits established by the legislation in force.

Article 15. Secretary.

1. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds majority. He/she may or may not be a member of the Board of Trustees. In the second case, he/she intervenes in the meetings with voice but without vote, and has the duty to warn of the legality of the agreements that the body intends to adopt.

2. The office of Secretary has a duration of four years and may be renewed for identical periods.



3. The Secretary draws up the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Trustees, issues the certificates of the agreements adopted by the bodies with the approval of the President, keeps the Minutes Book and assumes any other functions entrusted by the President or by the Board of Trustees, always within the limits established by the legislation in force.

4. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees may attend, if necessary, the other bodies of the Foundation.

Article 16. Members.

The members of the Board of Trustees, with the exception of the President, Vice President and Secretary, shall be considered members of the Board of Directors.

Article 17. Convocation and meetings of the Board of Trustees.

1. The Board of Trustees shall meet in Ordinary Meeting at least once a year. It shall meet in Extraordinary Meeting as often as the President deems appropriate, and necessarily when requested by a quarter of the Patrons.

2. The President of the Board of Trustees calls the meetings and sets the agenda, which must include all the matters to be dealt with at the meeting, outside of which no valid agreements may be reached, with the exception of what is stipulated in section 5 of this article.

3. The call must be made at least seven days prior to the day scheduled for the meeting.

4. The Board of Trustees shall be validly constituted if more than half of the total number of trustees attend the meeting.



5. The Board of Trustees may hold meetings without prior notice, as well as adopt resolutions on matters not included in the agenda, if all the patrons are present and unanimously accept the holding of the meeting and the agenda.

6. The Board of Trustees may agree that its members may participate in the meetings by means of videoconference or by other means of remote communication, provided that the identification of the patrons is guaranteed.

the identification of those attending the meeting, the continuity of communication, the possibility of intervening in the deliberations and the casting of votes are guaranteed.

Article 18. Deliberation and adoption of resolutions.

1. The meeting shall be presided over by the President of the Board of Trustees.

2. Then, the President reads the agenda and moderates the debate. The agenda can only be altered by unanimous agreement of the Board of Trustees meeting in Universal Meeting.

3. Except in cases where these Statutes require a different majority, the adoption of agreements in relation to the different items on the agenda is made by simple majority of votes cast.

4. The Secretary draws up the minutes of the meeting, which may be approved at the same meeting, at the following meeting or, when once the minutes have been reliably notified to all the members of the Board of Trustees, no one objects within fifteen days from the date of notification.

5. Provided that the rights to information and to vote are guaranteed and that the receipt of the vote and its authenticity are recorded, the Chairman of the



Board of Trustees may submit to the members of the Board proposals for agreement without the need for a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Article 19. General Director.

1. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation shall appoint by a two-thirds majority, at the proposal of the President, a Director General who shall be an active academic with primary affiliation to a Spanish institution that is a fellow of the European Association for Artificial Intelligence or the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence or has equivalent merits.
2. The Director General may attend the meetings of the Board of Trustees with voice but without vote.
3. The Director General exercises the functions of ordinary management of the Foundation and the execution of the agreements of the Board of Trustees for the realization of the foundational purposes. The Board of Trustees may grant powers of attorney to the General Director, subject to the limitations established by the applicable legislation.

Article 20. Conflicts of interest

In the event of a conflict of interests or rights between the Foundation and any of the members of its governing bodies, as established in article 13.7 of the Law of Foundations of the Valencian Community, those affected shall not participate in the decision to be adopted by the Board of Trustees, which shall be responsible for determining, by a two-thirds majority, whether or not said conflict exists.

Section II. Academic Council

Article 21. Composition of the Academic Council. Functions and regime of adoption of agreements.



1. The Board of Trustees shall appoint an Academic Council composed of a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 35 members, who must be active academics with primary affiliation to a Spanish institution who are Fellows of the European Association for Artificial Intelligence or the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence or former Presidents of the Spanish Association for Artificial Intelligence or have equivalent merits and who agree to be part of it. The members of the Academic Council will have a term of office of four years, re-eligible for equal periods.
2. The President of the Board of Trustees will be the President of the Academic Council, and the Secretary who holds the same position in the Board of Trustees.
3. The Academic Council shall propose a minimum of four and a maximum of six members of the Board of Trustees from among prominent persons of the academic world.
4. The functions of the Academic Council shall be to advise the Board of Trustees on matters of postgraduate training and the organization of studies, events, seminars, congresses, etc.
5. The Academic Council shall adopt its decisions by a simple majority of votes cast. Voting by mail or by any means of telematic communication that provides a reliable record shall be admitted.
6. The Academic Council shall meet at least every two years and whenever convened by the President of the Board of Trustees.

Section III. Business Council

Article 22. Composition of the Corporate Council. Functions and system for adopting resolutions.

1. The Board of Trustees may appoint a Business Council, which shall be composed of a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 50 representatives of companies



and other private institutions that contribute to the development of the purposes of the Foundation and to its economic support.

2. The members of the Business Council shall hold office for a term of four years and may be re-elected for equal periods.

3. The President of the Board of Trustees shall preside over the meetings of the Business Council.

4. The Business Council shall propose a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 members of the Board of Trustees from among prominent persons in the business world.

5. The Business Council shall take its decisions by a simple majority of votes cast. Voting by mail or by any means of telematic communication that provides a reliable record shall be permitted.

6. The Business Council shall receive information from the Foundation on its development and shall have the function of advising the Foundation when the Board of Trustees or the President so requires.

7. The Business Council shall meet at least every two years and whenever convened by the President of the Board of Trustees to fulfill its purpose, as established in point 1 of this article.

Section IV. Scientific Council

Article 23. Composition of the Scientific Council. Functions and system for adopting resolutions.

1. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Scientific Council, which shall be composed of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 40 members, who shall be researchers of international reputation. The members of the Scientific Council



may in no case be Trustees. The term of office of the members of the Scientific Council shall be six years, renewable for three-year periods.

2. The President of the Scientific Council shall be one of its members designated by the Board of Trustees.

3. The President of the Scientific Council may invite the President of the Board of Trustees and/or the Director of the Foundation, as well as other members of the ValgrAI community, to the meetings of the Scientific Council whenever he/she considers it convenient.

4. The Scientific Council advises the Foundation on questions of scientific relevance raised by the President, the Board of Trustees or the Director General.

5. The Scientific Council shall adopt its decisions by simple majority of votes cast. Voting by mail or by any means of telematic communication that provides a reliable record shall be admitted.

6. The Scientific Council may delegate to a sub-committee the preparation of its meetings, as well as the follow-up of agreements and advice to the Foundation during the period between plenary meetings.

7. The Chairperson of the Scientific Council shall convene the Scientific Council at least once every three years.

Section V. Board of studies

Article 24. Composition of the Board of Studies. Functions and system for adopting resolutions.

1. The Board of Studies shall be made up of a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 20 researchers of recognized reputation appointed by the Board of Trustees at the proposal of the President of the Board of Trustees.

2. The Director General, at the proposal of the President, may provisionally



appoint members of the Board of Studies who must be ratified at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees following their appointment.

3. The term of office as a member of the Board of Studies shall be 4 years.
4. The Board of Studies shall be chaired by the Director General of the Foundation. One of its members chosen for this purpose shall act as Secretary. The Board of Studies shall adopt its decisions by a majority of votes cast.
5. The Board of Studies shall meet at least once a year and whenever convened by the Director General to fulfill its purpose.
6. The Board of Studies shall advise the President, the Board of Trustees, or the Director General in its activities (teaching, strategy, etc.).
7. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation may appoint five members of the Board of Studies to form an Executive Committee of the Board of Studies, which shall be chaired by the Director General of the Foundation and shall be responsible for making all decisions on the advice to be given to the Foundation. The secretary shall be the person who holds the position on the Board of Studies. The Executive Committee shall take its decisions by simple majority and shall be considered validly constituted when more than half of its members are present.



CHAPTER III. ECONOMIC REGIME OF THE FOUNDATION

Article 25. Patrimony.

The patrimony of the Foundation shall be linked to the fulfillment of the foundational purposes. The patrimony shall be composed of

1. Of the foundational capital, constituted by the initial endowment, as stated in the foundational charter.
2. Of all other goods and rights that the Foundation accepts and receives, to increase the foundational capital.
3. Of all the fruits, rents and products, other goods incorporated to the patrimony of the Foundation, by any title or concept.

The fruitful goods that integrate the foundational patrimony may only be alienated to reinvest the product obtained in the acquisition of other fruitful goods, or in those that serve for the better fulfillment of the foundational purpose. The Board of Trustees may, whenever necessary, and in accordance with the economic situation and the legislation in force, make the modifications it deems necessary or advisable in the investments of the Foundation's assets.

The annual resources of the Foundation shall consist of:

- (a) the income produced by the activity.
- b) the favorable balances that may result from the foundational activities.
- c) the subsidies and other donations received for this purpose, which, therefore, do not have to be incorporated in the foundation capital.

At least 70% of the income and other annual net income obtained by the Foundation shall be allocated to the realization of the foundational purposes, and the remainder shall be allocated either to the deferred fulfillment of the purposes or to increase the endowment. The Board of Trustees will have to approve the application of the income.



The favorable vote of two thirds of the Board of Trustees, and the fulfillment of the applicable legal requirements, shall be required for the execution of acts of disposition of the assets that constitute the Foundation's patrimony and for the acceptance of inheritances and legacies.

The accounting of the Foundation shall conform to the accounting standards directly applicable to it and to the requirements of the applicable tax legislation. The journal, the inventory book, the annual accounts book and the minutes book shall be kept. The accounts shall be kept by the person designated by the Board of Trustees.

Article 26. Financial Year.

The fiscal year shall be annual and shall begin on January 1 and end on the following December 31.

Article 27. Inventory and annual accounts.

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation shall formulate annually the inventory, balance sheet closed on December 31, and the annual accounts, consisting of the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and a report of the activities carried out during the year and of the economic management of the patrimony; it shall also make the liquidation of the budget of income and expenses of the previous year and shall formulate the budget for the current year. The annual accounts must be approved by the Board of Trustees within 6 months after the closing date of the fiscal year and must be submitted to the Protectorate of the Generalitat Valenciana within 10 working days of their approval. In any case, the accounts shall be formulated in the terms and with the contents established by the legislation in force.

The annual accounts must be submitted to external audit in the cases and under the conditions established by the legislation in force.



Article 28. Extinction. Destination of the remainder in case of extinction.

The Board of Trustees may agree to the extinction of the Foundation when it considers that the foundational purpose has been fulfilled or when its realization is impossible. In any case, the Foundation shall be extinguished for any other cause established by law. The agreement of the Board of Trustees will require the favorable vote of at least three quarters of the members of the Board of Trustees and will have to be ratified by the Protectorate.

The extinction of the Foundation will determine the global transfer of all assets and liabilities, which must be carried out by the Board of Trustees and by the liquidators appointed by it, or, if appropriate, by the Protectorate. This global transfer, once the assets and liabilities have been determined, and with the prior authorization of the Protectorate, will be allocated in equal parts to the Universitat Politècnica de València, the Universitat de València Estudi General, the Universitat de Alacant, the Universitat Jaume I de Castelló, and the Universidad Miguel Hernández.

If a global assignment cannot be made, the assets and liabilities must be liquidated, and the resulting credit will be applied as established in the previous paragraph.

Article 29. Modification of the by-laws.

Whenever it is convenient in the interest of the Foundation, the Board of Trustees may agree to the modification of these statutes with the favorable vote of at least three quarters of the members of the Board of Trustees and following the legally established procedure.