

# STATUTE OF THE ORDER OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST IN THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

# CHAPTER I GENERAL PRINCIPLES

#### Article 1

#### **Establishment of the Order of the Psychologist**

1. The Order of the Psychologist was established based on Law 40/2016 "On the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania".

#### **Article 2**

## Status of the Order of the Psychologist

- 1. The Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania, hereinafter the Order of the Psychologist, is a non-governmental, professional, independent, public entity which represents and protects the common interests of the members of the Order and regulates the activities and relations between them in the interest of the public.
- 2. The order is organized based on Law no. 8480, dated 27.5.1999 "On the Functioning State Administration and Public Entities Collegial Bodies", Public Entity meaning any public right entity, which is non-governmental and established by law, aiming at serving the public interest.
- 3. The Order of the Psychologist is an independent, professional, depoliticized legal person, open to all members regardless of their racial, ethnic, religious, gender or political affiliation.

#### Article 3

#### **Founding principles**

- 1. The founding principles of the structure and functioning of the Order are; equality of its members before the law and the norms of the Order, the right of its members to elect and be elected to all duties and positions of the Order, to take its desicions by simple majority, and the right to undertake its free activity in compliance with the law.
- 2. The Order extends throughout the national territory.

#### **Article 4**

#### Mission of the Order of the Psychologist

- 1. The mission of the Order of the Psychologist is to promote and maintain high standards in the education and practice of the profession in the field of psychology, as well as to protect the beneficiaries of the service from misuse of psychologist's work.
- 2. In order to acheive its aim, the Psychologist's Order has these competencies:
- a) grants and waives the right to practice the psychologist's profession;
- b) keeps the Official Register of Psychologist's Order and manages its administration, and updating system;

- c) Encourages the achievement of high standards in the professional and ethical education and training of the members of the Order.
- d) Sets ethical and deontological standards, mandatory for each psychologist and monitors their implementation while practicing the profession;
- e) Protects the rights of members of the Order, the moral and professional integrity of the members and of the psychologist's work.
- f) Encourages and assists in taking measures in order to improve the service provided, and to protect those who may benefit the service from misuse of the profession;
- g) Cooperates with responsible institutions, other scientific and educational institutions, in compliance with the legislation in force, to provide standards in continuous education, postgraduate qualifications and specializations of the Order;
- h) informs the public via the official page of the Order on all acts approved by the Order Bodies, as defined in this Law.

#### **Functions of the Order**

- 1. For the purpose of acheiving its aim, the Order will perform the following functions:
- a) Facilitates practicing psychology for its members, aiming at increasing the professional level by cooperating with the public administration and private initiative, when necessary.
- b) Acts in compliance with the law for the representation and protection of psychologist's work before any state administration body, public and private institution, court, entity and individual, by taking a stand against any issue that affects professional interests, and enabling the right to appeal in accordance with the law.
- c) Proposes legislative reforms that it judges fair in protecting the profession.
- d) Decides, within its legal competencies, on the criteria and way of practicing the profession by supervising that the psychologist's work is done in accordance with ethical and deontological criteria and standards, with respect to the rights of individuals, exercising in this way its disciplinary authority professionally.
- e) Provides an efficient organization of the Order, promoting its extension throughout the territory, by encouraging educational, cultural, assisting and vocational training activities and services in the Order's interest.
- f) Protects the members of the Order in exercising their rights to perform their professional functions.
- g) Ensures harmony and cooperation among the members of the Order by prohibiting unfair competition among them, intervening via reconciliation or arbitration on issues that raise for professional reasons, as well as to solve, accordingly, by decision at the request of the interested parties the disagreements incurring in fulfilling the obligations arising from practicing this profession.

- h) Takes measures which lead in the avoidance of interference in the profession from any administrative or state body, by opposing, reporting, or taking any case, ascertained as such in the meeting of the National Council, to any administrative body or court of all levels.
- i) Grants liecenses to psychologists for their professional work, according to the qualification obtained, without affecting the professional honoraria or any other contractual terms, the defining of which is left to the free decision of the parties.
- j) Administers the Order's budget taking into account the principle of maintaining the balance between the needs, the public interest and the financial burden of allocating quotas, fees and contributions, and exercises the authority needed for their collection and management.
- k) Participates, in compliance with the law, in the assemblies of any public administration body that deals with professional competence issues and curricula design, as well as informs members, accordingly, on the terms and conditions of organizing teaching centers, where study courses which provide qualifications allowing practice of the profession, are pursued.
- 1) Prepares the necessary information needed to facilitate access to the professional life of novice psychologists.
- m) Cooperates with the justice system and with any other law enforcement body in order to establish a professional database for all Order members who have the appropriate qualification to practice the profession as psychologists. Grants the Courts and all the abovementioned bodies access to the data of the Order members who may be required as experts in judicial cases, or appoints them itself when necessary.
- n) Takes responsibility for the representation of the profession in the international context.
- o) Demonstrates and exercises its authority over the members to apply general and special laws, professional statutes and internal organization regulations, as well as the norms and decisions taken by collegial bodies within their competence.
- p) Takes care of the fair distribution of professional information and the unrestricted use of professional materials for all the members.
- q) Exercises all other functions attributed to the Order by legal provisions, or that serve the professional interests of members of the order, or of the profession itself.

# Article 6 Cooperation

1. In performing its duties, the Order of the Psychologist maintains constant links with the ministries responsible for social affairs, education, health, justice, internal affairs, defense and their subordinate institutions, independent institutions and other bodies established under the legislation in power, be them public or private.

- 2. Every 6 months, the Order of the Psychologist informs the ministries mentioned in subsection
- 1 of this article, according to their area of responsibility, on psychologists' membership, disciplinary adjudications and their performance at all levels of professional judgment.
- 3. State Responsibility Inspectorates of the ministries mentioned in subsection 1 of this article cooperate with the Order of the Psychologist while it performs its functions.
- 4. The ministries mentioned in subsection 1 of this article cooperate with the Order for drafting legal and sub-legal acts, as well as other important documents in the field of psycho-social services.
- 5. The Psychologist's order cooperates with all national or international institutions operating in the field of psychology.
- 6. The Order of the Psychologist intends to establish reciprocal cooperation relations with homologous organizations in other countries and become a full member of international organizations that help in accomplishing its mission.
- 7. The Psychologist's order cooperates with all public and private institutions of higher education.

# Article 7 The Statute

- 1. The Statute of the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania, hereinafter the Statute, aims at the normative regulating of the activity of the Psychologist's Order and its bodies.
- 2. The Statute is approved by the National Assembly of the Order of the Psychologist.

# CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST

#### Article 8

#### **Membership Criteria**

- 1. All Members of the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania must fulfill the following criteria:
- a) be Albanian citizens;
- b) have obtained a "Bachelor Degree" and a "Master of Science Degree" or "Professional Master Degree" in Psychology, or an equivalent one, under the applicable legislation on higher education issued by the Higher Education Institution, in or outside the country, recognized by the ministry responsible for education:
- c) vow in a written form that they will comply with the requirements of the legislation in force, the Statute and the Code of Ethics and Deontology;
- d) be clear of any final court decisions for the commission of criminal offenses related to profession practice, at the time of membership application;

- 2. Psychologists, be it albanians or foreigners, who are graduated abroad can also become members of "The Order of The Psychologist" after their diploma has been recognised by the Ministry of Education and Science.
- 3. A foreign citizen must first become a member of "The Order of The Psychologist of the Republic of Albania so as to practice the psychologist's profession in the Republic of Albania. Any psychologist, who is a foreign citizen, resident in Albania or attached to an institution where he/she comes periodically for practicing his/her profession, should also own the following documents:
- a) residence and work permit in the Republic of Albania;
- b) a "Certificate of Good Standing" from the order/chamber or association of psychologists of his/her country, recognized by our country, which proves that they are registered, practice the profession and have never taken any punitive measures;
- c) recognition of their diploma and other specialization certificates by the competent body;
- d) a recommendation from a local specialist of the same field, member of the Order of the Psychologist;
- e) a certificate of Albanian language competence, certified by a licensed state authority;
- f) a foreign psychologist who does not know the Albanian language must work with an interpreter.
- 4. Albanian and foreign citizens become members of the Psychologist Order immediately after the file they have delivered has been accepted and they have paid the fee and been registered.
- 5. The required documentation for the registration and registration procedure are regulated by a special regulation approved by the National Council.
- 6. Membership in the Order can be made as a member practicing (practicing member), or not-practicing the profession (non-practicing member).

#### **Membership Obligation**

- 1. No individual can do the psychologist's work in any public or private institution in the Republic of Albania without first being a member of the Order of the Psychologist and without obtaining the license, issued by this body, for practicing the profession.
- 2. Employers of public and private institutions are forbidden to hire psychologists in violation of this provision.

#### Article 10

#### **Membership Fee**

- 1. The applicant pays the fee, which is determined annually by a decision of the National Council of Psychologist's Order, for the actions performed for their membership, registration and licensing.
- 2. For foreign entities, the National Council may charge special fees.

#### Reasons for refusing membership in the Order

- 1. Membership in the order might be refused to the person concerned only in the following cases:
  - a) When he/she does not meet the criteria required by law;
  - b) When no relevant fees of the order are paid;
  - c) When a final decision, against the person concerned, has been taken that prohibits him/her from practicing the profession.
- 2. The membership refusal decision must be communicated to the applicant accompanied with the reasons for the refusal, and does not exclude the administrative way to appeal.
- 3. Membership and membership termination procedures are set out in the registration, membership, and licensing Regulation approved by the National Council.

#### Article 12

## Losing the status as a member of the Order

- 1. The member status of the order is lost in the following cases:
  - a) When the person dies;
  - b) Upon the request of the member himself, without avoiding meeting the Order obligations;
  - c) When, by a final court decision, the person is not allowed to practice the profession;
  - d) When the person fails to pay the fee of the order or other contributions determined by the Order for a period of more than six months;
  - e) In the case of violating any disciplinary rules, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute.
- 2. The National Council may decide on the temporary suspension of membership when it is notified on the filing of a lawsuit or the proceeding against that member for an offense whose sentence might be prohibition of practising the profession. This decision must be rational, by listening to the interested person in advance and based on the respective circumstances.

#### Article 13

#### Appeal for the refusal of membership and loss of the member status

- 1. The claimant has the right to appeal to the National Council no later than 30 days from the day he/she receives the notification on the membership refusal, or the loss of the member status decision.
- 2. The National Council shall review it no later than 2 months after the submission of the complaint and takes a decision which is final.
- 3. The applicant has the right to address the Order again with another membership application only 12 months after the National Council's negative response and only if the conditions for admission are met.

#### **Honor Members**

1. The National Council may award the title "Honorary Member of the Order" to those persons who, because of their scientific, technical or professional merit, regardless of their diploma, have contributed to the development of the psychology or profession of the psychologist.

#### Article 15

# The rights of the acting member

The acting member of the Psychologist Order is entitled to:

- a) practise the profession according to the title specified in the diploma "Master of Science" and / or "Professional Master";
- b) require the creation of favorable conditions for the normal practice of the profession, continuous education and advancement of the career;
- c) to seek special protection, in case of danger in practicing the profession or in case of life threatening cases to third parties;
- d) practice the profession in accordance with the legislation in force and with the standards of the Ethico-Deontological Code;
- d) seek protection by the Psychologist's Order for violation of his professional rights and of the Code of Ethics:
- dh) appeal to the bodies of the Order against any entity that violates the right and the opportunity to practice the profession freely and independently;
- e) elect and be elected to the bodies of the Order of the Psychologist;
- f) to participate in the process of review in issues that arise from practicing the profession by the bodies of the Order;
- g) appeal decisions of the Psychologist's Order when judging them unfairly.

#### **Article 16**

#### **Duties of the acting member**

The acting member of the Order of The Psychologist performs the following duties:

- a) practices the profession and has professional behavior in accordance with the Code of Ethics and Deontology;
- b) works to increase professional standards and quality of service in the field of psychology in the institution where he/she works and regularly participates in continuous education programs;
- c) regularly pays membership fees, registration fees, the fee for the right to practice the profession and other administrative services determined by the decision of the National Council of Psychologist's Order;
- d) files in the Order the professional acts, contracts and other documents that may be required, in accordance with statutory or regulatory provisions;
- e) notifies the Order, within 30 days, for any change of the data required for registration;

- f) takes an active part in the life of the Order by participating in General Assemblies and in committees or sections in which he/she may be called upon because of the profession;
- g) carefully performs the functions in which he/she has been elected, and accomplishes those duties that the Order Bodies might assign;
- h) respects other members' professional rights or other rights recognized in the Order;
- i) cooperates with the National Council and, in particular, makes statements or facilitates the provision of information on issues that are in the Order's interest but does not disclose the professional secret.

## The rights of a non-practicing member

The non-practicing member of the Order of the Psychologist is entitled to:

- a) make use of the services and professional tools of the Order, under the conditions laid down in the regulations;
- b) participate as a voter in all elections called upon by the Order and take an active part in the life of the Order;
- c) participate in all Committees or Sections that may be established, with the exception of the Committee on Ethics and Disciplinary Adjudication;
- d) submit to the National Council written documents with suggestions, requests and complaints;
- e) receive, regularly, information on the activities of the Order, that have Professional Interest, through bulletins, publications and instructions, as well as through all other appropriate means of information.

#### Article 18

#### The duties of a non-practicing member

The non-practicing member of the Psychologist Order has the following duties:

- a) conforms to the norms of the Order, as well as the decisions taken by the governing bodies of the Order;
- b) notifies the Order, within the time limit of 30 days, for any change to the registration data;
- c) pays the quotas and fees on time;
- d) actively participates in the life of the Order, by participating in General Assemblies and in committees or sections in which he/she may be called upon because of the profession;
- e) fulfills the duties that the governing bodies of the Order may assign;
- f) respects other members' professional rights or other rights recognized in the Order;
- g) cooperates with the National Council and, in particular, makes statements or facilitates the provision of information on issues that are in the Order's interest, but does not disclose the professional secret;

h) psychologists who, for various reasons, have not practiced their profession for a period of more than 7 years, may undergo a reselection procedure and/or test to register/re-register which enables them to practice the profession. The program and methods of reselecting and/or testing are determined by the National Council.

# CHAPTER III ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICING THE PROFESSION

#### Article 19

# **Practicing the profession**

1. In any case, practicing the profession shall be in accordance with the ethical and deontological norms and standards set forth in the Psychologist's Code of Ethics and Deontology, approved by the Order.

#### Article 20

## Basics of practicing the profession

- 1. Practicing the profession is based on the principle of professional autonomy, due diligence towards the client and community service.
- 2. The psychologist has the right and obligation to keep the professional secret.
- 3. The psychologist has the obligation to respect the ethical and deontological standards set forth in the Code of Ethics and Deontology.

#### Article 21

#### **Continuous education**

1. The psychologist should be involved in continuous professional education to ensure updated knowledge in the professional field of practice.

#### **Article 22**

#### **Professional autonomy**

1. The psychologist should accept no task that is against his professional autonomy or that may cause problems that can not be solved in the current stage of his professional development.

#### Article 23

#### **Unfair Competition and Publicity**

- 1. The psychologist shall practice his profession under the condition of free competition with respect to his offered service and payment determination; shall be subject to the legislation on competition protection, and unfair competition and false publicity avoidance.
- 2. The psychologist should share his/her knowledge on scientific methods with the professional community.

#### The rights of the customer and/or the beneficiary

- 1. The client and his/her legal representatives, accordingly, must be acquainted with the objectives and possible consequences of any process or treatment that will be carried out.
- 2. In any case, the psychologist must respect the autonomy, decision-making freedom and dignity of the client and/or the beneficiary.
- 3. When faced with personal or institutional opposite interests, the psychologist should strive to perform his activity with maximum impartiality.

#### Article 25

#### Written works

- 1. All professional papers that are issued in a document form such as assessments, reports, analysis, diagnostics and other analogous ones, are signed by the professional, who writes his/her license number, and takes responsibility for their content and suitability with the purpose for which they are issued.
- 2. In his papers, reports, and assessments, the psychologist should explain what is hypothesized from the conclusions he has reached based on a scientific justification.

# CHAPTER IV ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

# Article 26 Main Bodies

- 1. The main Bodies of the Order are:
- a) The National Assembly;
- b) The National Council;
- c) The President of the Order:
- d) The Ethics Committee of the Professional Disciplinary Adjudication.
- 2. With the decision of the National Council, the Order of the Psychologist may establish regional offices throughout the country, the organization and operation of which is regulated by a special regulation.
- 3. The administrative bodies of the Order shall be organized and will operate according to the Administrative Regulations approved by the National Council.

#### Article 27

#### The National Assembly

- 1. The National Assembly is the highest governing body of the Order and consists of all the Order members.
- 2. The meeting of the National Assembly is convened:

- a) by the President of the Order;
- b) when required by 1/3 of all members of the Assembly.
- 3. The National Assembly has the following functions:
- a) elects the National Council and the President of the Order, by secret ballot with the simple majority of all its members;
- b) approves the statute of the Order;
- c) approves the Code of Ethics and Deontology;
- d) approves the regulation for professional disciplinary adjudication;
- e) approves the regulation for registration, membership and licensing;
- f) approves the regulation for the organization of the professional practice;
- g) reviews and approves the draft budget of the Order, as well as reviews its actual budget;
- h) analyzes the annual activity of the bodies of the Order;
- i) reviews the external audit report at three-year intervals.

#### **National Council**

- 1. The National Council of the Order is the Order's Executive Body, which consists of 17 members. Members of the National Council are:
- a) the President of the Order;
- b) one representative of each ministry education, health, justice, defense and social affairs;
- c) three pedagogues of psychology, having the scientific degree Professor, Associate Professor,
- or Doctor of Science, who work in institutions of higher education, in public or private universities;
- d) seven psychologists who work in schools, hospitals, prisons, community institutions, courts, offices or private agencies, residential institutions, as well as other affiliated institutions;
- e) one member from the Psychologists' Associations.
- 2. The National Council has the following responsibilities:
- a) approves its own organizational structure;
- b) defines quotas and fees;
- c) administers the real estate and the tangible and intangible property of the Order at national level;
- d) supervises the entire activity of its subordinate bodies;
- e) drafts the statute, the regulations of the Order, and the Code of Ethics and Deontology and proposes them for approval to the National Assembly;
- f) keeps and updates the Register of the Psychologist's Order;
- g) sets up *ad hoc* working groups for conducting inspections on how the profession of the psychologist is practiced;
- h) prepares and publishes the annual and the financial report;
- i) gives the title "Honorary Member of the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania" to personalities with important contributions in the field of psychology.

3. Elections for the National Council are held every 4 years.

#### Article 29

## **Membership Criteria in the National Council**

- 1. A member of the National Council shall meet the following criteria:
- a) shall be an Albanian citizen and have permanent residence in Albania;
- b) shall be a member of the Order of the Psychologist;
- c) shall have no less than 5 years of experience in practicing the psychologist's profession;
- d) shall have no criminal record and must not have received disciplinary measures in the last 5 years.
- 2. Members of the National Council shall have the right to be re-elected only once.

#### Article 30

#### **Notification for Council meetings**

1. The President shall notify the date, time and agenda of each meeting. As a rule, the Council meeting notification is made, 7 days in advance, via a written announcement which includes the meeting's agenda too.

#### Article 31

## **Decision-taking**

1. The National Council shall take decisions only on issues that are included in the agenda of the meeting, except for the cases when at least two-thirds of the members agree to review and take decisions on issues that are not on the agenda.

#### **Article 32**

#### Validity of the Meeting

- 1. The National Council meeting is valid when at least 1/2 of the members are present.
- 2. When this majority is not reached at the starttime of the meeting, then the President or the Vice President, decides to convene the meeting another day and the notification is made in a written form again.

#### Article 33

#### Minutes of the meeting

- 1. Each meeting shall contain a record showing the date, the venue, the participants, the issues discussed, the decisions taken, and the form and outcome of the voting. The President appoints a person to take these minutes.
- 2. At the end of the meeting, the minutes are signed by the person who took them (the secretary) and the President or the Vice President.

#### The form of voting

- 1. Decisions shall be taken by open balloting, except when, for special reasons and circumstances and with the President's proposal is otherwise decided.
- 2. Decisions on the assessments of an individual's behavior or qualities are taken by secret ballot only.

#### Article 35

#### Validity of the vote to make decisions

- 1. Decisions shall be taken with the majority vote of the members attending the meeting, unless a qualified majority is required. When the latter is not reached, a second ballot is held. If even in the second ballot the same situation is repeated, then the decision is postponed for another meeting in which a simple majority of votes is enough.
- 2. In cases when the votes are equalized and voting is open, the President's casting vote decides.

#### **Article 36**

#### The President of the Order

- 1. The President of the Order shall be elected by the National Assembly by secret ballot.
- 2. The mandate of the president is 4 years, with the right of being re-elected only once.
- 3. The candidates for the President of the Psychologist's Order must meet these criteria:
- a) shall be no older than the retirement age at the moment of election;
- b) shall have at least 5 years of experience in the profession;
- c) shall have experience and credible data on communication, organization and managerial skills;
- d) shall not have received disciplinary measures in the last 5 years;
- e) shall have earned prestige and ethical, moral and professional reputation;
- f) shall have published scientific publications;
- g) shall not have been sentenced by a final decision for committing a crime or a criminal offense deliberately.
- 4. The position of the President of the Order of the Psychologist is incompatible with any other administrative, state or political position.
- 5. The President of the Order terminates his mandate before the legal time when:
- a) a decision is made by the National Assembly, with the simple majority of all members;
- b) he/she resigns;
- c) he/she is sentenced by a final court decision for committing a criminal offense;
- d) loses full capacity to act;
- d) due to health reasons, as certified by the competent medical commission is incapable of performing the duties.
- 6. The President has the following competencies and duties:
  - a. represents the institution in all legal and administrative relations and signs on its behalf, accordingly;

- b. delegates his/her authority through internal orders, based on the legislation, statute and other normative acts in force, in case of absence or upon request;
- c. chairs the meetings of the National Council;
- d. organizes and directs the activity of the entire institution to ensure the best outcome of the work;
- e. cooperates with other institutions;
- f. signs individual contracts with each employee of the institution and terminates them based on the applicable labor legislation;
- g. heads budget drafting and the setting priorities for its use in the most fruitful way;
- h. makes sure the documentation in the institution is administered in accordance with legal and sub-legal acts;
- i. together with the staff makes sure the professional ethics is applied within the institution;
- j. reprepresents the institution in public relations, holding an official position on its behalf.
- 7. The election procedure, duties and competencies of the President of the Psychologist's Order are set forth in the Electoral Regulation and the Administrative Regulation of the Order.

## **Ethics Committee of Professional Disciplinary Adjudication**

- 1. The Ethics Committee of Professional Disciplinary Adjudication, as a body of professional judgment, functions within the National Council. This committee consists of 5 members elected by the National Council, not by its members.
- 2. The Committee reviews the complaints made by any person or institution to the Order's bodies, which relate to profession practicing and constitute a violation of the Code of Ethics and Deontology.
- 3. The way the Ethics Committee of Professional Disciplinary Adjudication is established and functions is set forth in the Order's Regulation of the Professional Adjudication.

#### Article 38

#### **Disciplinary measures**

- 1. Ethics Committee of Professional Disciplinary Adjudication investigates and adjudicates on the basis of the facts and evidence administered, and on the hearing with the member of the Order against whom disciplinary action may be taken. When it is proved that a member has committed a violation of ethics of the Code of Ethics and Deontology, or has made technical mistakes, it issues the following measures:
- a) a written warning;
- b) a warning reprimand;
- c) a fine from 10 000 (ten thousand) ALL to 100 000 (one hundred thousand) ALL;
- d) a proposal for dismissal from managerial functions in public and private institutions;

- e) a suspension up to 3 years from the right of election to the governing bodies of the Psychologist's Order;
- f) an exemption from the Order of the Psychologist for a period of up to 3 years.
- 2. The disciplinary measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article may be annulled if no other disciplinary measure has been taken against the member:
- a) within 1 year from the date they have been imposed, pursuant to the letters "a" and "b" of subsection 1 of this article:
- b) within 3 years from the date they have been imposed, pursuant to the letters "d" and "f" of subsection 1 of this article.
- 3. Income collected from the fines pursuant to the letter "c" of subsection 1 of this article shall be transferred to the State Budget.

## The Appeal

- 1. Appeals against decisions taken by a disciplinary committee on imposing disciplinary measures shall be submitted to the National Council of The Order of The Psychologist within 15 days from the date of the written communication of the decision.
- 2. The National Council of The Order of The Psychologist shall take it into consideration or establish an ad hoc commission and issue a decision on the filed appeal, within 30 days from the date of receiving that appeal.
- 3. The National Council's decision shall be appealed to the competent court for the resolution of administrative disputes, according to the legislation in force.

#### **Article 40**

#### Other committees

- 1. Permanent or temporary committees are established with the decision of the National Council, depending on the tasks and the problems, accordingly, for:
- Licensing and relicensing;
- Standards, education and qualifications;
- Public and foreign relations;
- Economic and financial planning and control;
- Issuance of a periodical and other publications.
- 2. The activity of these committees is based on the respective regulations, which are approved by the National Council.

# CHAPTER V FINANCE AND BUDGET

## **Budget**

- 1. The Order of the Psychologist has its own budget, which is administered in accordance with the financial rules in force.
- 2. The Financial Resources of the Psychologist's Order are:
- a) membership fees, approved by the National Council;
- b) registration fees;
- c) various donations and other legitimate income.
- 3. The income coming from exercising its activity is used by the Psychologist's Order to acomplish the mission set by the law.
- 4. The National Council approves the annual draft budget, the financial balance, as well as wages and bonuses.

#### Article 42

#### **Fees**

- 1. The annual membership fee is determined by the National Council at the end of each year for the following year depending on the situation, requirements and needs, in order to ensure the normal functioning of the Order of the Psychologist.
- 2. Paying the fee is compulsory and is conditional for membership in the Order of the Psychologist.

#### Article 43

#### Use of financial resources

- 1. The Financial Resources of the Psychologist's Order are used for:
- a) salaries, royalties, work bonuses and social security contributions for employees;
- b) operating expenses;
- c) expenses for the organization of scientific, professional and qualifying activities;
- d) expenses on publications of a scientific and informative nature for the needs of the members;
- e) purchase of tools and work equipment for the needs of the Psychologist' Order activity;
- f) expenses for delegations and specialists invited from various international organizations and foreign countries;
- g) expenses for various ceremonies organised in honor of prominent psychology figures;
- h) disaster relief for members of the Order and their families;
- i) other expenditures necessary for the accomplishment of its mission.

# Article 44 Financial treatment

1. Participation in meetings and various activities of the National Council of The Psychologist's Order, and Committees, as well as the involvment of experts for consultations, designing important projects and materials, as well as other services in the interest of the Psychologist's Order are treated according to the tariffs approved by the National Council.

# CHAPTER VI FINAL PROVISIONS

# Article 45

#### The Name

The institution's name is "THE ORDER OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST IN THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA".

#### Article 46

#### **Emblem and seal**

- 1. The order has its own emblem and seal.
- 2. Stamp is obtained according to the legislation in force.
- 3. The logo is approved by the National Council and shall contain the symbol of psychology, the phrase "The Order of the Psychologist" and "Republic of Albania", as well as the date of the founding assembly of the Order.

# Article 47 The Headquarters

The Order's headquarter is in Tirana.

# Article 48 The Bank account

#### The Dank account

The Oder of the Psychologist keeps bank accounts in ALL and in foreign currency.

# Article 49

#### The Periodical

With the decision of the National Council, The Order of the Psychologist may issue its periodical in the form of a bulletin or magazine for psychologists.

# Article 50 Entry into force

The Statute of the Psychologist's Order enters into force immediately after approval by the National Assembly.

Approved by Decision No. 1, dated 30.06.2017 of the National Assembly of the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania.