

# ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES

of the Marxist-Leninist Party



Member of  
**ICOR**



**MLPD**

Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany

# **ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES**

of the Marxist-Leninist Party

## **CONSTITUTION**

of the Marxist-Leninist Party  
of Germany (MLPD)

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

of the Marxist-Leninist Party  
of Germany (MLPD) for the  
Work of Its Control Commissions and for the  
Conduct of Disciplinary Proceedings



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Organizational Principles of the

Marxist-Leninist Party:

Constitution of the MLPD

Guiding Principles of the MLPD for the Work

of Its Control Commissions and for

the Conduct of Disciplinary Proceedings

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# **CONSTITUTION**

## **of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD)**

### **PREAMBLE**

The Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD) sees itself as political vanguard organization of the working class in Germany.

It is part of the international Marxist-Leninist and working-class movement, heir to the revolutionary tradition of the Communist Party of Germany (KPD), the German working class and its great leaders, Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Karl Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg and Ernst Thälmann.

Its fundamental goal is the overthrow of the dictatorship of solely ruling international finance capital and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Germany as part of the international socialist revolution, which leads step by step to the building of the united socialist states of the world as transitional stage to a worldwide classless communist society.

To prepare and carry out the international revolution, the MLPD unites with all Marxist-Leninist and revolutionary parties and organizations of the world and supports the

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development of cross-border struggles of the working class and the broad masses and their international coordination and revolutionization. The MLPD struggles together with the working class and the oppressed of all countries against imperialism and all reactionaries and for the abolishment of the exploitation of humans and nature by humans.

To this end the MLPD supports a system of international forms of organization and is especially committed to actively working in and promoting the International Coordination of Revolutionary Parties and Organizations (ICOR).

The MLPD is a Party of a new type. It emerged in the struggle against the betrayal of socialism and the falsification of Marxism-Leninism by modern revisionism and works on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking. The guiding principle of the ideological, political and practical work of the MLPD is the conscious application of the dialectical method.

The defense and further development of the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong and their lively application to the concrete situation of progressing societal reality constitute the decisive ideological-political basis for a new upswing of the struggle for socialism. At the same time the Party opposes Right- and Left-opportunist deviations and particularly combats modern revisionism, modern anticommunism and liquidationism.

The Party defends the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution as the highest form of class struggle in socialism and upholds the continuation of class struggle under the dictatorship of the proletariat all the way to classless communist society. In this process, the control of the mode of thinking and working and the way of life of the responsible leaders of the economy, the state and the Party, and the development and consolidation of the proletarian mode of thinking of the masses are of crucial importance.

Only with a proletarian mode of thinking is it possible to understand Marxism-Leninism and achieve, defend and build up socialism. The Party's system of self-control for organizing the superiority of the proletarian mode of thinking in struggle against the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking is a characteristic feature of the MLPD as party of a new type.

To attain its fundamental goal, the Party must gain the confidence of the masses of the people, win over the decisive majority of the international industrial proletariat in Germany for genuine socialism and involve the broad masses in the struggle against international finance capital and its government. To do this it must courageously place itself at the head of the workers' struggles for material, social, ecological and cultural interests; for saving the natural foundations of life from the profit economy; for the defense and extension of the bourgeois-demo-

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cratic rights and liberties of the people; against reformist deception; against reaction and fascism; for peace and against imperialist wars; for the support of the struggle of the working class and the oppressed of all countries for national and social liberation.

The solution of the social question encompasses the liberation of the working class from exploitation by wage labor and the liberation of women from the bourgeois state and family system. The Party stands for this in word and deed.

To win youth for socialism, the Party relies on its Youth League, *Rebell*.

The MLPD works to prepare the revolutionary alliance of the working class with sections of the petty-bourgeois intermediate strata and advocates that petty-bourgeois intellectuals put their abilities to work for the liberation struggle of the working class and the future of youth.

The MLPD educates the working class and other working people in the spirit of scientific socialism and helps them to deal successfully with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking. It promotes non-party-affiliated self-run organizations of the masses and stands for a close relationship between these organizations and the Party based on trust and equality.

## MEMBERSHIP

**§1** Any person who accepts the Program, the Constitution, the Guiding Principles for the Work of the Control Commissions and the programmatic statements of the Party, who belongs to a basic unit of the Party and is actively involved in its work, who observes Party discipline and regularly pays membership dues can be a member of the Party. Membership in the Party begins with successful completion of the candidacy period.

**§2** Applicants for Party membership must go through the procedure for admission individually and must be examined by the appropriate basic unit. The guiding principle of Party admission policy is the preservation of its proletarian character.

Admission as Party member is preceded by a trial period of at least three months, not exceeding six months.

The basic unit concerned determines the length of the candidacy within these limits. Exceptions must be proposed to the Central Committee.

The goal of the trial period is to permit candidates to familiarize themselves with program, principles, politics and methods of work. The basic Party unit examines the personal qualifications of the candidates in practical Party work. A candidate has all the duties of a member with the exception of dues payment, but has only limited rights:



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- He or she may not vote, elect or be elected.
- He or she has no right to attend general membership meetings.
- He or she does not participate in cadre discussions as a rule.

Within this framework, the basic Party unit concerned decides the degree to which candidates are involved in inner-Party discussions.

Admission to the Party as candidate and as member is generally by unanimous decision of the general membership meeting of the basic Party unit. The decision on acceptance as member is subject to confirmation by the next higher leadership level. Where no basic Party unit exists, the decision is up to the appropriate leading body.

The admission of former members of other political organizations as Party members is subject to confirmation by the appropriate district Party leadership or the Central Committee. If the candidate held higher offices in other organizations, confirmation by the Central Control Commission is necessary. Acceptance of political groups as members requires the approval of the Central Committee and the Central Control Commission.

Differing temporary rules for admission to the Party can be laid down by the Central Committee.

## **RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

**§ 3** The member has the right:

- 1) to express his or her views freely within the Party and to objectively criticize the actions of all organs as well as of functionaries and members regardless of their position;
- 2) to elect the organs and be elected into these organs;
- 3) to go with any issue to every higher leadership level up to and including the Central Committee;
- 4) to be heard personally when his or her behavior and activities are discussed in the Party or when decisions are taken concerning the member.

**§ 4** The member has the duty:

- 1) always to closely connect the study of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought and the ideological-political line of the Party with revolutionary practice;
- 2) to actively participate in the life of the Party, to develop initiative and assume responsibility;
- 3) to be an example in political work and in private life and link up with the working people;
- 4) to observe Party discipline;
- 5) to learn and practice a proletarian culture of debate;

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- 6) to correct mistakes; to have the courage to practice criticism and self-criticism and, with revolutionary vigilance, combat all tendencies of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking;
- 7) to be watchful of careerists, deviationists and agents and to see to it that such elements are unable to cause damage to the Party, and to report every suspicious incident to the appropriate leadership level and the appropriate control commission;
- 8) to be uncompromising towards all deviations from Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought as well as from the ideological-political line of the Party.

## **CRITICISM AND SELF-CRITICISM AS LAW OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARTY**

**§ 5** Criticism and self-criticism is the law of development of the Party. The Party must attentively study criticism from the ranks of the working class and critically and self-critically take position. At the same time, the Party must uncover erroneous thinking and actions in the working class in a critical, persuasive and comradely way in order to educate the masses. The unity of the Party is achieved by the process of unity, criticism, self-criticism,

unity. To this end, criticism and self-criticism campaigns can be conducted in the Party for specific reasons.

## **DISCIPLINARY MEASURES, EXPULSION, RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

**§ 6** A member who violates Party discipline or damages the reputation of the Party will be punished on the merits of the case with warning, serious reprimand, or exclusion from offices in the Party, which may be combined with placing the member on probation. It is also possible to impose requirements. The ban on holding Party posts and the probation period must last at least six months, but must not exceed twelve months. During this period, the member concerned has no right to be elected or to hold other offices. He or she is obligated to demonstrate special activity as a simple member.

Party members who consciously, continually or severely violate the principles or decisions of the Party or damage the reputation of the Party repeatedly or severely will be expelled from the Party. Exposed enemies of the Party or agents can be immediately expelled by the Central Committee or the Central Control Commission without further proceedings.

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**§ 7** Disciplinary measures and expulsions will be discussed and decided by the general membership meeting of the basic Party unit concerned. The decision must be confirmed by the next higher leadership body. The member concerned has the right to be heard on the accusations.

The member concerned shall be notified orally of expulsion and disciplinary measures, with the reasons for such action being stated.

Having informed the basic Party unit, higher leading bodies have the right, in cooperation with the appropriate control commission, to initiate investigative proceedings and impose punishments and, in special cases, to make decisions concerning expulsion from the Party.

The member concerned can lodge an appeal against disciplinary measures and expulsions with the next higher leadership body or control commission, one after the other. The *Land* or district leadership or the *Land* or district control commission must act on the appeal within one month, the Central Committee or the Central Control Commission within six weeks after receipt. During the appeal proceedings, the first decision remains in effect. If an appeal is unsuccessful, an expelled member can take his case through the Central Committee to the Party Congress as the final authority.

**§ 8** If a member declares that he or she is withdrawing from the Party, the basic Party unit must report the withdrawal to the next higher leading body.

Whoever leaves the Party relinquishes all rights to Party property. Inner-Party materials remain the property of the Party and are to be returned on leaving the Party.

## **DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM AS ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLE OF THE PARTY**

**§ 9** The organizational principle of the Party is democratic centralism:

- 1) All leading bodies, control commissions and auditing commissions are elected democratically from the bottom to the top.
- 2) All elected organs are obligated to report on their work regularly to the organs by which they have been elected.
- 3) The entire Party must submit to uniform discipline:  
subordination of the individual to the Party;  
subordination of the minority to the majority;  
subordination of the lower levels to the higher levels;  
subordination of the entire Party to the Central Committee.

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**§ 10** Discussion of open questions by the members continues until these are decided by the responsible organs. Ideological-political matters are decided by the Party Congress, and in the time between two Party Congresses by the Central Committee. Once decisions have been reached, the principle of uniform discipline applies in carrying out the decisions.

The formation of factions is injurious to the Party and, depending on the seriousness of the transgression, will be punished by disciplinary action, including expulsions from the Party.

**§ 11** To correctly carry out the tasks of the Party it is necessary to create a political situation in which there is both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, both unity of will and personal initiative.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

**§ 12** The highest organ of the Party is the Party Congress. It determines the ideological-political line and the guiding principles of the Party. Program, Constitution and the *Guiding Principles of the MLPD for the Work of its Control Commissions and for the Conduct of Disciplinary Proceedings* can be approved and amended by the Party Congress only with at least a two-thirds majority of all delegates in attendance who are entitled to vote.

## **§ 13**

- 1) The Party Congress elects the Central Committee, the Central Control Commission and the Central Auditing Commission.  
It should be held every four years.
- 2) The *Land* delegates' conference or the general *Land* membership meeting elects the *Land* leadership, the *Land* control commission and the *Land* auditing commission.  
It should be held every two years.
- 3) The district delegates' conference or the general district membership meeting elects the district leadership, the district control commission and the district auditing commission.  
It should be held every two years.
- 4) The county delegates' conference or the general county membership meeting elects the county leadership and the county auditing commission.  
It should be held every two years.
- 5) The local delegates' conference or the general local membership meeting elects the local leadership and the local auditing commission.  
It should be held every two years.
- 6) The general membership meetings of the basic Party unit are held on an annual basis.



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7) The corporate or industry branch delegates' conference elects the corporate or industry branch coordinating group.

It should be held annually.

The Central Committee decides on the concrete structuring of the Party into *Land* branches, districts and counties as well as the combining of Party groups in corporate or industry branch cooperation.

If a *Land* control commission is elected, there will be no district control commissions elected.

**§ 14** Ordinary delegates' conferences or ordinary general membership meetings are convened by the appropriate leading body, which also determines the apportioning of delegates.

The respective leading body can also convene extraordinary delegates' conferences, and must convene them if one third of the members at the particular level or the appropriate control commission demand so. An extraordinary Party Congress must be convened if the Central Control Commission flagrantly neglects its duties or abuses its rights and must therefore answer to the highest organ.

A delegates' conference has a quorum if at least half the members of the level concerned are represented by delegates.

**§ 15** Candidates for bodies at district, *Land* or central level require the approval of the county delegates' conference. Where there is no county organization, the approval of the local delegates' conference or the general local membership meeting is required. From district level upwards, they must also be examined by the appropriate control commission.

**§ 16** In the period between Party Congresses, the Central Committee is the highest body of the Party. The Central Committee elects from its midst the Chairperson, his or her deputy and a Party manager.

**§ 17** Leading bodies from the local branch level up can elect a standing committee from their midst which has the character of a secretariat and which is bound by the decisions of the leading body concerned and answers to this body.

Under extraordinary circumstances, co-optation into leading bodies and control and auditing commissions is permissible through the appropriate leadership levels. § 15 applies correspondingly.

**§ 18** The system of self-control organizes the unity of control from the top and from the bottom with the self-control of all Party members. It is led by the Central Committee and is controlled by the Central Control Commission. The Central Control Commission as an indepen-

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dent central control body is only accountable to the Party Congress.

The Central Control Commission is responsible for the Party and the Youth League *Rebell*. Its decisions are binding for both organizations.

The *Land* control commissions are accountable to the appropriate *Land* delegates' conference. They are responsible for the Party and the Youth League *Rebell*, and their decisions are binding for both organizations. The same applies to the district control commissions by analogy.

At the Youth League's delegates' conferences, the appropriate control commissions give a report on their work to the extent it involves the Youth League.

**§ 19** The auditing commissions regularly check on the proper keeping and use of Party funds and property in accord with the political tasks of the Party.

**§ 20** The organizational base of the Party are the basic units: mainly groups in enterprises and in neighborhoods. The building of factory and workplace Party groups has priority. The responsible leading body decides on establishment of basic units. The basic units are the most important link between the Party and the masses.

A basic unit consists of at least three members. The general membership meeting of the basic unit elects the lead-

ership of the basic unit. Small basic units elect a leader and a deputy. Election of the leadership of the basic unit should take place on an annual basis.

Members of the Central Committee and the Central Control Commission shall be assessed by the basic unit annually.

One or two members form a base without unit status. They are subordinate to the leadership of the next higher level.

**§ 21** One or more basic units at a location form a local Party branch. Election of delegates and submission of proposals to the local branch delegates' conference take place at group level. The local branch is the most important link between the members and the higher leading bodies. Under certain conditions, workplace Party groups in a town can be combined into a general workplace Party group, thus gaining the status of a local Party branch.

- 1) Local branch status where no higher county organization exists gives the right to
  - make formal proposals to delegates' conferences from district level upwards;
  - elect delegates to represent the local branch at delegates' conferences;
  - decide on candidacy for bodies at higher levels.
- 2) In the case of local branches within a county organization, the election of delegates and submission of pro-

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posals to the county delegates' conference take place directly through the basic units grouped in the local branch.

**§ 22** The county organization is the organizational level of the Party at which the entire theory and practice of both class struggle and Party building interpenetrate most closely. Under the leadership of the county leadership, the county organization develops all-round Party work among the masses. A county organization comprises several local Party branches.

County branch status gives the right to

- make formal proposals to delegates' conferences from district level upwards;
- elect delegates to represent the county branch at delegates' conferences;
- decide on candidacy for bodies at higher levels.

**§ 23** The factory Party groups in one corporation or one branch of industry can be brought together on a national level in corporate cooperation by decision of the CC.

The democratic centralism of the MLPD according to regional bodies (§ 13) remains unaffected. The factory groups remain Party units in the respective county formation or local Party group.

The delegates of the factory groups concerned elect their corporate coordinating group at an annual delegates' con-

ference. The delegates' conference makes decisions in the framework of corporate cooperation.

The corporate coordinating group is an elected instrument of the CC and the respective factory groups and is accountable to them. It has the task to coordinate the collaboration of the factory groups and of the appropriate leading bodies. The corporate coordinating group concentrates the forces, organizes the exchange of experience and the assessment of work, makes proposals to the CC on the analysis of the corporation and on tactics, coordinates the collaboration of the factory groups and does appropriate cadre work in the course of implementing the corporation tactics as decided by the CC.

The status of factory Party group in corporate or industry branch cooperation gives the right to

- make formal proposals to the respective delegates' conference;
- elect delegates to the corporate or branch delegates' conference.

## **YOUTH LEAGUE *REBELL***

**§ 24** The Youth League *Rebell* operates under ideological and political leadership of the Party and within the framework of Party strategy. It enjoys organizational in-

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dependence. In performance of its tasks, it develops its own tactics for winning over youth, taking into account the tactics of the Party.

Party and Youth League cooperate closely on all levels and provide each other mutual support.

**§ 25** All ideological and political matters which are the subject of discussion in the Party will also be discussed in the Youth League *Rebell*. The extent and form of discussion must be in keeping with the special role and task of the Youth League as instrument of the Party.

The Youth League *Rebell* submits proposals to the Party Congress and the Central Committee in concentrated form through the League Leadership.

**§ 26** The Chief Political Officer of the Youth League is co-opted into the Central Committee as a voting member. Co-optation involves candidate status in the Party if necessary. Acceptance as member will be decided in accordance with § 2.

Co-optation into the Party leadership is tied to the office held.

**§ 27** Ideological and political guidance of the Youth League *Rebell* is provided by the Party's leading bodies and suitable advisors. These persons do not have the right

to interfere with the organizational independence of the Youth League or determine its tactics.

## FINANCES

**§ 28** The financial resources of the Party consist of membership dues and donations. Dues are determined on the principle of minimum plus voluntary payment. Starting from a minimum dues requirement, each member decides the dues bracket in which he or she will be put. The Central Committee sets the minimum dues rate. Details are contained in finance and dues rules which are adopted by the Central Committee.

## LEGAL REPRESENTATION

**§ 29** In and out of court, the Party will be represented by the Chairperson of the Central Committee, his or her deputy or the Party Manager.

At the *Land* or district level, this right can be exercised by the chairperson of the *Land* or district branch if the Chairperson of the Central Committee grants power of attorney.



### PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS

**§ 30** The Central Committee decides on participation in elections. As regards *Land* elections involving various districts of the Party, the appropriate leading bodies decide in agreement with the Central Committee. For this purpose, an election managing group will be formed and a *Land* convention will be called to decide the list of candidates.

For municipal elections, the appropriate leading bodies in each instance are responsible.

# **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD)  
for the Work of Its Control Commissions and for the  
Conduct of Disciplinary Proceedings

## **PREFACE**

The Party's system of self-control is a scientific form of organization for work on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking.

The Guiding Principles of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD) for the Work of Its Control Commissions and for the Conduct of Disciplinary Proceedings aim at the defense, maintenance, development and strengthening of the Marxist-Leninist Party.

They organize the tasks, means and methods of the Central Control Commission (CCC). Besides the fundamental task of educational work, the control commissions have far-reaching administrative powers for carrying out their work.

Their area of responsibility extends to the Youth League *Rebell*.

The experiences of the working-class movement have proven that the organizing of the superiority of the prole-

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tarian mode of thinking in struggle against the law-based encroachment of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking through the Party's system of self-control is decisive in the end for the unity of the Party and the development of its revolutionary character. This calls for a firm ideological-political foundation, revolutionary watchfulness of the Party members and independent control commissions. Proletarian control and self-control is the conscious application of the dialectical method at the level of the doctrine of the mode of thinking in order to cope successfully in Party building with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking so as to avoid mistakes. For this purpose the system of self-control organizes the unity of control from the top and from the bottom with the self-control of all members of the Party.

Independence of the control commissions in the performance of their tasks is a fundamental lesson from the history of the international working-class movement against the danger of revisionism and liquidationism.

To defend and ensure this special task of the CCC, in 2005, for the first time in the history of the MLPD, an extraordinary Party Congress became necessary. It is a historically new phenomenon in Party building that the danger of a revisionist degeneration emanated from the CCC. The extraordinary Party Congress defended the independence of the CCC, thereby underscoring the CCC's position in the

Party's system of self-control; it made a start to overcome the crisis of the CCC and drew fundamental conclusions for raising the Party's system of self-control to a higher level. The victory over this new danger documents in theory and practice the ability of the Party's system of self-control to successfully cope with it. At the Eighth Party Congress the Guiding Principles were enlarged with new forms of organization of principled criticism and self-criticism in the Party's system of self-control.

The entire Party must watch over this great asset of independent control commissions and critically and self-critically discuss how these Guiding Principles are realized in the system of self-control.

To fulfill their task the control commissions must wage a conscious struggle, and carry it out to a conclusion, against any manifestation of petty-bourgeois bureaucratic control and self-control in their own work. The encroachment of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking within the CCC is the biggest threat to its necessary independence.

The control work of the Central Control Commission aims at concentrating revolutionary vigilance in interaction with the other sides of the Party's system of self-control. The purpose is to avoid mistakes, prevent the misguided development of cadres, and guard against and counter any danger of splits.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

The MLPD declares the acknowledgement of these Guiding Principles to be a condition for membership. It does so out of the conviction that there will be no Party building in a Marxist-Leninist sense without the existence of independent control commissions in the Party's system of self-control.

The Party's system of self-control is led by the Central Committee and independently controlled by the Central Control Commission. The unification of the mode of thinking of CC and CCC has greatest significance. It is an essential basis enabling the two organs to discharge their specific duties. The members of the MLPD are the main force of the system of self-control.

### **I. SIGNIFICANCE, DUTIES, RIGHTS AND TASKS OF THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

**1.** The inner unity of the MLPD and its Youth League *Rebell* on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking is a prerequisite for carrying out the set tasks. All members must be true to the cause of the working class, must engage without self-interest in political work and must behave irreproachably as far as proletarian morale is concerned. This calls for willingness to exercise principled

criticism and self-criticism and the practicing of a proletarian culture of debate.

**2.** When the leadership or the members have made mistakes, these must be uncovered and corrected by criticism and self-criticism. The way a member deals with his or her mistakes is of great importance; if necessary, disciplinary measures have to be taken in order to make a comrade give up his or her mistakes.

**3.** It is the task of the control commissions to help both organizations to strengthen themselves ideologically, politically and organizationally and to fight against every deviation from the ideological-political line of the MLPD. In this sense, the control commissions have important educational work to do in relation to the cadres of the Party for mastering the dialectical method at the level of the doctrine of the mode of thinking.

**4.** The control commissions are not supposed to replace the elected organs in disclosing mistakes, fighting for the ideological-political purity of both organizations and resolving inner-Party contradictions. The leading bodies must help members and functionaries by educating them and enable them to accomplish the above tasks themselves without turning to the control commissions in each case. In this sense, the control commissions must exert continuous influence on the leading bodies without being drawn into leadership work themselves.

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**5.** All members of both organizations are obliged to inform members of control commissions accurately and to support them in every possible way during investigations.

**6.** In their field of work, the control commissions have the right to conduct investigations and make decisions on their own without prior assignment.

**7.** The independence of the control commissions obligates their members and candidates in particular to practice systematic control of self and have no reservations in regard to criticism and self-criticism. The members and leading bodies can monitor the mode of thinking of the cadres of the control commissions based on experience with their control work and in their rank-and-file work. The orientation of revolutionary vigilance must be that the CCC, in view of its special status, applies the general principles of Party building exemplarily in its activity.

**8.** The control commissions have the following tasks:

- a) To control leading bodies in their area of work. The main method is the unification of the mode of thinking in the cooperation between Central Committee and Central Control Commission, on the basis of the system of self-control. The members of the control commissions must be allowed access to the documents in question or, if they wish, receive a copy.

- b) To guard over the implementation of the political and organizational tasks which have been decided on by the two organizations.
- c) To influence the members by educating and helping them to understand and assert the ideological-political line of the MLPD with the help of the dialectical-materialist method and to work on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking in a creative way. Mistakes in work must be avoided.

To practice constant control of the mode of thinking with which leadership work is carried out.

- d) To uncover in good time the danger of the systematization of petty-bourgeois methods in leadership work in order to avoid negative effects on Party work and to strive to overcome them in a principle-based way.
- e) To fight inexorably against fundamental deviations from the ideological-political line of the MLPD, the principles of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought.
- f) To eliminate all anti-Party elements, careerists and agents from our organizations, to keep them free of corrupt and undermining elements.
- g) To prevent the misuse of offices in both organizations by members who follow selfish aims.
- h) To see to it that auditing of all finances and material assets takes place regularly.



## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

- i) To preserve inner-Party democracy. To ensure this, in cases of violation of inner-Party democracy, every member has the right to lodge a complaint directly with the Central Control Commission, bypassing all leadership levels.

## **II. STRUCTURE OF CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

### **1. Central Control Commission (CCC)**

It is elected by the Party Congress and accountable only to this body. It can only be removed by an ordinary or extraordinary Party Congress. The CCC comprises three members and, as a rule, two candidates. The members choose their leader. The selection of all members and candidates of the CCC must be made with greatest care. The following conditions must be fulfilled:

- a) loyalty to the Party beyond the shadow of a doubt;
- b) ideological maturity, good knowledge of the working-class movement and of the political activities of our organizations;
- c) unassailability from the viewpoint of proletarian morale;
- d) preferably a member of the working class;
- e) a member of the MLPD for at least three years.

## **2.** *Land* Control Commissions (LCC) and District Control Commissions (DCC)

Beneath the CCC, there is only one elected control organ on the *Land* or district level. The LCC or DCC is elected by the *Land* or district delegates' conference and is answerable to that body. It must be confirmed by the Central Committee of the Party.

The LCC or DCC comprises three members and one or two candidates. The members choose their leader.

With the work of the collectives of the LCC and DCC, a system of control commissions under the leadership of the CCC comes into being. The LCC or DCC operates under the guidance of the CCC, which can entrust it with duties pertaining to its sphere of responsibility. The CCC exercises control over the decisions of the LCC and DCC.

**3.** The CCC has the task of organizing an all-round appropriate control work at any time and under all circumstances. This requires the right to install auxiliaries for a certain period of time and for certain tasks.

## **4.** General Rules for Control Commissions

Members and candidates of control commissions and members entrusted with tasks of the CCC may not hold any other elected offices or be involved in decision-making outside their area of work, except as Party members or elected delegates to delegates' conferences.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

If a control commission member leaves the commission, one of the candidates takes his or her place. The candidates have an advisory voice in the meetings of the control commissions. If a member of a control commission is prevented from taking part in a meeting of the control commission for legitimate reasons, a candidate acts as substitute and is entitled to vote. Decisions are made by majority vote. A deadlocked vote means a proposal is rejected.

### **III. WORKING METHODS OF CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

**1.** Members and candidates of control commissions must always perform their work on the basis of the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong, must regularly study the documents and decisions of both organizations, must know the ideological-political line of the MLPD in and out, consciously apply the dialectical method at the level of the doctrine of the mode of thinking and always be well informed about the concrete politics.

**2.** The control commissions set their own tasks, even if they are acting on behalf of the responsible leading body. To carry out their tasks, they can create auxiliary organs which conduct investigations on behalf of the control commission, but have no right to make decisions.

**3.** The control commissions have the duty to perform their work in an unbiased way and strictly according to these Guiding Principles. Treatment without reservations must be ensured in cadre matters and investigations.

**4.** Leading bodies can assign tasks to the control commissions for their area of responsibility: the Central Committee of the MLPD to the CCC, the *Land* leadership to the LCC of that *Land*, the district leadership to the DCC of that district. The leading bodies must not impede the work of the control commissions or interfere in investigations.

**5.** To avoid overburdening the control commissions, they should not investigate or deal with occasional small lapses of members. Such minor offenses should be overcome by persuasion and education among comrades.

**6.** As method of unifying the mode of thinking between CC and CCC, the CC has the right to submit motions to the CCC for the CCC's draft report to the Party Congress. The CCC decides how it uses these motions in its report.

In addition, the CCC can involve the CC in debates about matters of control work and, to this end, establish publicity vis-à-vis the CC in an appropriate way. The CCC can invite the Chief Political Officer of the CC to meetings, and the Chief Political Officer is informed about the most important results as a rule.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

**7.** Examination of candidates for election to bodies at *Land*, district or central level or for co-optation in such bodies is based on the following:

- a) cadre assessment by the basic unit;
- b) personal political history, which must be signed in person;
- c) consent of the county delegates' conference. Where there is no county branch, the consent of the local delegates' conference or local general membership meeting is required.

The leading bodies concerned are obligated to submit the documents in good time for examination. The result of the examination is announced prior to the election. In exceptions, the election can take place subject to later approval of the control commission.

The examination is concluded with the decision:

- a) unconditional approval,
- b) approval with reservations,
- c) no approval.

Reasons for reservations and for refusal of approval must be stated.

In the case of central bodies, the CCC makes brief cadre assessments to establish suitable publicity regarding cadre development.

**8.** Resigning from an elected leadership function from local level up is possible without prior investigative proceedings,

- a) if a request for resigning is made in order to put an end to overburdening, to draw consequences from cadre measures previously decided upon or for health reasons;
- b) if the county delegates' conference or the general membership meeting or delegates' conference of a local branch withdraws its consent (in accordance with § 15 of the Party Constitution) to the exercise of an office of leadership by the member concerned.

In every case, the decision by the leading body must be unanimous, and the appropriate control commission must give its approval.

**9.** The control commissions must ensure and protect the existence and ability to function of both organizations under all circumstances with all the means available to them.

**10.** The CCC has the duty to repeal decisions if they contradict the Party Constitution, the Guiding Principles for the Work of the Control Commissions or the decisions of the Party Congress or the Congress of the Youth League *Rebell*.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

**11.** In the concrete performance of their tasks, the control commissions differentiate between:

a) General investigations,

which may extend to the particular organization or part of that organization or to leading bodies of both organizations. The CCC is authorized to initiate campaigns, for example criticism and self-criticism campaigns, for carrying out such comprehensive investigations. The guidance of such campaigns is the concern of the appropriate leading bodies, however.

b) Cadre investigations

involving individual comrades are a special method of education. As a rule, the comrade retains all rights and duties as member and continues to exercise his or her functions. Such investigations are necessary when comrades threaten to develop in the wrong direction. Through educational work involving imposition of certain requirements the comrade must be helped to correct mistakes and overcome ideological-political or moral weaknesses as well as to realize work on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking.

Cadre investigations can also be decided on and conducted by the responsible general membership meetings or leading bodies. The appropriate control commission must immediately be informed of such action.

If a comrade eludes the investigation or evades discipline, investigative proceedings must be instituted.

c) Investigative proceedings, which are initiated against single or several comrades, must be announced to the comrades under investigation, their basic units and the appropriate leading bodies.

Accusations are investigated individually for each member concerned. All conditions and circumstances which lead up to an offense must be taken into consideration.

If investigative proceedings are opened against a member of the two organizations, the member is to be told that he or she must lay down all offices and that his or her rights and duties (except for membership dues payment) as a member of the organization are suspended until the investigation is concluded.

The general membership meetings or the leading bodies of each organization can also decide to initiate and conduct investigative proceedings, but the appropriate control commission must be informed.

Decisions involving Party officers can only be made by the leading bodies of the level concerned or of the higher level. The lower levels should be heard.

If a leading body initiates an investigation against an individual member of that body, the consent of the appropriate control commission is required.



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The decisions of LCC or DCC or of the investigating and decision-making leadership are to be transmitted to the next higher leadership level within four weeks.

In every case, it is obligatory to conduct necessary investigations in a thorough and comprehensive way.

d) Expulsion proceedings without prior investigation against members who are exposed as enemies of the organization or agents or police spies or against members who try to avoid subjecting themselves to an investigation.

**12.** Record must be made of all hearings, and all decisions of control commissions must be signed by the members who have made them. The control commissions make decisions as to the measures and punishments to be administered and must present them to the appropriate leading body and the particular basic unit for perusal.

When a decision has been made, the member concerned must be notified of the results orally. This can also be done by the appropriate leading bodies, which receive the necessary information.

If no unity can be reached on a decision, then the majority decides. The decision must be explained in writing.

If general membership meetings or leading bodies adopt administrative measures, the appropriate control commission must be given a copy of the decision.

## **IV. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES AND EXPULSION; RIGHT OF APPEAL**

### **1. Disciplinary measures**

Disciplinary measures have educational character and are based on democratic centralism and the principle of criticism and self-criticism. As an aid to cadre development or for the protection of the Party, imposition of complementing requirements is possible. The degree of punishment depends on:

- a) the seriousness of the offense and its effects;
- b) the general attitude of the member concerned, and the member's attitude towards criticism and self-criticism and the organization's discipline;
- c) the situation within the organization and the damage to the reputation of the organization on the outside;
- d) whether offenses are committed individually or in league with others.

Any mechanicalism in imposing disciplinary measures must be avoided.

The disciplinary measures are, in order:

- warning
- serious reprimand

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONTROL COMMISSIONS**

- exclusion from holding offices in the Party for at least six and at most twelve months, which may be combined with placing the member on probation

Two disciplinary measures can be combined, for example, a ban on holding offices with a serious reprimand.

Upon conclusion of the probation period, the responsible basic unit or local branch and the member concerned assess the results of probation. Their statements must be submitted to the attention of the body which imposed the probation. Further use as a functionary depends on successful probation.

### **2. Expulsion from one of the two organizations**

Expulsion is the organization's severest punishment and should not be imposed lightly. It may be the necessary consequence of investigative proceedings, but it may also be pronounced without investigation if it is proven beyond doubt that the person concerned is an enemy of the organization or the agent of some government authority or of an enemy organization. The member concerned is notified of the decision to expel him or her only orally and, if possible, must be moved to return property of the organization to the organization.

Members who resign their membership can be expelled after if the criteria for expulsion are met.

### **3.** Right of appeal against penalties of the organization

The member concerned can appeal disciplinary measures or expulsion imposed by the competent organs to the next higher leading body or control commission, one after the other.

The leadership or control commission at *Land* or district level must act on the appeal within one month, leading bodies at the central level or the CCC within six weeks after receipt (but not make a decision, since that depends on the duration of the new investigation). During the appeal proceedings, the first decision remains in effect. Delay of proceedings is inadmissible.

If appeal is unsuccessful, an expelled member can, through the central body of the organization concerned, petition the next Party Congress, which decides on the member's expulsion as the final authority. Should the appeal turn out to be justified, the person concerned shall be rehabilitated.

## **V. READMISSION OF EXPULLED MEMBERS**

**1.** An expelled member can request to renew membership in the organization from which he or she was expelled after a longer period of probation, not less than one year. An assessment by the basic unit responsible for the mem-

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ber must be included with the written request along with a self-critical assessment by the applicant of his or her previous behavior. The responsible control commission examines the applicant's fitness for membership.

**2.** If a member was expelled for evading an investigation, the aborted proceedings must be taken up again by the responsible control commission and brought to a close before the person can be accepted as member again.

If the basic unit concerned makes a corresponding request, and if the responsible control commission decides to resume the proceedings, the expelled member receives the status of a candidate without rights and duties before the investigation is carried out.

**3.** The resumption of membership in the organization concerned is discussed and decided upon by the general membership meeting or the delegates' conference in accordance with the organization rules for admission of members and after a review of the probation.

**4.** The decision of the general membership meeting or delegates' conference is subject to confirmation by the leading body and the control commission at *Land* or district level.

**5.** Persons who have been expelled without justification are reinstated in their rights as members by the responsible leading body.



Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany

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