

Constitution

Progressive Youth Forum (PYF) Pakistan

Chapter 1

Name: The name of the forum will be Progressive Youth Forum (PYF) Pakistan

Secretariat: The central secretariat of the forum will be based in Islamabad.

Monogram: Forum's monogram will comprise of a red star, a blue crescent and five black rising rays. Red color stands for struggle and sacrifices offered by the students and youth of this country for a democratic, peaceful, and progressive Pakistan. Blue represents our peaceful struggle whereas crescent represents prosperous and bright future. Five black rays represent a multi-ethnic State with five National Units (including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu Kashmir) that signify equality of youth from all five units.

Chapter 2

Membership of PYF Pakistan

- I. Minimum age limit for formal PYF's membership is 18 years while maximum age limit is 35 years.
- II. Every young person (regardless of his/her region, caste, color, religion or language) who agrees with the aims and objectives, manifesto and constitution of PYF, may become a member of the forum.
- III. Every member will be obliged to abide by the policies, aims and objectives, disciplines and decisions of the forum, in letter and spirit.
- IV. Member of PYF can be a member of any political party and vice versa.
- V. All members must pay their basic membership fee as well as their regular contribution.
- VI. Membership cards will be issued by the National Secretariat after the membership is approved.
- VII. Every member of the forum will be obliged to promote and defend its ideology, policies and decisions and participate in organizational activities regularly.

Rights and Responsibilities of PYF Members:

- I. After obtaining basic membership, every member will be eligible for voting at district, provincial and central level from the relevant forum.
- II. S/he will be allowed to contest for the election to any office of the forum, as per constitutional entitlement.
- III. Every member of the forum will be free to express his/her opinion regarding any organizational and political activity, process, performance, issues and problems at the concerned tier, and offer suggestions and recommendations. However, in case of any dissent or grievances, the member may report at district, provincial or central tiers (councils) and abstain from propagandizing or criticizing, through any means, outside the forum.
- IV. Democratic principles of criticism and self-criticism will be respected and encouraged across tiers of the forum.
- V. None of the members have the right to openly express dissent, criticize, or negatively propagate against any decision of the forum on a contested issue. However, s/he preserves the right to mobilize and advocate for a change in the decision through concerned tier.
- VI. None of the members have the right to openly express dissent, criticize, or negatively propagate against the decisions made by the higher bodies of the forum. However, s/he preserves the right to lead formal debate and contest the decision through proper channel.
- VII. Any member of the forum violating PYF's Constitution and Manifesto will be suspended for three months by the relevant tier, and PYF will not be liable for him/her thereon..

Chapter 3

Organizational Structure of PYF Pakistan

The structure of PYF Pakistan will be based on four provinces, Islamabad, Azad Jammu Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan. PYF's organizational setup will be as below;

1. Congress

2. National Coordination Committee (NCC)
3. Central Cabinet
4. Four National Units (provinces) Baluchistan, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (including FATA), whereas Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan and AJK will be considered as independent units.
 - I. Provincial Coordination Committee (PCC)
 - II. Provincial Cabinet
5. District
 - I. District Cabinet

Congress

- I. Congress will be the highest and most powerful institute of the forum.
- II. Congress may amend, cut and/or add to the constitution, manifesto, or policies of the forum through a two-third majority of its total members.
- III. Congress will elect the members of National Coordination Committee and Central Cabinet.
- IV. Congress may approve or disapprove the annual reports and other documents of the forum and issue directives or take decisions in that regard.
- V. Congress session will take place after every three years, featuring representation of 5 delegates from each district on ex-officio basis including district presidents and general secretaries, where the central elections will be held.
- VI. Congress may award special authorities to National Coordination Committee, other than those encoded by the Constitution, in case of any emergency circumstances between any two sessions of the Congress, and assign additional responsibilities to resolve the matters.

National Coordination Committee (NCC)

- I. National Coordination Committee (NCC) will be the most powerful entity at the National level and serve as a supervisory body for PYF from one national convention (Congress session) to the other.
- II. NCC will consist of members from Central Cabinet, Presidents and General Secretaries of provinces and independent units including Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan/Azad Kashmir on ex-officio basis.

- III. In case of any emergencies, one fourth of NCC members can notify the Chairperson and Secretary General in writing to call a meeting reckoning the nature of the issue.
- IV. Congress may award the NCC special authorization to amend, cut and/or add to the constitution, manifesto, or policies of the forum, for which an endorsement of the Congress will be necessary in its next session.
- V. NCC will compulsorily convene its meeting at least once in a year.
- VI. NCC may move a vote of no confidence against any central office bearer based on a simple majority of its members.
- VII. Forum's annual report will be presented to the NCC.
- VIII. NCC may form sub-committees for different tasks to strengthen/advance PYF's work, or may delegate the power to central cabinet to form such.
- IX. Consultation/consent of NCC will be mandatory for all advertising, broadcasting, publishing and, other communication related matters.
- X. NCC is authorized to develop procedures for generating and managing PYF's financial resources.
- XI. NCC's approval will be mandatory for any excessive expenses by the Chairperson and Secretary General than the approved budgets.

Central Cabinet

Details of the office-bearers of central cabinet will be as follows:

1. Chairperson
2. Vice Chairperson
3. Secretary General
4. Deputy Secretary General v. Central Joint Secretary
5. Central Finance Secretary
6. Central Spokesperson
7. Secretary International Affairs
8. Secretary Human Rights
9. Secretary Research and Advocacy
10. Secretary Culture

Functions and Powers of Chairperson

- I. Chairperson will be the head of PYF Pakistan.
- II. Chairperson may convene the meeting of any body of the forum at any time.
- III. Chairperson may preside any meeting of the forum.
- IV. Chairperson may convene the cabinet meeting on 72-hour notice in case of emergency situations and may take decisions through a simple majority. However, NCC's endorsement will be a must at a later stage.
- V. Chairperson may spend a 100,000/year from the forum's funds for organizational affairs. S/he may also make additional expenditure; those not budgeted as well, however, with the approval of the NCC.
- VI. Chairperson is authorized to develop links with other youth and students-led organizations, movements, pro-people forums and like-minded political parties to conjoin strategic fronts for joint campaign/s on common political and social issue.
- VII. Chairperson will be authorized to nominate against vacant seats of Central Cabinet; however, it would require the endorsement of NCC for appointment.

Vice Chairperson

- I. Vice Chairperson may be authorized to exercise all powers of the Chairperson in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country.
- II. Vice Chairperson will assist the Chairperson in all activities of the forum.
- III. Vice Chairperson will be responsible for forum's interaction and alliances with political parties, movements, and youth organizations including student organizations, political parties, and civil society as per the constitution and policies of PYF.

Secretary General

- I. Secretary General will be the custodian of all official records, documents and files, and in-charge of all administrative matters of the forum.

- II. Secretary General will be responsible for developing agenda for Central Cabinet and NCC meetings and prepare minutes of the meeting to be presented at the next meeting/s.
- III. Secretary General, in consultation with the Chairperson, may convene the meetings of NCC and other bodies.
- IV. Secretary General is responsible for developing PYF programs, in consonance with the constitution, subject to the approval of NCC.
- V. Secretary General will collect activity reports from all subordinate bodies of the forum on a quarterly basis for a synthesis report to be presented to the NCC and the Congressional session.
- VI. Secretary General may establish a secretariat, with the approval of NCC, for planning, execution, and monitoring of PYF activities.
- VII. Secretary General may spend a 100,000/year from the forum's funds for organizational affairs. S/he may also make additional expenditure; those not budgeted as well, however, with the approval of the NCC.

Deputy Secretary General

- I. Deputy Secretary General may be authorized to exercise all powers of the Chairperson in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country.
- II. Deputy Secretary General will assist Secretary General in all activities of the forum.
- III. Deputy Secretary General will be responsible to perform all duties assigned to him by the Secretary General and/or Chairperson.

Central Joint Secretary

- I. Central Joint Secretary may be authorized to exercise all powers of Deputy Secretary General in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country
- II. Central Joint Secretary will assist Secretary General in all activities of the forum.
- III. Central Joint Secretary will be in-charge of all matters related to central secretariat.

Central Finance Secretary

- I. Central Finance Secretary is responsible for managing accounts and expenses, according to the budget, as per the directives of the Chairperson and/or General Secretary.
- II. Central Finance Secretary will be responsible for collecting donations and contributions as directed by the Chairperson and/or Secretary General.
- III. Central Finance Secretary will be responsible for generating quarterly income and expense reports and present to Central Cabinet and NCC session, or as per the directives.
- IV. Finance Secretary will be responsible to fundraising strategies from time to time for the income generation /management of financial resources
- V. Secretary General will be exercising the power of Central Finance Secretary in his/her absence.

Central Spokesperson

- I. Central Spokesperson will be responsible for advertising, broadcasting, and publishing forum's programs and activities, decisions, and resolutions etc.
- II. S/he will be responsible for broadcasting/publishing forum's activities as per the advice of Secretary General and Chairperson or relevant committee.
- III. Central Spokesperson will be responsible for publishing pamphlets, press circulars, and other materials for publicity purposes. .
- IV. Central Spokesperson will be responsible for interacting with electronic and print media.
- V. Central Spokesperson will be responsible for updating forum's website, managing advertising operations through social and web networks, disseminating information to lower bodies, and networking.

Secretary International Affairs

- I. Secretary International Affairs will be responsible for all overseas activities of the forum.
- II. Secretary International Affairs will be responsible to connect with the overseas Pakistani youth and inform them about PYF's vision and mission.

- III. S/he will develop linkages with like-minded international organizations and will introduce PYF to them and will report to the Chairperson and Secretary General about the portfolio's activities from time to time.
- IV. S/he will identify international trainings/Symposiums/study programs/Seminars etc. and share such opportunities with the members.

Secretary Human Rights

- I. Secretary Human Rights will be responsible for interacting with national and international human rights organizations working in Pakistan and advise the forum on Human Rights issues.
- II. Secretary Human Rights will be responsible for devising a strategy for creating awareness on human rights.
- III. Secretary Human Rights will remain in close contact with the provincial representatives of the forum to analyze Human rights situation and advise the forum for subsequent interventions.
- IV. Secretary Human Rights may organize rallies, processions and demonstrations, in consultation with the Central Cabinet, in case of a Human Rights violation incident within or outside the country.

Secretary Research & Advocacy

- I. Secretary Research & Advocacy will advise the forum from time to time based on his/her research about political, ideological, constitutional, economic and social issues.
- II. S/he will be responsible for drafting PYF's manifesto, resolutions, advocacy/policy briefs, and contribute to publications and policies of the forum, as per the directives of Chairperson and Secretary General.
- III. S/he will be responsible for synthesizing data from districts/provinces and producing analysis around core areas of concern for the forum's strategic position.
- IV. Secretary Research and Advocacy may channel the forum's intellectual contribution into processes, consultations, and forums of national and international significance, as per the directives of Chairperson and Secretary General.
- V. Secretary Research & Advocacy will interact with intellectuals, academia, think tanks, civil society, and advise the forum for organizing/participating in Symposiums, Seminars, and Conferences on core areas of concern as per the manifesto.

Secretary Culture

- I. Secretary Culture will be responsible for organizing cultural activities at National level, in consultation with the Chairperson and Secretary General.
- II. Secretary Culture will guide concerned Provincial Secretaries in organizing literary and cultural programs.
- III. Secretary Culture will work towards synergizing progressive ideas with avenues of artistic and cultural expression, as per the directives of Central Cabinet.

Independent Unit /Provincial Coordination Committee (IU/PCC)

- I. Independent Unit /Provincial Coordination Committee (IU/PCC) will be the most powerful entity at provincial and Independent Units' level comprising of Provincial/Independent Unit Cabinet, District Presidents and General Secretaries. IU/PCC will organize its convention once every 3 years, before the conduct of Congressional session, where provincial cabinet will be elected.
- II. IU/PCC may debate and discuss on provincial issues and strategize accordingly.
- III. IU/PCC will guide all the subordinate bodies of the Forum working under provincial level.
- IV. IU/PCC will conduct at least two meetings in a year.
- V. IU/PCC may conduct fundraising initiatives, however, with the mandatory advice of Central Cabinet.
- VI. IU/PCC will be authorized to organize its convention and set its program independently. It may also organize conferences, seminars and other literary and social gatherings in respective provinces/units.

Provincial Cabinet

There will be a Provincial Cabinet in each Province/Unit with its president and general secretary as ex-officio members of the NCC while remaining members of the cabinet will be ex-officio members of PCC.

Provincial Cabinet will have following office-bearers:

1. Provincial President
2. Provincial Vice President

3. Provincial General Secretary
4. Provincial Deputy General Secretary
5. Provincial Finance Secretary
6. Provincial Information Secretary
7. Provincial Culture Secretary

Responsibilities of Independent Units/Provincial President

- I. Provincial/Unit's President will be the head of the forum in his/her respective Province/Unit and will monitor all the concerned activities and operations.
- II. Provincial/Unit's President may preside any meeting of the forum within his/her Province/Unit.
- III. Provincial/Unit's President may give nomination for any vacant position in provincial cabinet, however, subject to the approval of PCC.
- IV. Provincial/Unit's President will be authorized for taking decision on any issue within his/her Province/Unit, albeit in lieu with PYF's aims, objectives, resolutions, and decisions.
- V. Provincial/Unit's President may submit suggestions/recommendations regarding respective Provincial/Unit's organizational matters to Central Cabinet, for which NCC will make its decision.
- VI. Provincial/Unit's President is authorized for organizing seminars on democratic and public issues, and arranging rallies, processions and demonstrations, as per the directives of the Chairperson and Secretary General.

Provincial/Unit's Vice President

- I. Provincial/ Unit's Vice President may be authorized to exercise all powers of the Provincial/Unit's President in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country.
- II. Provincial/Unit's Vice President will assist the provincial president in all matters of the forum.

General Secretary of Province/Unit

- I. General Secretary will be the custodian of all official records, documents and files, and in-charge of all administrative matters of the forum at the provincial level.
- II. General Secretary will be responsible for developing agenda for Provincial Cabinet and PCC meetings and prepare minutes of the meeting to be presented at the next meeting/s.
- III. General Secretary, in consultation with the Provincial President, may convene the meetings of PCC and other bodies.
- IV. General Secretary is responsible for developing PYF programs, in consonance with the constitution, at the Provincial/Independent Unit level, subject to the approval of PCC.
- V. General Secretary will collect activity reports from all districts of the forum from on a quarterly basis for a synthesis report to be presented to the PCC, and submission to Secretary General.
- VI. General Secretary may establish a secretariat, with the approval of PCC, for planning, execution and monitoring of PYF activities at Provincial level.

Deputy General Secretary Province/Unit

- I. Deputy General Secretary may be authorized to exercise all powers of the General Secretary in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country.
- II. S/he will be assisting provincial General Secretary in regular affairs.

Provincial/Unit's Finance Secretary

- I. Provincial Finance Secretary will be responsible for managing accounts and expenses for his/her respective Province/Unit.
- II. Provincial Finance Secretary will be responsible for generating quarterly income and expense reports and present to Provincial/Unit's Cabinet, Central Finance Secretary, and PCC session, or as per the directives.
- III. S/he will be taking guidance from Central Finance Secretary on financial affairs.

Provincial/Unit's Information Secretary

- I. Information Secretary will be responsible for advertising, broadcasting, and publishing forum's programs and activities, decisions, and resolutions etc. in his/her respective Province/Unit.
- II. Information Secretary will remain in close contact with the Central Spokesperson and provide information as and when needed.

Provincial/Unit's Culture Secretary

- I. Culture Secretary will be responsible for organizing cultural activities at Provincial level, in consultation with the Provincial/Unit's President and General Secretary.
- II. Culture Secretary will guide district leaderships in organizing literary and cultural programs.
- III. S/he will take advice from Provincial/President, General Secretary and Secretary Culture on all cultural affairs.

District Cabinet

There will be following office-bearers in district cabinet:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. General Secretary
4. Deputy General Secretary
5. Finance Secretary
6. Information Secretary

District President

- I. District President will be the head of the forum in his/her respective district and will monitor all the concerned activities and operations.
- II. S/he may preside any meeting of the forum within the district.
- III. S/he may convene a meeting or organize an activity within his/her district at any time with the advice of the Provincial President.

District Vice President

- I. District Vice President may be authorized to exercise all powers of the District President in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country. .
- II. District Vice President will assist the District President in all affairs of the forum.

District General Secretary

- I. District General Secretary will be the custodian of all official records, membership forms, documents and files, and in-charge of all administrative matters of the forum at the district level.
- II. District General Secretary will be responsible for developing agenda for District Cabinet meetings and prepare minutes of the meeting to be presented at the next meeting/s.
- III. District General Secretary will develop reports about the forum's activities at district level to submit to District Cabinet and Provincial General Secretary.

District Deputy General Secretary

- I. District Deputy General Secretary may be authorized to exercise all powers of the District General Secretary in case of his/her dismissal, sickness, or absence from the country.
- II. District Deputy General Secretary will assist District General Secretary in regular affairs of the forum.

District Finance Secretary

- I. District Finance Secretary will be responsible for managing accounts and expenses for his/her respective district.
- II. District Finance Secretary will be responsible for generating quarterly income and expense reports, and submit to District Cabinet and Provincial Finance Secretary, or as per the directives.

District Information Secretary

- I. District Information Secretary will be responsible for publishing and advertising of forum's programs and decisions at district level with the advice of district President and General Secretary.

Chapter 4

Funds

Sources of PYF's funds will be as follows, conditioned with the approval of the Central Cabinet:

- II. Membership fee and regular contribution is fixed as Rs. 20/- per member per month.
- III. Aid and donations from like-minded national and international organizations.
- IV. Funds collected through contribution for special events.
- V. Income/funds generated/received through literary, social and welfare activities, individuals, or organizations.

Chapter 5

Elections

- I. Term for all offices and bodies of the forum will be three years, for which the elections will be held every three years.
- II. Elections for all offices and bodies will be held through secret ballot based on the principle of 'one person – one vote'.
- III. The Chairperson and Presidents of respective offices/bodies will propose three-members election commission, which will be ratified by the respective forum. After the formation of Election Commission, the three-members will elect Chief Election Commissioner among them with mutual consensus. After the formation of Election Commission, the respective office/body will stand dissolved and electoral process for new office-bearers will start.
- IV. In case of a tie between two contesting candidates, all three members of the Commission will poll their casting votes.

- V. In case of tie in any voting process over any organizational matter, Central, Provincial and District Chairperson/Presidents may poll their casting vote in their respective offices/bodies.
- VI. An electoral college will be established for all provincial elections comprising of 5 members from each district including the district Presidents and General Secretaries as ex-officio members.
- VII. Every district member has the right to vote at district level elections in their respective districts.

Chapter 6

Disciplinary Action

- I. If any central, provincial or district cabinet officer bearer pressurize any member by abusing his/her influence, the aggrieved member can submit a written complaint against him/her to the respective office/body. The concerned office/body will be authorized to take disciplinary action against him/her, if found guilty. However, the accused holds the right to appeal at PCC or NCC, as per the requirement. The respective Committee may conduct a detailed inquiry to reach meaningful conclusions.
- II. In case of violation of the forum's manifesto, constitution, aims and objectives, and/or policies, disciplinary action may be taken against any central, provincial or district cabinet member.
- III. NCC will form a three-members committee to probe into the matter. NCC is authorized to take disciplinary action against the accused, if found guilty, suspend his/her membership and move a vote of no-confidence against the guilty moving through the district cabinet and PCC. However, the person still holds the right to appeal to the NCC.