

Constitution of the Eureka Initiative

Article 1. Symbols and name

The official name of the organisation is the Eureka Initiative, abbreviated as EI.

The symbol of the Eureka Initiative is a hammer and sickle in front of a Eureka cross. The official flag of the Eureka Initiative is the Eureka cross on a dark red or maroon background.

Article 2. Values and objectives

2 I. Objective of the Eureka Initiative

The Eureka Initiative is committed to a unified Marxist-Leninist outlook, incorporating a broad understanding from the historical experiences of all Marxist-Leninist experiments and revolutions and working to apply these to our own unique conditions in Australia. We stand for the uniting of the Australian masses in the struggle against imperialism, which we hold to be the core contradiction of our society. We hold that a revolutionary patriotic view is the ground through which the Australian masses can be unified against imperialism.

We advocate for the New Democratic Revolution through a united front against imperialism, led by the most advanced sections of the proletariat organised in a Communist Party alongside progressive & patriotic elements of the petite and national bourgeois. The destruction of imperialist hegemony leads to the establishment of a sovereign republic and the construction of socialism under a People's Democratic Dictatorship.

We distinguish between the Communist consciousness and the New Democratic consciousness. While the advanced Communist consciousness entails the understanding of and commitment to Marxism-Leninism, the new democratic consciousness requires unity on the core contradiction and opposition to imperialism.

The purpose of the Eureka Initiative is to build the New Democratic consciousness amongst the broad masses and to develop both discipline and an advanced communist consciousness amongst our members, with the eventual goal of integration into a united Communist Party.

2 II. Values of the Eureka Initiative

The core values of the Eureka Initiative are the struggle for an independent republic, opposition to imperialism, support for public control over our resources, finance and economy, internationalist solidarity with worldwide anti-imperialism and revolution; and the struggle for self-determination for first nations.

We stand for the creation of a new revolutionary patriotic tradition aimed towards national liberation. This means attacking the modern-day colonial masters of Australia; imperialist finance capital headquartered in the USA; which maintains control over our resources, politics, foreign policy and finance.

Our view of patriotism entails an objective support for sovereignty and opposition to submission to foreign powers, as well as an active struggle against the ideological tools of imperialism such as racialism and liberal globalism. The sense of collective struggle and rootedness that we wish to cultivate is to be the basis for the New Democratic Revolution.

Article 3. Leadership of the Eureka Initiative

3 I. The Central Committee

The executive leadership body of the Eureka Initiative is the Central Committee (abbreviated as CC). The CC is a body of from three to nine individuals, preferably but not necessarily an odd number as to have a tiebreaker in votes. The CC is to divide roles amongst themselves and aim to make decisions via consensus if possible.

3 II. Powers of the CC

The CC is to devise plans of action and evaluate progress made during regularly scheduled meetings held at least once a month. Minutes of these

meetings are to be kept and attendance is to be noted. In addition to the monthly meeting the CC can also call a meeting at any time with a majority vote of committee members if needed. Decisions made by the CC during these meetings are binding.

The CC has authority to manage the affairs of and give commands to the leading bodies of individual branches, including the dismissal and replacement of branch leadership and expulsion of individual members.

Each member of the CC maintains access to the social media and email accounts of the Eureka Initiative and is expected to use them responsibly and regularly. The CC oversees the production of any official EI content such as statements, articles, journals, propaganda or art and can either produce these directly or designate other members to do so.

Individual members of the CC have the freedom to act with broad autonomy provided their actions do not violate the constitution, code of conduct and fit within the bounds of previously established plans of action set in CC meetings.

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3 III. Responsibilities of the CC

The CC is expected to maintain a strong commitment to Marxism-Leninism, regular theoretical study and must strive to uphold good conduct both in their personal lives and political duties. CC members are to actively hold themselves to a high standard of both behaviour and achievement. Regular activity is essential.

CC members are expected to attend at least three quarters of monthly meetings and submit apologies if unable to attend. Exemptions can be made for exceptional circumstances, decided by a majority vote of the rest of the CC.

CC members are to take care of the security of both themselves and the general organisation. If a CC member is removed, the passwords for any

accounts must be changed immediately and any member of the CC has the authority to do so. There is to be no official membership registry of the entire organisation and the CC has a responsibility to protect the identities and personal information of Eureka Initiative members.

3 IV. Choosing the CC

The CC can elect to incorporate or remove a person from their ranks through a majority vote at any time. CC membership does not reflect the position within the hierarchy of individual branches, any member of the EI can be chosen to join the CC.

3 V. Finances of the CC

The CC is to cover their expenses through a combination of self-funding and requesting donations from the general membership. If funding from the general membership is procured, the CC has the responsibility of making public the income from these donations and how the money has been spent.

Article 4. Membership of the Eureka Initiative

4 I. Basic structure of branches

Eureka Initiative chapters are organised on the basis of physical proximity. Members are required to be able to meet up in person at regular intervals.

Each chapter is led by an executive authority. In the case of smaller chapters this will be a single president, however larger chapters have the authority to expand this executive body into a committee of multiple people depending on the necessity. The executive is responsible for approving new members, setting the overall direction of the branch, ensuring ideological development and has the broad authority to micromanage affairs if necessary. The executive also serves as the primary point of contact between the national central committee of the Eureka Initiative and the local branches. All members of the executive are expected to show an advanced understanding of Marxism-Leninism, solid commitment to regular activity and a broad agreement with the goals and outlook of the Eureka Initiative.

If needed, the executive of each branch can establish their own legal incorporated organisations or university clubs. The branch itself is to remain an unincorporated informal organisation.

The executive appoints lieutenants to manage the general membership if needed – the establishment of a system of lieutenants is strongly encouraged to grow branches. Each lieutenant is responsible for leading their own team, overseeing their educational progress and taking initiative in leading volunteer work and action. The lieutenants are expected to engage in regular dialogue with the executive and to foster a culture of internal organisational discussion and debate. Lieutenants are expected to show a basic knowledge of and commitment to Marxism-Leninism and the overall outlook of the Eureka Initiative and to be committed to regular activity.

The membership of Eureka Initiative branches includes anyone who attends EI events and is in agreement with the core values of the Eureka Initiative. Members are divided into teams led by a lieutenant. These teams are not fixed and members can request a change or be reassigned to a different team by the executive depending on the context.

Anyone wishing to join the EI is to go through a period of provisional membership first before being made an official member. Provisional members are organised in the same way as full members and are still assigned to membership teams, however they do not have the right to vote in the biannual conferences and are not to refer to themselves as members. Once a provisional member has been active for a period of time and shows commitment, discipline and a good attitude they are to be made into a full member.

4 II. Founding a Eureka Initiative branch

The minimum size of a Eureka Initiative branch is a president and two members. The minimum requirement for a chapter is to engage in regular activity with a frequency of no less than once a month including both volunteer and education work. Branches are to also ensure all members are familiar with the constitution, either through the official membership booklet or through the internet.

To establish an EI branch, a prospective president is to first ask for permission from the CC. After a period of dialogue, including an in-person interview with a designated trusted individual (either an EI member or a member of an allied organisation) if possible or regular video & voice chats if not, the CC can choose to authorise the creation of a new branch.

The provisional president is then to establish a small volunteer group and provide regular updates to the central committee on their activities. The provisional branch is to only take up the name of the Eureka Initiative if the CC grants approval, on a case-by-case basis. The CC is to observe the actions of the provisional branch and to officiate it as a full branch when ready.

Once a branch is established, it is expected to act on its own and display initiative without micromanagement by the CC. The CC can vote to dissolve a branch that fails to show continued activity or that repeatedly violates the code of conduct.

4 III. Structures for internal democracy and accountability

Eureka Initiative branches are to maintain structures for ensuring internal accountability.

At any time, a majority vote from lieutenants can dismiss any member of the executive and elect a new one from their own membership. As lieutenants are decided by the executive, the appointment/dismissal of a lieutenant can be overruled by a majority vote of existing lieutenants to prevent an abuse of this power.

The executive will have their leadership evaluated at the biannual conference. Twice a year, once during the months of December to January and again during the months of June to July the branch is to hold a general meeting of the entire membership. The executive is to evaluate the performance of the branch and provide a direction for the next-half year while the general membership is free to air any suggestions or criticisms.

If a majority of the membership in attendance deems it necessary, they can vote to hold an election to eject a member of the executive and replace them with another.

4 IV. Activities of Eureka Initiative branches

Branches are expected to engage in regular activity. This will include volunteer work, activism, education and internal development / 'team building' activities.

Organising regular volunteer work is essential. This provides a base of operations and a ritual through which a branch can build discipline, build up support within a local community and develop a spirit of 'serving the people' amongst members. Volunteer work can be done independently or it can be done in cooperation with other organisations.

Education is to be carried out with reference to the official Eureka Academy program provided by the national organisation. Regular progression through the program is one of the responsibilities of each branch. In addition, each branch can expand the educational curriculum with their own contributions such as investigation into local history.

All activities should work towards the core goals and values of the Eureka Initiative. That is, to spread a new democratic patriotic consciousness and culture amongst the masses, contribute to the theoretical development and understanding of Communism applied to Australia and create a disciplined cadre of communists committed to serving the people and good conduct in both personal and political life. Branches are expected to both follow directives given by the CC and to show creativity and initiative in carrying out their own activities.

4 V. Branch finances

Smaller branches can deal with their finances informally through ad-hoc donations and self funding. Larger branches are encouraged to set up a system of voluntary dues where willing members pay a chosen amount either weekly or monthly to sustain the expenses of the branch. If a system of dues is set up, the executive body is to provide records of both income and expenses that the general membership can audit.

4 VI. Individual members and non-member supporters

Some individuals may be unable to either join or found a chapter for any number of reasons, yet still are interested in membership. The CC can choose to grant these people membership on a case-by-case basis. They are to answer either directly to the Central Committee or to another individual or committee the CC has authorised to manage the individual in question.

Supporters of the EI, who either do not wish for or who have not been granted membership can still assist with activities if given permission to do so by either the CC or the local branch executive in their area if one exists. Supporters acting on behalf of the EI are not members and are not to declare themselves as such.

Article 5. Code of conduct

All members of the Eureka Initiative must adhere to the code of conduct. The enforcement of the code of conduct is to be upheld by the executive bodies of individual branches, however the CC has the authority to intervene if this duty is neglected.

Failure to adhere to the code of conduct can lead to expulsion, suspension, demotion or a warning depending on the context and severity. In the event of edge cases, members are advised to discuss with others before making judgements.

5 I. Democratic Centralism

The Eureka Initiative adheres to Democratic Centralism. Freedom of debate and discussion is allowed and protected amongst members. However, criticism must be kept internal and the EI is to act as a united organisation.

5 II. Respect for others

Members are expected to show respect towards others, refraining from insults and bullying. Personal disputes should be kept outside of the

organisation. The privacy of others is also to be respected and consent must be obtained before sharing anyone's personal information.

5 III. Discrimination

Members are not to discriminate based on gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability within the organisation. Differences of opinion are generally tolerated provided they do not take priority over the core goals and are not anti-human, as in denying the value or dignity of others.

5 IV. Sexual harassment and assault

Unwanted sexually charged comments and advances create unpleasant environments and are violations of the boundaries of others. Sexual assault is grounds for immediate expulsion and members should not be deterred for getting outside help.

5 V. Representing the organisation

When acting on behalf of the Eureka Initiative, members are encouraged to take care of how they present themselves and how they act in public. This means being mindful of how one dresses, keeping acceptable hygiene standards and acting approachable and friendly while staying calm during aggressive provocations.

5 VI. Personal conduct

Members are encouraged to take care of both their physical and mental health and strive to be well-rounded individuals.

5 VII. Negligence and inconsistency

Repeated failure to attend activities and meetings, making false promises and failing to notify chapter leadership if planned attendance is not possible are prohibited.

5 VIII. Illegal activity

Members cannot carry out illegal activity under the name of the Eureka Initiative.

Article 6. Amendments to the constitution

The constitution can be amended by a supermajority vote of the Central Committee. After an update to the constitution any digital copies should be updated and branch executives are to brief their membership on any changes made.