

# LEGAL OPINION

## LAW COUNCIL

Strasbourg, 21<sup>ST</sup> October 2019

According to articles 3.2, 4 and 9 of the INF-FNI Statutes;

According to the request of legal advice received from the Italian Naturist Federation on 28.03.2019;

After a disagreement between UNI (Unione Naturisti Italiani), based in Turin, Italy, and FENAIT (Italian Naturist Federation), UNI started looking for an alternative way to receive INF stamps for 2019.

Whilst maintaining their legal, fiscal and operational headquarters in Italy, UNI received their INF stamps from LNV (Liechtensteinischer Naturisten Verband), the ordinary member for Liechtenstein.

The advice requested is that of knowing whether these practices are correct regarding the INF-FNI Statutes.

1. UNI is an Italian naturist society, that previously obtained INF stamps through their relationship with FENAIT. Since this relationship no longer exists, UNI decided to find another way to obtain said stamps, through the naturist federation of Liechtenstein. Therefore, members of UNI are members of the LNV.
2. FENAIT contests the possibility for a naturist association situated in a specific country to obtain INF stamps via a federation that is not established in the same country.
3. According to article 4 of the Statutes:  
*“Ordinary membership in the INF-FNI can be obtained by **umbrella organizations (federations) of national naturist/nudist organizations**. Only one federation from any given country can be recognized as an ordinary member. The Central Committee will decide on admission as an ordinary member.”*
4. Article 3.2 of the Statutes states that most of the INF’s finances come from the sale of these stamps to members of federations. Each federation is obliged to buy as many stamps as they have members over the age of 18.
5. The stamps are equally important insofar that they determine how many votes each ordinary member of the INF receives during General Assemblies.
6. Article 9.I.6 of the Statutes states that:  
*“During the GA, each ordinary member has one country vote and as many membership votes as it gets for INF-FNI stamps during the two years prior to the INF-FNI GA. The amount of*

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*votes is calculated so that the number of the stamps is divided by one hundred and from the result, the square root is calculated. Each ordinary member has at least one vote.”*

7. When referring to “national” organizations, the focus is on the scale of said organizations, and not their provenance. “National” is therefore used as an antonym for “local” or “regional” organizations.
8. Furthermore, it should be considered unethical to restrict the access to INF stamps for associations that cannot interact with the federation of their own country, whatever the reason for the disagreements.
9. Indeed, the main goal of the INF is to promote “physical and mental health of humans in nature or in athletic activities” through naturism. To this effect, national borders should not limit access to the INF for certain associations that are dedicated to the goals of the INF.
10. Therefore, in accordance with the wording of the aforementioned Statutes, it seems undeniable that there is no obligation for a naturist association that is established in one country to obtain its INF stamps through the national federation that is an ordinary member of the INF for the same country.
11. It cannot be stated that a naturist association situated in one country has an obligation to obtain its INF stamps through the intermediary of the National Naturist Federation of said same country.
12. It is not necessary to cancel the sale of INF stamps to UNI by LNV.