

Rules of Procedures of the Adriatic and Ionian Council (AIC)

Zagreb, 24 November, 2000
Amended in Brussels 23 May 2011
Amended in Budva 6 May 2019
Amended in Brussels 18 February 2020

1. The rules of procedures of the AIC are established in accordance with Ancona Declaration, which launched the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative (AII). The Ancona Conference (19-20 May 2000) is to be considered the founding Conference as well as the first session of the AIC.

2. Members of the AIC are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, San Marino, Serbia, and Slovenia with the full participation of the European Commission. Each country will be represented by its Minister of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission by one of its members.

3. The AIC will convene at least once a year in regular session in one of the participating States, on a rotational basis in alphabetical order (in English). Whenever deemed necessary, extraordinary meetings may be convened.

4. The Chairmanship of both regular and extraordinary sessions shall be assumed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country hosting the regular session.

5. Responsibility for co-ordination matters relating to the AIC between two sessions, will be assumed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs hosting the subsequent session. A Committee of Senior Officials supported by the AII-Permanent Secretariat (AII-PS) especially in preparatory works shall meet between two sessions of the Council at least three times per year in order to discuss and implement ideas and matters relating to co-operation within the framework of the AIC and to prepare the sessions of the AIC. Unless otherwise decided, such meetings shall normally be held in the country holding the Chairmanship or at the Seat of the AII-PS for the meeting organised in Ancona (Art. 6 of the Guidelines and Rules of Procedure of the AII-PS).

6. The host country of each session will bear all costs in connection with holding the meeting, while the other participating States will cover the expenses relating to travel and stay of their respective delegations.

7. The working language of the AIC meetings is English.

8. Decisions of the AIC and its subsidiary bodies will be taken by consensus.
9. The AIC and All bodies may decide to invite special guests and experts to participate in its sessions.
10. The Agenda of the AIC's sessions will be set upon the proposal of the Chairman and the Committee of Senior Officials in cooperation with the All-PS.
11. The Round Tables are subsidiary bodies of the AIC responsible for cooperation in different fields. As established in the Rules of Procedure of the Round Tables it is possible to institute ad hoc Round Tables or working groups on subjects not included in the formal list of art. 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Round Tables. The decision to establish new ad hoc Round Tables shall be taken by the Committee of Senior Officials and has to be ratified by the Adriatic-Ionian Council.
12. On the basis of the Ancona Declaration, with the co-ordination of the AIC, the meetings of Ministers with responsibility for specific areas may be held within the framework of the All.
13. The Chairman or his representative with the All-PS Secretary General will represent the All in the meetings of other international or regional organizations upon invitation. The AIC may also authorize special representatives for particular matters dealt by the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative to represent the Council in the framework of the International Conferences. These special representatives shall report to the Council on the results of such meetings.
14. Participation in the AIC will in no way infringe on any international obligation, be it of a legal or a political nature, of any of the member States, nor of the European Community.