



HEIDELBERG INTERNATIONAL  
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM  
*Reach Beyond Your Borders*

# **The Charter of**

## **Heidelberg International Professional Women's Forum (HIP) e.V.**

### **Our Mission**

The purpose of the Heidelberg International Professional Women's Forum (HIP) e.V. is to bring together women from diverse international backgrounds to exchange ideas, learn from one another's experiences and develop skills to enhance both professional and personal success. HIP provides an opportunity to connect women seeking new challenges with others who have already distinguished themselves in their profession and community.

### **Our Values**

- Respect
- Positive intention
- Openness
- Collaboration
- Gender equality

### **About us:**

The HIP Women's Forum was founded in 2007 with the vision of bringing together women who share international backgrounds and interests. We aim to provide a platform to develop professionally and a network to realize the potential of each member. HIP became an association in 2020.

Women working in an international environment face common challenges related to being a female professional. Through this forum, our members can help one another grow and expand their horizons. To achieve this, the HIP Women's Forum provides a full program of events for professional networking and leadership education throughout the year.

Whether meeting new friends or participating in our diverse activities, HIP is an active organization where members and guests feel warmly welcomed to share in the fun.

### **Benefits of being a member:**

- A welcoming community
- Business networking in an inspiring environment
- Learn and develop new skills like leadership, project management, public speaking
- Test and discuss your ideas and dreams – get encouragement, support and honest feedback
- Free participation in our events throughout the year
- Present your business and offer your skills to the community and on our website
- Easily connect with other members in our app
- Benefit from special pricing for follow-up workshops
- Having fun connecting across cultures

### **Association Guidelines:**

We are all unique with differing strengths and capabilities! As such we invite all our members to contribute their talents and energy as we develop and grow.

You can do this by respecting the following:

- Our official language is English. It is highly encouraged to stick to English for all association activities to facilitate the inclusion of all members.
- Active participation in set-up and take down of all events is highly appreciated.
- Supporting our communication by participating on social media channels, events, and promoting our association.
- While HIP members may be your biggest fans, this is not a sales platform. You can share news and make special offers, but repeated attempts at selling your products or services are not allowed.

### **Membership**

The heart of the association is the members: HIP succeeds thanks to our members' engagement – it is not a product for consumption but a space for interaction, sharing and co-creating.

Membership is open to all women who share the HIP mission and values and who want to support the purpose of the association.

Besides our events we will have annual members' meetings where we discuss the current status of the association, our activities, new ideas for development and the members' needs and expectations.

To become a member, go to the HIP website and fill in the 'join HIP' form. We will get back to you within a week with further information.

Our fiscal year starts in January. There is an annual membership fee of 60 € to be paid at January 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount is calculated on a pro rata basis.

This fee covers the entrance to most of our events, workshops and seminars. Exceptions may occur for certain events, for instance when external speakers are invited.

Membership can be terminated in writing to the Steering Committee at the latest one month prior to the end of the fiscal year (December 31). There will be no reimbursement of membership fees.

Membership may also be terminated by the Steering Committee in case of incompatibility with our vision, mission and the Association Guidelines.

## **The HIP Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee is the Executive team that manages the association and represents it externally.

The HIP Steering Committee consists of up to 7 members. Three of the members are elected and registered at court. The additional members are not registered but share equal authority within the Steering Committee. Elections will be held every three years during a general assembly.

The Steering Committee should be made up of diverse nationalities.

## **Communication Channels**

All essential and up-to-date information can be found on our Website ([www.hipwf.com](http://www.hipwf.com))

Our [Instagram Channel](#) (Heidelberg International Professional Women's Forum) is an open community for business networking. Follow u.

Our [LinkedIn page HIP](#) (Heidelberg International Professional Women's Forum) is a closed forum for professional discussions among members only. It is also a channel for important and breaking news pertinent to our association.

Our [FaceBook group HIP](#) (Heidelberg International Professional Women's Forum) is an open forum to share our news, connect with others and attract new members. Please contribute actively to our communication with your comments, likes and shares.

## ***Your HIP Steering Committee***

*May 2023*