

ASGARDIA

THE SPACE NATION



AN ACT ON THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS OF THE NATION OF ASGARDIA (ACT ON ACTS)

*Adopted at the First Session of the Parliament of Asgardia on
Asgard 7, 0002 (June 24, 2018), Vienna*

*Amended at the First Digital Session of the Parliament of Asgardia on
03-05 October 0002 (10-12 October 2018)*

*Amended at the Second Digital Session of the Parliament of Asgardia on
10-12 January 0003 (10-12 January 2019)*

*Amended at the Third Digital Session of the Parliament of Asgardia on
16-18 April 0003 (10-12 April 2019)*

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

■ Short Title Section 1

This Act may be cited as the Act on Acts, 2018 (0002).

■ Objectives of the Act Section 2

1. This Act is enacted in accordance with the principles and provisions laid down in the Declaration of Unity and the Constitution of Asgardia with a view to furthering the Supreme Values of Asgardia, establishing the legislative process of Asgardia, and strengthening the rule of law in Asgardia.

2. For the purpose of safeguarding the integrity and uniformity of the legal system of Asgardia, all laws shall be made in accordance with the basis of the Supreme Values and interests of Asgardia.

3. The rule of law provides that no individual, regardless of their position in private or public life, is above the law. The legislative process of Asgardia ensures the proper administration of the rule of law.

■ Application of the Act Section 3

This Act is applicable to the enactment, amendment and annulment of legislations and regulations enacted by the Parliament of Asgardia.

1. An “Act”, also known as a legislation or statute, is a written law enacted by Parliament, the legislative branch of the Government of Asgardia.
2. “Asgardia” refers to the Space Kingdom of Asgardia.
3. A “bill”, also known as a proposed or draft legislation, is a written law that has been introduced to Parliament but has not yet been enacted. A bill must be adopted by Parliament and must receive assent of the Head of Nation (Decree) before becoming an Act.
4. “Citizens” refers to citizens of Asgardia with the special kind of space citizenship as provided in the Constitution and the Citizenship Act.
5. “Constitution” refers to the Constitution of the Space Kingdom of Asgardia.
6. A “regulation”, also known as subordinate legislation or rule, is a type of law which defines the application and enforcement of legislation. Regulations are made pursuant to an enabling Act of Parliament. Regulations are enacted by the appropriate authority empowered by the enabling Act to enact regulations relating to subject matters of the Act.
7. “Quorum” means a simple majority of the total number of Members of Parliament in the current parliamentary period.
8. “Simple majority” refers a majority comprised of at least 50% of the number of Members of Parliament present plus one additional vote (50+1 rule).

■ Laws in Accordance with the Constitution, Supreme Values and the Will of Asgardian Citizens

1. All Acts shall be made in accordance with the Constitution and conform to the Supreme Values of Asgardia.
2. All Acts shall embody and enhance the rights, duties, values and will of the citizens of Asgardia.
3. All citizens are able to participate in the legislative process, whether through their parliamentarians, by proposing legislative change, or through referenda.

CHAPTER II
STRUCTURE, POWERS AND SITTINGS OF PARLIAMENT
PART I STRUCTURE OF PARLIAMENT

■ Organisation of Parliament

Section 6

1. In accordance with the Constitution, Parliament is a unicameral legislature representative of all Asgardian citizens.
2. The Parliament shall consist of elected Members of Parliament who proportionally represent 13 [thirteen] districts, based on the 12 [twelve] official languages of Asgardia, and 1 [one] special district representing other languages.
3. Each parliamentary period runs for a period of 5 [five] years.

■ The Chairman of Parliament

Section 7

1. The Chairman, who is also the Speaker of Parliament, presides over the proceedings of Parliament, and is present to preserve order and decorum during parliamentary sittings pursuant to Rules of Procedure of Parliament that are to be adopted pursuant to this Act.
2. The Chairman of Parliament has the duty of overseeing the agenda of each parliamentary sitting, as well as various other duties prescribed under this Act.
3. The Chairman of Parliament shall be elected by other Members of Parliament for the duration of each parliamentary period. The election shall take place during the first day of each Parliamentary period.
4. In order to fulfil duties associated with this vital position of Parliament, the Chairman shall be assisted by an administrative office and staff. The formation of the Secretariat is intended with the purpose of supporting the Parliament's operations. The Secretariat must support the work of the Parliament Chairperson, the Parliamentary Committees, and other parts of the parliamentary structure.

■ The Committees of Parliament

Section 8

1. There shall be 12 [twelve] permanent Committees of Parliament, in accordance with Article 33(12) of the Constitution as follows:
 - a. Information and Communication Committee;
 - b. Citizenship Committee;
 - c. Foreign Affairs Committee;
 - d. Justice Committee;
 - e. Trade and Commerce Committee;
 - f. Science Committee;
 - g. Youth and Education Committee;
 - h. Culture Committee;
 - i. Safety and Security Committee;
 - j. Finance Committee;
 - k. Equity and Resources Committee;
 - l. Manufacturing Committee.

2. Each Committee of Parliament shall not include more than 25 [twenty-five] Members of Parliament. The support of a simple majority of Members of Parliament is necessary to become a member of a Committee when the number of Committee member applicants exceeds 25.

3. The Members of each Committee elect the Chairman of the Committee through a simple majority vote. The Chairman can select a member of the Committee to act as the Deputy Chairman.

4. Taking into account their particular interests and expertise, Members of Parliament can be elected to be a member of no more than 2 [two] Committees.

■ Structure and Work process of the Committees

Section 9

1. Every Member of Parliament has the right to freely choose a committee or two committees. To do so, they must send their respective request to the Parliament Chairperson.

2. A Member of Parliament does not have the right to change the committee of their choosing for the duration of one year.

3. On the basis of the received requests from Members of Parliament, the according parliamentary committees are being formed.

4. The main goals of the committees are:

- Lawmaking
- Evaluation of the proposed legislation.

5. Every Parliamentary Committee devotes most of its attention to their specific area.

6. Every Committee collaborates with the necessary ministries the work of which concerns its particular area, and with the Administration of the Head of Nation.

7. Committees should coordinate their work with the according ministry.

8. The Chairperson of the Committee is elected by a simple majority of votes.

9. Elected chairpersons appoint their deputies.

10. Committees have the right to collectively present a vote of censure to the Chairperson. This fact is determined by a simple majority. If the vote is split, the motion is considered defeated.

11. If the Chairperson is censured, or the Chairperson leaves their position for any reason, a Committee elects a new Chairperson.

12. After the election of the new Chairperson, that Chairperson is within their right to decide whether to keep the current deputy or to appoint a new deputy.

1. Commissions of Parliament with special investigative powers can be established on an ad hoc, as-needed basis to investigate matters that constitute a serious impediment to the democratic process.

2. Each Commission of Parliament shall not include more than 5 [five] Members of Parliament. The Members of the Commission elect the Chairman of the Commission through a simple majority vote.

3. Any Member of Parliament can be part of a Commission, provided that the Member of Parliament possesses the specialised skill, knowledge or experience in the subject matter the Commission is established to investigate.

PART II POWERS OF PARLIAMENT

In accordance with Article 33(10) of the Constitution of Asgardia, Parliament's powers include:

1. Adopting Asgardian law;
2. Appointing the Chairman of the Parliament, the Chairman of the National Bank of Asgardia, the Justices of the Court on the proposal of the Supreme Space Council; and removing them from post on the proposal of the Head of Nation or the Supreme Space Council;
3. Appointing and removing ministers from post on the proposal of the Chairman of the Government;
4. Appointing and removing auditors of the National Audit Office of Asgardia from post;
5. Calling elections for the Head of Nation;
6. Deciding on the resignation of the Government and individual ministers;
7. Approving the Head of Nation's decision to declare a state of emergency;
8. Calling referenda;
9. Holding parliamentary hearings and investigations, including summoning representatives of governmental bodies.

1. Parliament and its various Committees exercise the legislative powers of Asgardia.

2. Parliament can enact and amend acts necessary for the functioning of Asgardia, in Earth or in outer space, including matters related to:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The sovereignty of the Nation; b. Citizenship; c. The rights, freedoms and duties of Asgardian citizens; d. Marriage, partnership, and divorce; e. Legal tender and national currency; f. Raising and expending funds; g. Trade, finance and commerce; h. Education; i. Science, technology and environment; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> j. Promotion and preservation of culture; k. Transportation; l. National security and safety; m. Judicial affairs and the administration of justice; n. Criminal affairs and the administration of criminal justice; o. Any such matter that Parliament deems fit for the proper functioning and government of Asgardia. |
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PART III SITTINGS OF PARLIAMENT

■ **Sittings of Parliament**

Section 13

1. Parliamentary sittings shall be conducted physically or virtually, and there shall be a minimum of 4 [four] and a maximum of 13 [thirteen] sittings in each Asgardian year.
2. There shall be 1 [one] physical sitting of Parliament in each Asgardian year.
 - a. The exact location, date and time of the physical parliamentary sitting shall be communicated no later than 6 [six] months prior to the physical sitting.
 - b. The agenda for the physical sitting of Parliament shall be circulated at least 2 [two] weeks prior to the sitting.
3. There shall be a minimum of 3 [three] and maximum of 12 [twelve] virtual sittings of Parliament.
 - a. The exact date and time of the virtual parliamentary sitting shall be communicated no later than 2 [two] weeks prior to each sitting.
 - b. Virtual sittings shall last for a period of 48 [forty-eight] hours, to allow for all Members of Parliament to vote during this period.
 - c. The agenda for the virtual sitting of Parliament shall be circulated at least 3 [three] weeks prior to the sitting.
4. The time of reference mentioned in this section is Central European Time (CET).
5. Parliament may designate whether a parliamentary sitting is open or closed.
6. Each parliamentary sitting may be designated as open or closed, depending on the matters placed on the agenda.
 - a. When a parliamentary sitting is designated as “open”, it shall be open to the public.
 - b. When a parliamentary sitting is designated as “closed”, attendance shall be restricted to the Head of Nation, the Chairman of Parliament, Members of Parliament and any other official representatives as authorised by the Head of Nation.
 - c. The designation of an open or closed parliamentary sitting shall be made public with as much notice as practicable.
7. Every voting is conducted by open ballot for all parliamentarians.

1. Parliamentary sittings shall be conducted in the English language. Whenever possible, and subject to available resources and finances, simultaneous interpretation into the 11 other official languages of Asgardia shall be made available.
2. For ensuring consistency in the official versions of any document, the recognised version is that which is posted in the official source of information in English, as the language that was chosen by the majority of the Members of Parliament of Asgardia.
3. As the financial ability of Asgardia grows, the number of languages in the official versions of any document will increase to no more than 12 languages, in accordance with the Constitution of Asgardia.
4. Documents may be translated freely into any language for ease of use.

CHAPTER III
LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF PARLIAMENT
PART I LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

1. All Members of Parliament of Asgardia have the right to submit inquiries through the Secretariat to various government bodies within the area of their subject matter expertise.
2. Any legislative proposal shall first be presented to the Chairman of Parliament and the Justice Committee for determination of constitutionality of the legislative proposal.
3. A legislative proposal shall be no more than 5 [five] pages, in 12 [twelve] point Times New Roman font, and must include:
 - a. A one-page description outlining the necessity of the legislative enactment and its main contents;
 - b. The objectives and legal basis for the legislative proposal;
 - c. Draft provisions of the legislative proposal.
4. The right to submit a legislative proposal to Parliament is limited to:
 - a. A group of 30 [thirty] or more Members of Parliament;
 - b. The collective agreement of at least 5% of the citizens of Asgardia at the time when the legislative proposal is made;
 - c. The Prime Minister in consultation with the Supreme Space Council;
 - d. The Head of Nation.
5. A legislative proposal, regardless of who sponsors the proposal, may only be tabled once in each parliamentary year.
6. The sponsor of a legislative proposal reserves the right to withdraw the proposal at any time during the legislative process prior to Parliament's vote.

■ Deciding on the Merits of the Legislative Proposal

Section 16

The Chairman of Parliament and members of the Committee(s) of Parliament with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal shall deliberate on the legislative proposals and determine whether the matters merit being placed on the legislative agenda for the current parliamentary period.

■ Process to Enactment

Section 17

1. Once a draft legislation is placed on the legislative agenda, the draft legislative proposal shall be presented to Parliament by the sponsor(s) of the proposal.
2. Parliamentarians shall deliberate, in accordance with Rules and Procedures of Parliament, on the legislative proposal and vote on whether the proposal should be forwarded to the Committee(s) with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal for further deliberation and drafting.
3. If the legislative proposal does not receive support from the simple majority of Parliament, the legislative proposal perishes and the matter is closed for discussion.
4. The process of enactment described above also applies to legislative amendments and legislative annulments.

■ Assent and Enactment

Section 18

1. Once a legislative proposal has been adopted by Parliament, it shall be forwarded to the Supreme Space Council and the Head of Nation.
2. For a legislative proposal to be enacted as law, it has to be signed by the Chairman of Parliament and forwarded to be assented to by the Head of Nation (Decree).
3. The Head of Nation has the right:
 - a. To grant assent to a legislative proposal;
 - b. To grant assent to a legislative proposal as a whole and forward certain provisions of the proposal for further work and re-vote where the proposal has to be revised at the nearest session of Parliament with subsequent assent by the Head of the Nation;
 - c. Refrain from an assent to a legislative proposal which means adopt the legislative proposal as a provisional Act which shall be valid for gaining experience until such time the Head of Nation decides to assent or the Parliament requests a withdrawal;
 - d. Deny an assent if the legislative proposal is not in accordance with the Constitution, the Supreme Values of Asgardia, or national interests of Asgardia.
4. Following the Head of Nation's assent (Decree), the legislative act shall come into effect on the date of the Decree.

PART II LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT

■ Legislative Amendment

Section 19

1. Any legislative amendment shall first be presented to the Chairman of Parliament and the Committee(s) with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal of Parliament.
2. The right to submit a legislative amendment to Parliament is limited to:
 - a. A group of 30 [thirty] or more Members of Parliament;
 - b. The collective of agreement of at least 5% of the citizens of Asgardia at the time when the legislative proposal is made;
 - c. The Prime Minister in consultation with the Supreme Space Council;
 - d. The Head of Nation.
3. Similar to the process for a legislative proposal, a brief outline of the necessity of the legislative amendment and proposed provisions of the amendment shall be submitted to the Chairman of Parliament and the Committee(s) with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal of the Parliament for review and approval.
4. A proposed legislative amendment shall be no more than 2 [two] pages, in 12 [twelve] point Times New Roman font, and must include:
 - a. A one-page description outlining the necessity of the legislative amendment and its main contents;
 - b. The objectives and legal basis for the legislative amendment;
 - c. Draft provisions of the legislative amendment.

■ Deciding on the Merits of the Legislative Amendment

Section 20

1. The Committee(s) of Parliament with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal shall deliberate on the legislative amendment and determine whether the matter merits being placed on the legislative agenda for the current parliamentary sitting.
2. Responses to parliamentary inquiries are provided within 28 days of submission. Responses are published as needed and agreed upon by all parties on appropriate informational channels.

PART III LEGISLATIVE ANNULMENT

■ Legislative Annulment

Section 21

1. Any legislative annulment shall first be presented to the Chairman of Parliament and the Committee(s) with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative proposal of Parliament.

2. The right to submit a legislative annulment to Parliament is limited to:
 - a. A group of 30 [thirty] or more Members of Parliament;
 - b. The collective agreement of at least 5% of the citizens of Asgardia at the time when the legislative proposal is made;
 - c. The Prime Minister in consultation with the Supreme Space Council;
 - d. The Head of Nation.
3. A proposed legislative annulment shall be no more than 2 [two] pages, in 12 [twelve] point Times New Roman font, and must include:
 - a. A one-page description outlining the necessity of the legislative annulment and its main contents;
 - b. The objectives and legal basis for the legislative annulment;
 - c. Draft provisions of the legislative annulment.

■ Deciding on the Merits of the Legislative Annulment

Section 22

The Committee(s) of Parliament with a special interest in the subject matter of the legislative annulment shall deliberate on the legislative annulment and determine whether the matter merits being placed on the legislative agenda for the current parliamentary sitting.

CHAPTER IV VOTING

■ Quorum

Section 23

1. Quorum is met when at a minimum more than half (50%+1) of the total number of elected members for the current Parliament period are present at a full-time or an extramural session of Parliament.
2. Present at a full-time or an extramural session of Parliament are deemed to be those members of Parliament who have registered (in person or in absentia) for this session.

■ Election of the Chairman of Parliament

Section 24

The support of a simple majority of Members of Parliament is necessary to elect the Chairman of Parliament.

■ Voting on Legislative Proposal, Amendment or Annulment

Section 25

1. Voting requires Parliamentary quorum.
2. A simple majority is required for passing, amending or invalidating a legislative proposal.

3. A simple majority is more than half (50% + 1 vote) of those present members of Parliament (quorum) who have voted.

4. Members of Parliament can vote in favour or against a proposal or abstain from voting.

CHAPTER V MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

■ Conflict

Section 26

1. Notwithstanding any other law, in case of a conflict between this Act and any other law, the provisions of this Act prevail.

2. Sub-section (1) does not apply to the Constitution, which is the supreme law of Asgardia.

■ Dissolution and Suspension of Parliament

Section 27

1. The Head of Nation may, in consultation with the Supreme Space Council, dissolve Parliament in the case of, but not limited to, a situation when the number of citizens of Asgardia doubles, and thereby necessitating the holding of new parliamentary elections to ensure more equitable representation. Parliament shall not be dissolved more than once during each parliamentary period.

2. To ensure the viability and continuity of the democratic process, which is of utmost importance to Asgardia, parliamentary elections should be held within 90 days after the dissolution of Parliament.

3. The Head of Nation may, in consultation with the Supreme Space Council, temporarily suspend Parliament during times of national emergency or crisis. The suspension shall not be for an indeterminate duration.

■ By-elections

Section 28

1. The Central Election Committee has the authority to check whether the number of Members of Parliament falls below the constitutionally required number of parliamentarians in each parliamentary period.

2. By-elections shall take place if the number of Members of Parliament falls below the constitutionally required number of parliamentarians in each parliamentary period by reason of the resignation or death of a Member of Parliament.

3. Within 30 days after the number of Members of Parliament falls below the constitutionally required number of parliamentarians in each parliamentary period, preparations for by-elections must be announced.

4. Within 90 days after the number of Members of Parliament falls below the constitutionally required number of parliamentarians in each parliamentary period, by-elections must have been held and the required number of parliamentarians for that parliamentary period must again be met.

5. The Head of State, the Chairman of Parliament, and the Central Election Committee have the authority to call for by-elections to ensure that the national interests of Asgardia are adequately represented.

■ Duties of Members of Parliament

Section 29

1. Members of Parliament shall represent the interests of their respective electoral districts with vigour and attend to the duties associated with the elected office with care and diligence.

2. The attendance and voting records of Members of Parliament are to be published and made available for all citizens of Asgardia.

3. Upon the loss of Asgardian citizenship, the Member of Parliament shall lose all rights and privileges attached to them being an Asgardian parliamentarian.

Chairman of Parliament, Asgardia
Lembit Opik

