

UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNAL USE ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

NEW ZOPE CHARTER

FROM:

SR/3/PP

[] X 4387
1507 J

NO.

DATE

29 August 1958

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

		DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1.	CSR/3	67 SEP 1 1958		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p>FYI: Attached is the FDD translation of the new ZOPE charter. Please return.</p> <p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2007</p>
2.				
3.				
4.	SR/COP/PP			
5.				
6.	SR/3/PP			
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FORM 1 DEC 56 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERNAL USE ONLY

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

4 AUG
1958

DRAFT

J-3526
(T-141-58)

CHARTER

Of the Central Association of Political
Emigres from the USSR (TsOPE)

I. GENERAL SECTION

1. The Central Association of Political Emigres from the USSR (TsOPE) is a voluntary association of persons who share identical political views, ~~and~~ registered as [blank].

2. The TsOPE represents an association which is above party politics, which does not bind its members to a party program and which conducts its work on the basis of a broad "TsOPE Political Platform."

3. TsOPE regards itself as a component of the liberation movement of the peoples of Russia, and strives for collaboration with all Russian political organizations, excluding those groups which profess a totalitarian ideology or which substitute a struggle against the Russian people for the struggle with Communism. In its pursuit the TsOPE relies upon the democratic forces of the free world.

II. AIMS AND TASKS

1. The aims of the Central Association of Political Emigres from the USSR (TsOPE) are:

- (a) the overthrow of the Communist dictatorship in Russia.
- (b) the establishment in Russia of a democratic regime based on the people's will and on free elections to the representative governing bodies.

2. In striving for the attainment of the indicated aims, TsOPE poses before itself the following tasks:

- (a) the dissemination of liberating ideas in the Fatherland in forms conforming to the development of the liberation movement in Russia and not antithetical to the laws of free nations, in whose territories TsOPE activities are pursued.

- (b) the interpretation to the West of the aims and tasks of the Russian liberation movement, leading to the establishment of mutual

SECRET

SECRET

understanding and friendship between the peoples of Russia and the peoples of the free world.

(c) The mobilization of the creative forces of the Russians abroad on the broad political TsOPE platform, their association and activation on the basis of executing concrete tasks in the struggle with Communism.

(d) The pursuit of political, social and cultural-educational work among the Russian emigres.

(e) The rendering of social assistance and legal protection to members of the association.

III. STRUCTURE

A. General Structure

1. The Central Association of Political Emigres from the USSR. (TsOPE) shall consist of (a) a central division conducting its work within the German Federated Republic, (b) divisions working in other countries and (c) subdivisions located in individual populated points of each given country.

2. In addition to the structural units enumerated above, the TsOPE shall also, whenever necessary, establish representative agencies, bureaus, and other offices to operate by special regulation, in accordance with local working conditions.

B. Administrative Structure

1. The central directorship of TsOPE shall govern the activity of divisions, TsOPE ~~and~~ and the divisions shall govern the work of the subdivisions.

2. Whereas, the principal activity of TsOPE shall be pursued within the German Federated Republic, and the majority of active members of the Association are located in the GFR,

Therefore, the German division of TsOPE shall have the status of the central division of the Association under the immediate administration of the TsOPE Central Board of Directors.

SECRET

C. GOVERNING BODIES

(a) General Structure of the Directorship

1. The Congress of members of the Association, the Board of Directors, and the TsOPE Council shall constitute the TsOPE governing bodies.

2. The Congress of members of the Division and the Division Board of Directors (PO) shall constitute the governing bodies of the TsOPE Division.

3. The Annual General Assembly of members of the subdivision and the Subdivision Board of Directors (PO) [PP?] shall constitute the governing bodies of the TsOPE subdivision.

Note: In subdivisions having a small membership (up to 5 members) the directorship of such shall be entrusted to a duly-authorized agent, to be appointed by the Board of Directors of the corresponding division.

(b) The Congress

1. The Congress of members of the Association shall constitute the highest organ of the TsOPE.

2. The procedure for convoking and conducting a Congress of the TsOPE membership shall be defined by the Board of Directors in accordance with the law regulating the activity of a registered society, "e. V." ^[eingetragener Verein] and included in the "Civil Code of the GFR"(see also I, 1.)

3. A congress of the TsOPE membership shall be convoked not less than once every two years.

4. In convoking and conducting a Congress, the Central directorship shall have the right to supplement its program in accordance with the special requirements of the TsOPE, if such an expansion of the tasks of the Congress does not violate the law on "e. V." cited in the preceding paragraph.

5. A presidium, to be elected at the Congress, shall direct the work of the Congress. The Congress shall establish the number of members in the presidium.

SECRET

6. The Congress of the members of TsOPE:

(a) shall ratify the reports of the Board of Directors, the TsOPE Council, the Comrades' Court and the Auditing Commission;

(b) shall elect the Board of Directors, the TsOPE Council, the Comrades' Court and the Auditing Commission to a regular term.

(c) shall draw up instructions for the Board of Directors, the TsOPE Council, the Comrades' Court and the Auditing Commission, in which it shall establish the general direction of TsOPE activity for the current term.

Also within the exclusive competence of the Congress of TsOPE membership shall be:

(a) the adoption of the TsOPE "Political Platform" and Charter, as well as the insertion of amendments in them;

(b) the resolution of the question of dissolving the Association or altering its nature.

7. All resolutions of the Congress of TsOPE membership shall be adopted by a simple majority vote, with the exception of the question of dissolving the Association, which resolution shall require a two-thirds vote of the participants at the Congress. Elections of the governing bodies shall be conducted by secret ballot.

8. During the convening of a Congress of TsOPE Division members, the leadership of the division shall be ruled by the preceding paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 8, with the exception of the section regarding the question of dissolving the Association. In other respects, the Congress shall be convoked and conducted in accordance with a special instruction, elaborated by the directorship of each division, in accordance with local conditions, and as confirmed by the TsOPE Board of Directors.

9. Included within the competence of the Congress of members of a TsOPE division are:

(a) the ratification of reports of the governing bodies of the division;

(b) the election of the governing bodies of the division to a regular term;

SECRET

SECRET

(c) the compiling of instructions for the division governing bodies, defining the general direction of the activity of the division for the current period, in accordance with the resolutions of the Congress of the TsOPE membership and the instructions of the TsOPE Board of Directors.

NOTE 1. Resolutions of the division members shall be subject to final ratification by the TsOPE Board of Directors (see also III, C, c).

10. During the convening of the annual general assembly of members of a subdivision, the directorship of the latter shall also be ruled by the paragraphs enumerated in paragraph 8. In other respects, the assembly shall be convoked and conducted according to the instructions of the directorship of the corresponding division.

11. Within the competence of the Annual General Assembly of the members of a subdivision shall be (a) the ratification of the report of the subdivision's Board of Directors, (b) the election of the subdivision's Board of Directors to a regular term, and (c) the compilation of instructions for the directorship, defining the tasks of the subdivision for the current period in accordance with the instructions of the directorship of the division to which the subdivision is subordinate. The resolutions of the Annual General Assembly of the subdivision members shall be subject to ratification by the directorship of the corresponding division and to final ratification by the TsOPE Board of Directors.

(c) THE TsOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The TsOPE Board of Directors shall be the highest executive organ of the TsOPE.

2. The Board of Directors shall be elected to a two-year term at a regular Congress of the TsOPE membership. The Congress shall establish the number of members on the Board of Directors.

SECRET

3. In the interim between two Congresses, the Board of Directors shall have full authority and shall govern all transactions of the Association.

4. The principal functions of the Board of Directors shall include:

- (a) the establishment of a concrete political line of TsOPE during the period between two Congresses;
- (b) the establishment of contacts with Russian and foreign social-political organizations and institutions and the definition of the forms of collaboration with them;
- (c) the ratification of working plans for the Association, and the solution of all questions of principle connected with their execution;
- (d) the expansion of the Association (the opening of new divisions);
- (e) the administration of Association divisions.

NOTE 1. The divisions shall set up sub-divisions with the sanction of the Board of Directors and according to its instructions.

* * *

[TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: No. 5 not listed]

6. The Board of Directors shall supervise the current activity of the divisions. The division directorship shall present semi-annual reports on the division activity to the Board of Directors.

7. The Board of Directors shall have the right to remove a chairman or a member of the Board of Directors of the Division, if such person should be guilty of a breach of ~~social~~^{moral} behavior, or of conduct detrimental to the Association, or should demonstrate lack of activity or lack of interest in the affairs of the Association. In such a case the Board of Directors shall appoint a temporary substitute for the removed person pending a regular Congress of members of the division.

8. The Board of Directors shall issue rulings on the conducting of division congresses, and shall ratify the corresponding instructions,

SECRET

as elaborated by the divisions, and the resolutions of the congresses.

9. The Board of Directors shall finance the operation of the divisions.

10. Acceptance into the membership of the Association or expulsion therefrom, as effected by the divisions and the subdivisions, shall be subject to ratification by the TsoPE Board of Directors.

* * *

11. The Board of Directors shall convene for its meetings not less than once a month.

12. The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be considered a quorum with two-thirds of the membership of the Board of Directors present.

13. All resolutions of the Board of Directors shall be adopted by a simple majority vote.

14. In the event that one of the members of the Board of Directors can no longer participate in the work (for reasons of health, departure, etc) he shall be considered automatically dropped from the membership of the Board of Directors. One of the candidates for membership in the Board of Directors shall replace him, as stipulated by the TsoPE Congress during the election of the Board of Directors.

15. In the event that the reserve of candidates for membership in the Board of Directors should prove exhausted, the Board of Directors shall have the right to coopt the missing members of the Board of Directors to its full membership, as established by the TsoPE Congress.

16. The city of Munich (German Federated Republic) shall be the head-quarters of the TsoPE Board of Directors.

* * *

17. The Board of Directors shall elect from its ranks a chairman and three deputy chairmen, who shall constitute the Presidium of the Board of Directors, as well as a secretary who shall record the minutes of the

SECRET

meetings and have custody of the files of the Board of Directors.

18. The chairman of the Presidium of the Board of Directors shall represent the Association in dealing with any Russian and foreign organizations and institutions; he shall carry out the general management of the daily work of the Association; he shall directly supervise the administrative sector; he shall hire and dismiss TsOPE employees; and he shall convoke sessions of the Board of Directors and of the Presidium of the Board of Directors. The chairman shall be responsible to the TsOPE Board of Directors.

NOTE 1. The structure of the working apparatus of the Board of Directors (the allocation of work to work sectors) shall be provided for by special Statute as drawn up by the Presidium of the Board of Directors and ratified by the Board of Directors.

19. The deputy chairmen shall simultaneously be directors of the work sectors. Each of the deputy chairmen shall be independent within his own sector.

The deputy chairmen shall be responsible for their work to the Board of Directors and to the chairman of the Presidium of the Board of Directors.

20. The Presidium of the Board of Directors, consisting of the chairman and three deputy chairmen, shall act for the Board of Directors in the intervals between its sessions. The Presidium shall decide particularly important and urgent business; it shall appoint and dismiss members of the working Group (see III, D, a); and it shall prepare materials for the sessions of the Board of Directors. The resolutions of the Presidium shall be adopted by a simple majority vote. In the event of a tie vote, the vote of the Presidium Chairman shall be the deciding one. The Presidium shall be responsible to the TsOPE Board of Directors.

21. The Board of Directors shall have the right to remove the chairman of the Board of Directors, or a member of the Presidium or

SECRET

Board of Directors, if such person should be guilty of a breach of moral behavior or conduct detrimental to the Association, or demonstrate lack of activity or lack of interest in the affairs of the Association. In such a case the Board of Directors shall elect a substitute for the removed person.

22. In the event of the temporary absence of the chairman of the Presidium (a temporary leave, illness, etc) one of the members of the Presidium, by resolution of the Presidium, shall substitute for him. In the event that the chairman can no longer take part in the work of the Association (for reasons of health, or change of residence, etc) the Board of Directors shall elect a new chairman, pending the convoking of a regular Congress of the TsOPE membership.

(d) THE TsOPE COUNCIL

1. The TsOPE Council shall be the highest deliberative body of the TsOPE.

2. The TsOPE Council shall be elected to a two-year term by the Congress of the TsOPE membership.

3. The TsOPE Council shall be composed of representatives from all the divisions of the TsOPE. The number of representatives from each division shall be established by the Congress of the TsOPE membership. Candidates shall be nominated by the TsOPE divisions, but may also be nominated by the participants at the Congress of the TsOPE membership.

4. Within the competence of the TsOPE Council shall be:

(a) The resolution of problems connected with the general perspectives of the development and growth of the Association;

(b) The resolution of ideological problems posed before the Association;

(c) The elaboration of principles on which the political strategy and tactics of the Association are built;

(d) The resolution of questions connected with the structure of the Association, with the expansion of the network of Association divisions,

and with the coordination of the activity of all component parts of the Association.

5. The TsOPE Council shall convene not less than once a year. Concerning the resolutions adopted, the TsOPE Council

(a) shall inform the Board of Directors so that the latter may make use of these resolutions in the current work of the Association.

(b) it shall submit a report at the regular Congress of the TsOPE membership.

The resolutions of the TsOPE Council, as ratified by the Congress, shall be given to the TsOPE Board of Directors for execution.

NOTE 1. In the event of a technical impossibility to convoke a TsOPE Council, a session of the Council may be conducted by a written exchange of opinion among the members of the Council. Preparation for the Council session shall be effected in writing.

6. The TsOPE Council shall elect, to a two-year term, from its membership a chairman authorized to convoke a session of the Council and to direct the preparatory work for it; a deputy chairman who shall perform the functions of the chairman when necessary; and a secretary who shall be in custody of the Council's files.

7. All resolutions of the Council of the divisions shall be adopted by a simple majority vote.

8. The TsOPE Council shall be responsible to the Congress of the TsOPE membership.

D. Working Organs

(a) THE WORKING GROUP

1. The Working Group shall be a deliberative working body of TsOPE.
2. The working Group shall be composed of chiefs of TsOPE sectors and their deputies.
3. Within the competence of the Working Group shall be:

SECRET

(a) the discussion of work plans for the separate TsOPE sectors.
(b) the discussion of current work problems, presented by the Presidium for discussion by the Working Group.

(c) The submission of proposals for the improvement and expansion of the work of the TsOPE sectors.

4. The Presidium shall take the resolutions of the working Group into consideration and shall implement them to improve the work of the sectors of the Association.

5. Conferences of the Working Group shall be convoked by the Presidium of the Board of Directors as needed.

6. The chairman of the Council of Associates shall convene the latter not less than twice a year.

7. All resolutions of the Council of Associates shall be adopted by a simple majority vote.

8. The Council of Associates shall be responsible to the TsOPE Board of Directors.

D. CONTROL ORGANS

(a) THE COMRADES' COURT

1. The Comrades' Court shall be elected at a regular Congress of the TsOPE membership to a two-year term, the composition to be determined by the Congress.

2. Within the competence of the Comrades' Court shall be:

(a) the moral-political errors of members of the Association on which the Comrades' Court shall pronounce judgement;

(b) personal conflicts between members of the Association, necessitating the intervention of the Comrades' Court;

(c) guarding the general moral-political standard of the Association and preparing measures necessary for maintaining this standard at the required level.

SECRET

SECRET

3. The Comrades' Court shall be independent of the Board of Directors and other governing bodies of the Association.

4. The members of the Comrades' Court may not be members of the Board of Directors, of the Working Groups, or employees of TsOPE.

5. Individual members of the Association as well as governing bodies of TsOPE shall have the right to appeal to the Comrades' Court. Upon having examined a report, presented in written form; the Comrades' Court shall resolve whether the case lies within the competence of the Comrades' Court, and if so, it shall proceed to act on it. The Comrades' Court may also conduct investigations and pronounce judgement on its own initiative.

6. The Comrades' Court shall elect from its body a chairman, who shall convoke the meetings of the Comrades' Court, and a secretary who shall have custody of the written proceedings of the Comrades' Court.

7. A meeting of the Comrades' Court shall be considered in session with a two-thirds membership present. Interim and procedural decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority vote. For passage of a final decision on each given case, a two-thirds majority vote shall be required and the opinion of all members of the Comrades' Court, if necessary in writing.

8. In the event that one of the members of the Comrades' Court shall no longer be able to participate in the work of the Comrades' Court, such an individual shall be automatically dropped from the membership of the Comrades' Court and shall be replaced by one of the candidates for membership in the Comrades' Court, following the procedure established at the Congress of TsOPE membership during the elections of the Comrades' Court.

9. The resolutions, judgements and recommendations of the Comrades' Court shall be binding on the Board of Directors and other governing bodies of the TsOPE.

SECRET

SECRET

(b) THE AUDITING COMMISSION

1. The Auditing Commission shall examine the business activities and the financial activities of TsOPE.
2. The Auditing Commission shall be elected by a Congress of TsOPE membership to a two-year term, its composition to be determined by the Congress.
3. Members of the Board of Directors, members of the Working Group, and TsOPE employees, may not serve as members of the Auditing Commission.
4. The Auditing Commission shall elect from its body a chairman who shall convoke the meetings of the Auditing Commission and shall supervise its work, and a secretary who shall have custody of the reports of the Auditing Commission.
5. All resolutions of the Auditing Commission shall be adopted by a simple majority vote.
6. The Auditing Commission shall be responsible to the Congress of the TsOPE membership.

IV. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. Emigres who left the territory of Russia or of the Soviet Union because the Communist dictatorship and the Soviet state and political system were unacceptable to them, and their direct descendants who have come of age, may become members of the Central Association of Political Emigres from the USSR (TsOPE).
2. Affiliation with any nationality or religion, membership in other organizations, or foreign citizenship, may not serve as obstacles to admission into TsOPE.
3. A prospective member must accept the political platform and the charter of the TsOPE and must be prepared to perform the tasks and to observe the regulations as set forth in these two principal documents of the Association.

SECRET

4. Admission into the TsOPE requires submission of a written application addressed to the Board of Directors of a subdivision, a division, or the Board of Directors of the TsOPE. Enrollment into the TsOPE membership shall be ratified by the higher authorities. An applicant shall be considered accepted after ratification of the resolutions of the lower levels of authority by the TsOPE Board of Directors.

5. Enrollment in the TsOPE membership shall not be an automatic gesture, but shall take place after a discussion of the political and personal qualities of the prospective member by the authority passing on his admission.

6. TsOPE members shall be divided into three categories:

- (a) members of the Association
- (b) associate members
- (c) members of Working Groups of the Association.

Special rights and duties of the associate members shall be stipulated in the corresponding sections of the present Charter (III, D, b). The special rights and duties of the members of a Working Group shall also be stipulated by the Charter (III, D, a).

7. Expulsion from membership in the Association, as a rule, shall be effected by the subdivision to which the expelled person belongs; it shall be ratified by the higher authorities, and shall acquire legal force following the final ratification by the TsOPE board of Directors.

Causes for expulsion may be:

- (a) Non-observance of the Charter and the decisions of the Association.
- (b) Conduct discrediting the Association or detrimental to the Association.
- (c) Non-payment of membership dues, without due cause, over a three-month period.

SECRET

In special instances, expulsion from membership in the Association shall be effected directly by the TsOPE Board of Directors.

8. The Board of Directors shall have the right to elect as honorary members of the TsOPE those who have rendered services to the Association and to the liberation movement of the peoples of Russia, or who have furthered mutual understanding between the peoples of Russia and the free West.

V. FUNDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. The funds of the TsOPE shall consist of the mandatory membership fees of its members, their voluntary contributions, donations of friends of the Association, and income from business undertakings of the Association.

2. The TsOPE Board of Directors shall have the right to release those members of the Association who are unemployed, disabled, or in difficult financial circumstances, from payment of membership fees.

3. The Board of Directors shall allocate the funds of the Association.

NOTE: The present charter shall be an internal charter of the Central Association of Political Emigres from the USSR (TsOPE), supplementing the charter entered in the Register of Associations (blank) of the State Court of Bavaria (blank)