



**American Council
of Learned Societies**
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Policy Statement on Admission of New Constituent Societies

The ACLS welcomes societies with broad intellectual interests and national or international membership. We especially encourage applications from societies representing constituencies not already included among the Council's member societies.

Member societies contribute to the Council's efforts to strengthen relations among learned societies and to support the work of those societies to advance scholarship in the humanities and humanistic social sciences, both within the academy and in the wider society.

The ACLS welcomes applications from societies whose work focuses on the advancement and support of humanistic scholarship and whose membership includes a substantial proportion of scholars. Member societies will normally support continuing scholarly research and publication in ways that are distinguished and recognized, often through journals and regular meetings.

In considering an application for membership, the Council may seek the advice of appropriate scholars to help evaluate a society's scholarly strengths. The Council values maturity and stability and normally expects a new member society to have been in existence for a minimum of five years and to hold regular scholarly meetings.

Member societies should possess a sound constitution and by-laws and should be well-administered and financially secure. Copies of the constitution and by-laws and the latest audited financial statement should accompany an application for membership.

Although the number of constituent societies is not fixed, maintaining an effective size for the Council and assuring the Council represents a wide range of scholarly interests shape the Committee on Admissions' decisions about membership.