

Esteemed colleagues,

thank you for the possibility to comment on the proposed statutes for the AIHS. My main concerns are the following ones:

- As a general rule, all electoral offices must be limited to two electoral terms. Democracy means temporary rule. Consequently, the Council must be renewed regularly. Academies and learned societies are no autocracies; there is no place for Trumpism in the realm of science and scholarship.
- The very idea of a „Perpetual Secretary“ dates from a past long gone by and does not fit in with the 21st century. It should therefore be abandoned. Furthermore, the term is illogical if, according to Art. 12.5, the term of office is to be limited to 2 x 4 years.
- Abolishing the distinction between full and corresponding members, whilst at the same time limiting the number of members to a set figure as in Art. 6, will freeze the present status quo and prevent - or at least considerably delay - the admission of new members.

Kind regards,

Christoph Meinel