

Internal by-law

1. The Association “Centre Européen du Bouddhisme Sōtō Zen” is to develop its activities in accord with the rules of the Japanese Sōtōshū as established by the Administrative Headquarters of Sōtōshū (Sōtōshū shūmuchō) also applying, in each instance, their modifications when ever made.
2. According to the Association Statutes and the Constitution and rules of the Japanese Sōtōshū religious institution, it mainly has the following functions:
 - a. to maintain and coordinate the relation between the Administrative Headquarters of Sōtōshū (Sōtōshū shūmuchō) and Sōtō Zen European priests and more generally between Japanese Sōtō Zen and European Sōtō Zen;
 - b. to support the activities and the educational and training procedures of Sōtō Zen European priests;
 - c. to register and certify the affiliation of Sōtō Zen European priests and the enrolment of recognized Temples at the Administrative Headquarters of Sōtōshū (Sōtōshū shūmuchō), according to the procedures and standards established by the Japanese Sōtōshū religious institution.
 - d. to organise the annual meeting of the “Conference of Sōtō Zen European priests” and the annual seminar;
 - e. to prepare and distribute study and teaching material;
 - f. to organise study and teaching meetings.
3. The Association sustains, encourages and, when necessary, coordinates the activities of the “Conference of Sōtō Zen European priests”. The characteristics of which are the following:
 - a. The Conference is composed of priests registered as Osho and/or Kyōshi, who have presented a written application of membership to the Association President;
 - b. It has a consulting and advisory function in relation to the Association, which in turn represents the Conference’s voice towards the Administrative Headquarters of Sōtōshū (Sōtōshū shūmuchō);
 - c. The Conference is the appointed arena to deal with questions of general interest concerning the present and future of European Sōtō Zen ;
 - d. Membership of the Conference confers the possibility of:
 - aa. Attending the annual meeting and the annual seminar, organised by the Association;
 - bb. Being registered on the Association web site and having right of access to the members’ web page;
 - cc. Participating in joint discussions about the reality of European Sōtō Zen in any appropriate form the Conference itself might choose (study committees, sub-committees etc.)
 - e. The Conference selects among its members two members of the Association’s Board of Directors (see statute 9).