
Title: The Bodyguards [membership](#)

Author: The Bodyguards Sunday 2nd August 2020 [meeting](#)

Proposal: Accept [Doctors Opposing Circumcision](#) (USA 1995 [George C. Denniston](#)) as a new Bodyguard

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: DOC is the essential medical resource on everything related to penis health. This organization is probably indispensable to the coalition to launch the strategy on the health axis of circumcision (to put pressure on the WHO and health institutions, etc).

Validation: 2020-12-28

Title: Supplement to The Bodyguards [Statutes](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#), [Genital Autonomy Society](#)

Proposal: Complementing the coalition's main objective, to bring an end to sexual mutilation, with the objective of providing support to victims. The current [ARTICLE 2 - AIM and PURPOSE](#) would become (the supplement is marked with the colour [yellow](#), the rest is unchanged):

AIM - The Bodyguards' aim is to bring an end to any modification of a sexual organ carried out on an individual without their free and informed consent, and without medical necessity. [Consent](#) implies that the subject is not in a situation of psychological or physical weakness, that is, in a condition that could alter their judgment. The subject must have sufficient knowledge of the scientific elements for their consent to be free and fully informed. This requires comprehensive information on possible therapeutic alternatives, as well as their risks and consequences.

[The Bodyguards also aims to provide support to victims of sexual mutilation, both direct and indirect. This support can be psychological or physical, such as restorative or regenerative therapies. It must include legal support in order to obtain justice and reparation.](#)

PURPOSE - The Bodyguards' ethical framework prioritizes the alleviation of suffering, and as such, it aims to end all physical and psychological suffering associated with modification of a sexual organ without consent, and especially that inflicted on children.

Relevant center(s) of interest: [Sexual health: relaying good practices and supporting circumcised individuals in distress](#)

Arguments: Not only does it seem logical that a coalition giving priority to alleviating suffering should be concerned about the suffering of victims of circumcision, but it is also a good way of showing that there are victims of sexual mutilation (whereas many people do not believe this for male circumcision), who suffer from it, and that all this at a significant cost, not only to the individual but to society in general.

Validation: 2020-12-28

Title: Changing the status of a coalition member organisation

Author: [Droit au Corps](#), [15 Square](#), [Foreskin Revolution](#), [MOGiS](#)

Proposal: Put an end to [Cockfight](#)'s "member" status and grant it "guest" status, which allows it to participate in the coalition's activities, but without decision-making power.

Arguments: At the November 2020 [meeting](#), one of the two founders of Cockfight, Luke Artanis, said that Cockfight would not have applied to become a member of the coalition if he had seen that the statutory [PURPOSE](#) of the coalition was the priority given to the alleviation of suffering, as he was opposed to it. An organisation that disagrees with the statutes of the coalition cannot be a member.

Objection from Cockfight:

This proposal to remove the choice of Cockfight to remain a whole member is neither accurate nor correct. As it mentions me specifically, I will reply in my own voice. None of my words, including those at the November 2020 meeting, can be construed to mean that I oppose the alleviation of suffering. I do not require that you believe my word. I ask that you judge me by my behavior.

My deeds as a vegan activist and an intactivist are predicated on both the alleviation of the suffering of the innocent and an intimate understanding that all slavery causes suffering--without exception. Even before I became a vegan, I believed in alleviation of suffering. Yet, in that state of my pre-vegan ignorance, despite my good intentions, my behavior caused ineffable suffering of countless pigs, birds, fish, cows, and other innocent animals. Now I have the perspective to understand that every time I purchased a so-called "animal product" I was paying for other humans to commit acts of violence against innocent animals that I could and would never do myself.

When I realized that my behavior and my values were not in alignment, I choose to change my life for the better by going vegan. The only requirement for going vegan is to abstain passively from the enslavement of non-human animals--to forgo violence. Vegan activists go a step further, as we actively pursue the liberation of non-humans from slavery. The end game of veganism is not "humane" slavery and killing (or a mere alleviation in suffering), but a world where humanity chooses to liberate non-humans by abolishing slavery completely.

All three (not two) of the founders of Cockfight reject meat-eating, and our end game is a world where all men are free from genital mutilation. Then maybe we'll see to it that cockfighting is abolished too. Cockfight's record of activity proves that we do prevent and alleviate a great deal of suffering. So, why am I unwelcome here? Is this my reward for categorically denouncing the sexual mutilation of teenagers? Is that a pro-suffering stance?

Luke Artanis

Invalidation: 2020-12-28

Title: New Rule of Procedure for The Bodyguards

Author: [Droit au Corps](#), [15 Square](#), [Foreskin Revolution](#), [MOGiS - A Voice for those Affected](#) [asked to be added after the publication of the proposal]

Proposal: Add this new operating rule to The Bodyguards [rules](#)

Which collaborations are to be prohibited?

Given the [ethical priority](#) of The Bodyguards, the alleviation of suffering, any collaboration which is likely to add to the suffering of the world must be prohibited. Similarly, collaboration that contradicts the strategy of the international coalition must be prohibited.

Relevant center(s) of interest: [Strategies for the abandonment of male circumcision](#)

Arguments: see this [discussion](#) in The Bodyguards forum

2 Objections:

1 - From [Intact Nederland](#)

Intact Nederland objects to this proposal because it's vague, subjective and it is causing division.

For new members that haven't been around before and don't know the context it must read as stating the obvious, who wants to make other people suffer?

Existing members understand that this rule is being proposed with the intention to also stop and expel intactivists groups that collaborate with men's rights groups.

The debate about this in the last few months created a division and an atmosphere of vilifying, mistrust and slander that has been ignored by the ICASM secretary and the ones that caused it.

ICASM was started with the intention of connecting groups, make them work together but the opposite has been achieved. I don't see how this can be healed in view of the way this proposal has been delivered like an ultimatum.

Intactivists understand and acknowledge that circumcision is harm, it's genital mutilation and a violation of the body and the right to bodily integrity. The problem with this issue is that many people don't even see it that way yet. It's important to reach as many people as possible and intactivists are always looking to exploit whatever opportunities arise.

This proposal constricts members to campaign as they see fit. Intactivists prioritize preventing and abolishing harm done to children above all, we speak for the voiceless.

If you tell people that what they are doing is harmful and an injustice and you challenge them to reconsider their cultural practice they are likely to be offended. Likewise if you fight for an age limit for circumcision people may experience the same. The priority is the child though.

Any group that may become an ally might add to the suffering in the world in a different way but are still needed. Luke Artanis wrote about a hypothetical collaboration with the anti-gays and made a good point. And what to do if you work with muslims that practice ritual slaughter? Are those collaboration also prohibited?

What I read between the lines in this proposal is this: "Men's Rights groups add to the suffering of the world". There are many intactivists though that collaborate with Men's Rights groups. I myself have protested against MGM twice with J4MB and Mike Buchanan. James Loewen recently did an interview with him. Bloodstained Men's Brother K featured in one of Paul Elam's recent videos. Other members are MRAs and attended ICMI events. To me they are important and I don't want to see them expelled due to the cancel-culture which is the spirit of this proposal.

2 - From [Cockfight](#)

DaC's "[path of compassion](#)" document asserts: "A major cultural change always involves suffering for those threatened by the change"

If the assertion is true, then all successful efforts to bring about the abandonment of sexual mutilation are likely and *certain* to add to the suffering of the world.

Adoption of this proposal would establish a mechanism by which any member can accuse any other member of ideological impurity. This proposal creates a cancel culture: whoever is not progressive enough or woke enough must be cancelled.

Invalidation: 2020-11-28

Title: The Bodyguards [membership](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#)

Proposal: Accept [Intersex-Belgium](#) (Belgique [Thierry Bosman](#) cofondateur) as a new Bodyguard

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: [Intersex-Belgium](#) and [Thierry Bosman](#) are public [signatories](#) of the 2019 Appeal To Debate on Circumcision. Thierry is also a participant of Droit au Corps.

Validation: 2020-10-28

Title: The Bodyguards [membership](#)

Author: see [Forum](#)

Proposal: Accept [TABU INTERNATIONAL e.V.](#) (Germany / 1997 / [intactiwiki](#) / [WWDOGA](#) supporter) as a new Bodyguard

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: Originally in 1997, TABU INTERNATIONAL's mission was limited to FGM, but since 2013, TABU has been one of the first organisations in the world fighting against FGM to include MGM.

The Bodyguards must quickly expand its membership outside of the intactivist cause, otherwise it may be difficult later on if the coalition is overwhelmingly composed only of intactivists, which may frighten the other genders involved in sexual mutilation. Concerning FGM, the most obvious thing to do was to invite in Germany [TERRE DES FEMMES](#) (1981 [wikipedia](#)) and [TABU INTERNATIONAL](#), who are both [public signatories](#) of the Appeal to open a public debate on the conditions for consent to circumcision.

Validation: 2020-10-28

Title: Connect a new center of interest to the ICASM's [collaborative platform](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#)

Proposal: Connect this center of interest [Joint approach to female and male ritual circumcision](#)

Arguments: In view of the fact that ICASM will soon welcome organizations focused on female circumcision, it is opportune to offer them immediate and

operational synergies with male circumcision. An immediate application of this idea of a joint approach could be implemented by Mohamed Fahmy in Germany on the population of Muslim culture: [Joint approach to female and male ritual circumcision in Germany in muslim culture](#)

Validation: 2020-10-28

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: Michael Winnel (FSR)

Proposal: Accept Forefront as a new member of ICASM

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: Forefront is an international intactivist collaboration on a [discord server](#), of over 300 members. The lead members are Carter Steinhoff, Steven Barendregt, & Kyle S.

Validation: 2020-09-28

(Note: MW needs to double check with FF their mission and vision. FF have confirmed their intention to join the ICASM.)

Objection: Droit au Corps objection to accepting Forefront as a new member of ICASM is based on this [argument](#) in the ICASM Forum. But Droit au Corps is ready to lift its objection if ForeFront officials reassure ICASM that the collective understands that anti-feminism is not compatible with ICASM, notably by circulating the ICASM forum [post](#) to ForeFront members to make things perfectly clear.

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: Michael Winnel (FSR)

Proposal: Accept [AIGA](#) (Australasian Institute of Genital Autonomy) as a new member of ICASM

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: [AIGA](#) **vision:**

We envision a world where the right to bodily integrity and autonomy is respected, protected and promoted for everyone.

Our mission

We advocate for everyone's right to bodily integrity and genital autonomy, and educate the public, medical profession and government about the harms of non-consensual, medically unnecessary genital cutting and other body alterations so that these practices come to an end.

Our history

On 7 May 2013, the anniversary of the landmark Cologne court decision, a group led by barrister and family lawyer Paul Mason founded the AIGA to protect and promote everyone's right to bodily integrity and genital autonomy in the Australasian region.

Validation: 2020-09-28

Title: Name of the International Coalition

Author: collective proposal, see this [discussion](#) in the ICASM forum

Proposal: use "The Bodyguards" as the official name of ICASM.

"International Coalition for the Abandonment of Sexual Mutilation" would be retained as a working description for internal use. In the Statutes, [ARTICLE 1](#) -

NAME would become:

There shall be established between the adherents to the present statutes an international coalition for the abandonment of sexual mutilation with the following name "The Bodyguards".

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments:

The term "sexual mutilation" is problematic as it can be deeply offensive to populations that practice traditional circumcision, particularly Muslims, and ICASM aims at abandoning the practice, not confronting them. "Bodyguards" has a positive connotation that should satisfy all actors in the fight against "sexual mutilation", including female and intersex, without offending those who practice their traditions.

In purely communication terms, The Bodyguards allows interesting variations, such as "become a bodyguard, protect 1 child", including for fundraising campaigns.

Details:

- the plural is proposed rather than the singular because a coalition is by definition made up of multiple member organizations and that the general public outside of ICASM may feel that they are "part of" the bodyguards (thanks to a communication plan adapted for the general public).
- "The" is added in front of "Bodyguards" to avoid confusion in Internet searches, and also because bodyguards.org is a domain name that is sold, so probably expensive unlike thebodyguards.org.

Validation: 2020-09-28

Title: International "Health" Scientific Committee

Author: ICAMS meeting [2020-08-02](#)

Proposal:

- Creation of an ICASM "Health" Scientific Committee
- Each membership will have to be validated by the whole ICASM via the Agora
- The first member of the scientific committee, leading the strategy Penile Health, is Mohamed Fahmy, Emeritus professor of Pediatric Surgery in Egypt, already an [expert](#) member of ICASM with several video [events](#) for ICASM.

Relevant center(s) of interest: [Penile Health](#) with this [topic](#) in the general ICASM forum and this [dedicated forum](#)

Arguments: see the whole strategy described in the [Objective](#) of the center of interest Penile Health, the "Health" Scientific Committee being the backbone of this strategy.

A scientific committee composed of eminent health professionals from around the world, in all countries, will give ICASM a unique strength in its fight and

entry points everywhere in countries. For example, it is difficult for a single health professional to challenge the WHO ICD on “phimosis”: however, by coordinating a precise action plan mobilizing all members of the scientific committee around the world, the chances of winning are much higher. The same if we want to challenge WHO VMMC in countries such as India or China after Africa.

Validation: 2020-09-28

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: ComCo [2020-07-12](#)

Proposal: [David J. Llewellyn](#) (USA) as an expert

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: trial attorney and civil mediator, medical malpractice, particularly in the areas of genital injury, circumcision > [Botched Circumcision Lawyer](#)

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: secretariat in link with David Balashinsky

Proposal: accept [Jews Against Circumcision](#) (JAC USA) as a new member of ICASM

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: JAC is a supporter of the [WWDOGA](#). David Balashinsky is co-author of an *Open letter to all political parties in Sweden* co-signed by many renowned intactivists. See his WWDOGA 2020 [video](#).

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: ICASM Website

Author: Michael Winnel

Proposal: Mandate the [Communication Council](#) to launch the ICASM website. This mandate would consist of putting a site and basic information online. On the other hand, any important publication involving the official position of ICASM should always be validated by all ICASM members, via the Agora.

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: Michael can start a basic webpage for ICASM - hosted on the FSR webserver for Free. We could apply the principle of MVP (Minimum Viable Product), slowly making organic modifications and improvements as we go. This would give the ICASM a homebase to:

- Publish videos
- Announce Meeting dates e.g. symposia
- A place for inquiries from intactivists around the world - at present people have searched for ICASM only to find no contact options.

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: ICASM Youtube Channel

Author: Michael Winnel

Proposal: Mandate the [Communication Council](#) to launch an ICASM [YouTube channel](#)

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: A YouTube channel would provide the ICASM with a place to post our symposium videos.

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: Connect a new center of interest to the ICASM's [collaborative platform](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#)

Proposal: Connect this center of interest [Penile Health](#)

Arguments: Why the penis health axis is strategic? There are 4 main segments of circumcision: medical, Muslim, ancestral (mirroring FGM), Jewish. The tactical priority is to take down the medical "domino" that serves as an alibi for the other 3 segments.

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: Connect a new center of interest to the ICASM's [collaborative platform](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#)

Proposal: Connect this center of interest [ICASM - Translation Service](#)

Arguments: The goal is to set up a translation pool within ICASM, based on the resources of its members. It is likely that ICASM will have significant translation needs.

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: ICASM new service

Author: ComCo [2020-07-12](#)

Proposal: using Zoom in self-service for ICASM members

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments:

Since the Zoom service offered 50/50 for 1 year to ICASM by [intaktiv](#) and [MOGiS](#) will only be used once or twice a month, it is proposed that all ICASM members be able to use it for the needs of their own organization. This will allow everyone to become familiar with this tool and explore its most advanced functions, which will undoubtedly be very useful in organizing the next ICASM video symposia.

Here is the file to reserve ICASM's Zoom videoconference [Zoom visioconference service booking](#) (will be added to the portal)

Validation: 2020-08-28

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: [BSASS](#) team

Proposal: accept [Brit Shalom l'Alliance sans Souffrance](#) (in English *Brit Shalom a non-Suffering Covenant*) as a new member of ICASM

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: See this [article](#) in English on *Droit au Corps*' website. More explanations on BS here: [Celebrating Brit Shalom](#).

Validation: 2020-07-28

Title: ICASM [membership](#)

Author: Michael Winnel

Proposal: Add New Member - [Mass Bay Intactivists](#) (MBI 2017 Boston MA USA)

Relevant center(s) of interest: [ICASM Development](#)

Arguments: Reputable tenured US intactivist organisation. David Atkinson is part of the "new wave" (like Johan and Jason).

Validation: 2020-07-28

Title: Amendments to the ICASM [Statutes](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#) (when ICASM was launched, DaC was asked to set up the organization of ICASM, in view of its experience)

Proposal: Complete [ARTICLE 3 - COMPOSITION](#) with "Expert members do not have the right to vote. »

Relevant center(s) of interest: [Management](#)

Arguments: If experts have the right to vote, it gives them disproportionate power compared to organizations. Worse still, if an expert is also a member of an ICASM organization, it gives that organization an additional and illegitimate voting right: this is already the case for Droit au Corps, of which ICASM expert Mohamed Fahmy is a member. It should be noted that despite the absence of voting rights, experts would continue to have an important decision-making power since they would still have the power to "object" to a proposal tabled in the Agora. This power of decision would ultimately correspond well to what is expected of experts, i.e. that their views be effectively heard by ICASM, but no more. This type of power would correspond to the notion of "associate member" that had been proposed by MAB. Fahmy, a proposal appreciated by some ICASM members at the time.

Validation: 2020-07-28

Title: Complements to the ICASM [Rules of Procedure](#): [Communication Council](#) & [WebTeam](#)

Author: [Droit au Corps](#) (when ICASM was launched, DaC was asked to set up the organization of ICASM, in view of its experience)

Proposal: Complete [Rules of Procedure](#) with a new section between sections [Decision-making process: admissibility of objections](#) and [Assignment of access codes to ICASM information systems](#):

---- new section proposal

Communication Council

The ICASM's [Communication Council](#) is responsible for the administration of the ICASM's information system. As such, it has the mandate to decide on the

presentation of information validated by the ICASM without requiring its prior accord: the ICASM can demand modifications a posteriori. The members of the Communication Council are authorized to handle proposals that they judge to be minor, on the condition that they are at least 2 to handle each proposal (management of emails sent and received by ICASM for example). [Communication Council](#) has a mandate from ICASM to appoint the members of the [WebTeam](#).

---- end of new section

Relevant center(s) of interest: [Management](#)

Arguments: The official voice of ICASM is under the control of all its members, no position can be taken without the agreement of the Coalition, via the Agora.

It so happens that many communications are part of ICASM's "official word", such as emails sent under ICASM's signature with its email address icasm.network@gmail.com or any other message to third parties, such as its presence on the Internet (the [portal](#) today, tomorrow its possible social networks or website). For minor and necessary daily novelties, such as the management of ICASM's emails, it is not advisable to disturb all members of the collective, especially since the decision making process can take too long in urgent cases.

It is therefore proposed that the [Communication Council](#) receive an official mandate from ICASM to manage this type of official speech. The Communication Council is therefore responsible for managing the [WebTeam](#), which is the only one empowered to manage ICASM's information systems (currently Google account and Zoom video conferencing service, but social networks and website probably tomorrow). Only the members of the WebTeam, in very small numbers, must have access to the identifiers and passwords to manage ICASM's information systems, under the supervision of the Communication Council.

Validation: 2020-07-28
