

CONSTITUTION OUTLINE
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX ASSOCIATION

Article I – Organization’s Name:

The name of this organization shall be the Christian Orthodox Association (COA)

Article II – Purpose:

The purpose of the organization is as follows:

- 1- To connect the Christian Orthodox students of Middlebury College with their tradition, by enabling them to celebrate regular liturgies on campus, to hold spiritual discussions, and to pay regular visits to Orthodox churches and monasteries in New England.
- 2- To familiarize the Middlebury College body with the Christian Orthodox heritage, by means of discussions, lectures, and screenings.
- 3- To provide the Christian Orthodox students who come from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds with opportunities for dialogue, fellowship and worship. This can be pursued in cooperation with such academic departments as Religion, Russian, and International Studies as well as with the chaplain’s office.
- 4- To explore the spiritual life and diversity of the Orthodox tradition present on the Middlebury campus.
- 5- To contribute to interfaith dialogue between the different religions, and between the different traditions within Christianity.

Article III – Membership:

The membership of the COA is open to all Middlebury College students interested in learning about Christian Orthodoxy.

Article IV – Offices:

The COA includes three offices:

- 1- President. The COA president presides over meetings and acts as a mediator for discussions.
- 2- Secretary. The COA secretary keeps record of events and meetings.
- 3- Treasurer. The COA treasurer is responsible for the financing aspect of the association. (S)he is responsible for organizing fund-raising events and is the liaison between the COA and the SGA Finance Committee.

All officers must be Middlebury College students.

Article V – Elections:

Prior to election, candidates for all three positions must offer speeches stating their goals and potential contributions to the association.

Officers are elected by single majority with a quorum of 2/3 members present.

Elections must be held before March 15th of every year.

In the case where a position becomes vacant during the academic year, the COA president has the right to appoint any member of the COA who she/he considers as qualified, and until the time of the following elections. In the case where the position of President becomes vacant during the academic year, the COA secretary assumes the responsibilities of President until the time of the following elections.

Meetings are held weekly. Weekly meetings are devoted to prayer and worship, spiritual dialogue and informative discussions pertaining to the Orthodox life.

Occasional events may include screenings, trips, workshops, guest lectures and discussion panels.

These events may be held in cooperation with other student associations and academic departments.

Article VII- Committees:

The COA includes the following committees:

- 1- Finance Committee. It is headed by the treasurer and aims to assist him/her in planning fund raising events, discuss the association's financial situation and report any financial hardships to the COA president.
- 2- Publicity Committee. It is responsible for publicizing the association on the Middlebury campus and promoting awareness of COA upcoming events.
- 3- Events Committee. It is responsible for planning and preparing for COA events.

Article VIII – Faculty Advisor:

The membership recommends a member of faculty/staff to advise the association.

Article IX – Discrimination Policy:

This student organization operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the *Middlebury College Handbook* concerning Student Organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedom of Inquiry and Expression, Student Publications, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the *Middlebury College Handbook* will immediately become policies adopted by the Middlebury College Christian Orthodox Association.

Article X – Affiliations:

The COA has no formal affiliation with any national or international institutions. It is nevertheless in contact with other Christian Orthodox organizations in American universities and colleges located in New England and the Province of Québec.

Furthermore, although the COA is in constant contact with Orthodox parishes in New England and the Province of Québec, it is not formally affiliated with any of them in order to honor the cultural diversity and the different Orthodox heritages of its members.

Article XI – Ratification:

- 1- The constitution must be ratified by a 2/3 majority of its members.
- 2- The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article XII – Amendment

- 1- The constitution must be ratified by a 2/3 majority of its members
- 2- The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to Form: March 6, 2003