

RULES
OF THE COMMUNIST
PARTY
OF THE SOVIET
UNION

Workers of all countries, unite!

501

**RULES
OF
THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OF
THE SOVIET UNION**

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RULES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union is the tried and tested militant vanguard of the Soviet people, which unites, on a voluntary basis, the more advanced, politically more conscious section of the working class, collective-farm peasantry and intelligentsia of the USSR.

Founded by V. I. Lenin as the advance detachment of the working class, the Communist Party has travelled a glorious road of struggle. It brought the working class and the working peasantry to the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and to the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, the exploiting classes were abolished in the Soviet Union, and the socio-political and ideological unity of multinational Soviet society has taken shape and is steadily growing in strength. Socialism has triumphed completely and finally. The proletarian state has grown into a state of the entire people. The country has entered the stage of developed socialism.

Remaining in its class essence and ideology the Party of the working class, the CPSU has become the Party of the entire people.

The Party exists for and serves the people. It is the highest form of socio-political organization, the nucleus of the political system and the leading and guiding force of Soviet society. The Party defines the general perspective of the country's development, ensures the scientific guidance of the people's creative activities, and imparts an organized, planned and purposeful character to their struggle to achieve the ultimate goal, the victory of communism.

In all its activities, the CPSU is guided by Marxist-Leninist theory and its own Programme, which defines the tasks of the steady and all-round advancement of socialism and of the further progress of Soviet society towards communism on the basis of the country's accelerated socio-economic development.

The CPSU bases its work on unswerving adherence to the Leninist standards of Party life, the principles of democratic centralism, collective leadership, the comprehensive development of inner-Party democracy, the creative activity of Communists, criticism and self-criticism and broad publicity.

Ideological and organizational unity, monolithic cohesion of its ranks, and a high degree of conscious discipline on the part of all Communists are inviolable laws for the CPSU. Any manifestation of factionalism or group activity is incompatible with Marxist-Leninist Party principles, and with Party membership. The Party expels persons who violate the Programme and the Rules of the CPSU and compromise the worthy name of Communist by their behaviour.

In creatively developing Marxism-Leninism, the CPSU vigorously combats any manifestation of revisionism and dogmatism, which are utterly alien to revolutionary theory.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union is an integral part of the international communist movement. It firmly adheres to the tried and tested Marxist-Leninist principles of proletarian, socialist internationalism, actively promotes the cooperation and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries, of the world system of socialism, and the international communist and working class movement, and shows solidarity with the nations fighting for national and social liberation, against imperialism and for peace.

I.

PARTY MEMBERS, THEIR DUTIES AND RIGHTS

1. Membership of the CPSU is open to any citizen of the Soviet Union who accepts the Programme and the Rules of the Party, takes an active part in communist

construction, works in one of the Party organizations, carries out Party decisions, and pays membership dues.

2. It is the duty of a Party member:

(a) to implement, firmly and undeviatingly, the Party's general line and directives, to explain to the masses the CPSU's home and foreign policy, to organize the working people for its implementation, and to work for the strengthening and expansion of the Party's ties with the people;

(b) to set a good example at work, to protect and augment socialist property, to work persistently for higher production efficiency, for a steady growth of labour productivity, for higher product quality, for the application of the achievements of modern science and technology and advanced experience in the national economy; to upgrade his professional skills, to actively champion all that is new and progressive, to make the maximum possible contribution to the acceleration of the country's socio-economic development;

(c) to be active in the country's political life, in running state and public affairs, to set an example in fulfilling one's civic duty, to contribute actively to the ever fuller implementation of the people's socialist self-government;

(d) to master Marxist-Leninist theory, to widen his political and cultural horizons, and promote in all possible ways the growth of the Soviet people's consciousness and their ideological and moral standards. To combat resolutely any manifestations of bourgeois ideology, private-property mentality, religious prejudices and other views and morals alien to the socialist way of life;

(e) to abide strictly by the standards of communist morality, to assert the principle of social justice which is innate in socialism, to put public interests above personal, to be modest and upright, responsive and considerate to people, to respond promptly to working people's requirements and needs, to be truthful and honest with the Party and the people;

(f) to disseminate steadily the ideas of proletarian, socialist internationalism and Soviet patriotism among the working masses, to combat manifestations of nationalism and chauvinism, to work actively for the consolidation of friendship between the peoples of the USSR and fraternal relations with the countries of socialism, with the proletarians and working people of the whole world;

(g) to help in every possible way strengthen the defence capability of the USSR; to struggle indefatigably for peace and friendship among nations;

(h) to strengthen the ideological and organizational unity of the Party, to safeguard the Party against infiltration by people who do not deserve the worthy name of Communist, to display vigilance, to keep Party and state secrets;

(i) to develop criticism and self-criticism, boldly expose shortcomings and work for their removal, to combat ostentation, conceit, complacency, and eyewash, to counter firmly all attempts at suppressing criticism, to combat bureaucracy, parochialism and departmentalism and all actions injurious to the Party and the state and to inform of them Party bodies, up to and including the CC CPSU;

(j) to pursue undeviatingly the Party's policy with regard to the proper selection of personnel according to their political, professional and moral qualities. To be uncompromising whenever the Leninist principles of the selection and education of personnel are violated;

(k) to observe Party and state discipline, which is equally binding on all Party members. The Party has one discipline, one law for all Communists, irrespective of their past services or the positions they occupy.

3. A Party member has the right:

(a) to elect and be elected to Party bodies;

(b) to discuss freely questions of the Party's policies and practical activities at Party meetings, conferences and congresses, at the meetings of Party committees and in the Party press, to put forward proposals; to express openly and uphold his opinion until the Party organization concerned adopts a decision;

(c) to criticize any Party body and any Communist, irrespective of the position he holds, at Party meetings, conferences and congresses, and at the plenary meetings of Party committees. Those who suppress criticism or victimize anyone for criticism shall be penalized strictly by the Party, to the point of expulsion from the CPSU;

(d) to attend in person all Party meetings and all bureau and committee sittings that discuss his activities or conduct;

(e) to address any question, statement or proposal to

any Party body, up to and including the CC CPSU, and to demand an answer on the substance of his address.

4. Applicants are admitted to Party membership only individually. Membership of the Party is open to politically conscious and active citizens from among workers, peasants and the intelligentsia, all devoted to the communist cause. New members are admitted from among the candidate members who have undergone the established probationary period.

Persons may join the Party on reaching the age of eighteen. Young people up to the age of twenty-five may join the Party only through the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League (YCL).

The procedure for the admission of candidate members to full Party membership is as follows:

(a) Applicants for Party membership must submit recommendations from three members of the CPSU who have a Party standing of not less than five years and who know the applicants from having worked with them, professionally and socially, for not less than one year.

Note 1. In the case of members of the YCL applying for membership of the Party, the recommendation of a district or city committee of the YCL is equivalent to the recommendation of one Party member.

Note 2. Members and alternate members of the CC CPSU refrain from giving recommendations.

(b) Applications for Party membership are discussed and a decision is taken by the general meeting of the primary Party organization; the decision of the latter is valid if not less than two-thirds of the Party members attending the meeting have voted for it, and comes into effect after endorsement by the district Party committee, or by the city Party committee in cities with no district division.

The question of admission to the Party may be discussed in the absence of those who have recommended the applicant for Party membership. Admission to the Party takes place, as a rule, at open meetings.

(c) Citizens of the USSR who formerly belonged to the Communist or Workers' Party of another country are admitted to membership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in conformity with the rules established by the CC CPSU.

5. Communists recommending applicants for Party

membership are responsible to Party organizations for the impartiality of their description of the political, professional and moral qualities of those they recommend and help the latter further develop their ideological and political awareness.

6. The Party standing of those admitted to Party membership dates from the day the general meeting of the primary Party organization decides to accept them as full members.

7. The procedure of registering members and candidate members of the Party, and their transfer from one organization to another is determined by the appropriate instructions of the CC CPSU.

8. If a Party member or candidate member fails to pay membership dues for three months in succession without a good enough reason, the matter shall be discussed by the primary Party organization. If it is revealed as a result that the Party member or candidate member in question has virtually lost contact with the Party organization, he shall be regarded as having ceased to be a member of the Party; the primary Party organization shall pass a decision thereon and submit it to the district or city committee of the Party for endorsement.

9. A Party member or candidate member who fails to fulfil his duties as laid down in the Rules, or commits other offences, shall be called to account, and may incur a penalty: a warning, reprimand (severe reprimand) or a reprimand (severe reprimand) with note of this made in his registration card. The strictest Party penalty is expulsion from the Party.

In the case of minor offences, Party education measures and influence should be applied—in the form of comradely criticism, Party censure, warning or reproof.

A Communist who has committed an offence shall answer for it, above all, to his primary Party organization. The primary Party organization will be informed should a Communist be called to account to the Party by a higher body.

Maximum attention must be given to discussion of the question of calling a Party member to Party account and the grounds for the charges preferred against him must be thoroughly investigated.

The Party organization gives the Party member a hearing, not later than a year after the penalty was imposed

on him, to find out how he is rectifying his shortcomings.

10. The decision to expel a Communist from the Party is made at the general meeting of a primary Party organization. The decision of the primary Party organization to expel a member is adopted provided not less than two-thirds of the Party members attending the meeting vote for it, and takes effect after endorsement by the district or city Party committee.

Until the decision to expel the member is endorsed by the district or city Party committee, the Party member or candidate member retains his membership card and is entitled to attend closed Party meetings.

A person expelled from the Party retains the right to appeal, within two months, to the higher Party bodies, up to and including the CC CPSU.

11. The question of calling to Party account a member or alternate member of the CC of the Communist Party of a Union Republic or of a territorial, regional, area, city or district Party committee, as well as a member of an auditing commission, is discussed by primary Party organizations and decisions to impose penalties are passed in conformity with the regular procedure.

Party organizations' proposals for expelling a Communist from the CPSU are reported to the relevant Party committee of which he is a member. The decision to expel from the Party a member or alternate member of the CC of the Communist Party of a Union Republic or of a territorial, regional, area, city or district Party committee, or a member of an auditing commission, is adopted at the plenary meeting of the committee concerned by a majority of two-thirds of the membership.

The decision to expel from the Party a member or alternate member of the Central Committee of the CPSU, or a member of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU, is adopted by the Party congress, and in the interim between congresses, by a plenary meeting of the Central Committee by a majority of two-thirds of the CC CPSU members.

12. A Party member shall bear dual responsibility to the state and the Party for the violation of Soviet laws. Persons who have committed indictable offences are expelled from the CPSU.

13. Appeals by persons expelled or disciplined, as well

as the decisions of Party organizations on expulsion from the Party, shall be examined by the appropriate Party bodies within not more than two months from the date of their receipt.

II.

CANDIDATE MEMBERS

14. All persons joining the Party must go through a probationary period as candidate members in order to familiarize themselves more thoroughly with the Programme and the Rules of the CPSU and prepare for admission to full membership. Party organizations must assist candidates to prepare for admission to full membership, and test their personal qualities in practical deeds, in the fulfilment of Party and public assignments.

The period of probationary membership shall be one year.

15. The admission procedure for candidate members (individual admission, submission of recommendations, decision of the primary organization on admission, and its endorsement) is identical with the admission procedure for Party members.

16. On the expiry of the candidate's probationary period the primary Party organization discusses his admission to full membership and passes a decision on it. Should a candidate member fail to prove worthy during the probationary period, and should that candidate member's personal traits rule out admission to membership of the CPSU, the Party organization shall pass a decision denying him admission to membership of the Party; after endorsement of that decision by the district or city Party committee, he shall cease to be considered a candidate member of the CPSU.

17. Candidate members of the Party participate in all the activities of their Party organizations; they shall have a consultative voice at Party meetings. Candidate members of the Party may not be elected to any leading Party body, nor may they be elected delegates to a Party conference or congress.

18. Candidate members of the CPSU pay membership dues at the same rate as full members.

III.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE PARTY. INNER-PARTY DEMOCRACY

19. The guiding principle of the organizational structure, of the life and activities of the Party is democratic centralism, which signifies:

(a) election of all leading Party bodies, from the lowest to the highest;

(b) periodical reports of Party bodies to their Party organizations and to higher bodies;

(c) strict Party discipline and subordination of the minority to the majority;

(d) the obligatory nature of the decisions of higher bodies for lower bodies;

(e) collective spirit in the work of all organizations and leading Party bodies and the personal responsibility of every Communist for the fulfilment of his duties and Party assignments.

20. The Party is built on the territorial and production principle: primary organizations are established wherever Communists are employed, and are associated territorially in district, city, etc., organizations. An organization uniting the Communists of a given area is higher than any component Party organization of that area.

21. All Party organizations are autonomous in deciding local questions, unless their decisions contradict Party policy.

22. The highest leading body of a Party organization is the general meeting or conference (for primary organizations), conference (for district, city, area, regional and territorial organizations), or congress (for the Communist Parties of the Union Republics and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union). A meeting, conference or congress is considered competent if it is attended by more than one half of the members of the Party organization or of the elected delegates.

23. The general meeting, conference or congress elects a bureau or committee which acts as its executive body and directs all the current work of the Party organization.

An apparatus is set up at the CC CPSU, the CCs of the

Communist Parties of the Union Republics, territorial, regional, area, city and district Party committees, for carrying out the current work of organizing and checking up on the fulfilment of Party decisions and rendering assistance to the lower organizations in their activities.

The CPSU Central Committee defines the structure and the staff of the Party apparatus.

24. Party bodies are elected by secret ballot. Elections of the secretaries, deputy secretaries of Party organizations and Party group organizers at meetings of primary, shop organizations with less than 15 Party members and of Party groups may be held, with the Communists' consent, by a show of hands. In these primary organizations, the procedure for the election of delegates to the district and city Party conferences is the same.

During elections all Party members have the unlimited right to challenge candidates and to criticize them. Each candidate shall be voted upon separately. A candidate is elected if more than one half of those attending the meeting, conference or congress vote for him.

The principle of the systematic renewal of the composition of Party bodies and of the continuity of leadership shall be observed in the election of all Party bodies—from primary organizations to the CPSU Central Committee.

25. The members and alternate members of the CC CPSU, the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, the territorial, regional, area, city and district Party committees must, by their entire activity, justify the great trust placed in them. A member or alternate member of the Party committee who degrades his honour and dignity may not remain on the committee.

The question of removing a member or alternate member of a Party committee from that body is decided by a plenary meeting of the given committee. The decision is adopted if not less than two-thirds of the members of the Party committee have voted for it by secret ballot.

The question of removing members of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, or of the auditing commissions of local Party organizations from these commissions is decided by their meetings according to the procedure established for members and alternate members of Party committees.

26. The free and effective discussion of questions of

Party policy in the Party, in all its organizations, is an important principle of inner-Party democracy. Only on the basis of inner-Party democracy is it possible to ensure Communists' high creative activity, open criticism and self-criticism and strong Party discipline, which must be conscious and not mechanical.

Discussion of controversial or insufficiently clear issues may be held within the framework of individual organizations or the Party as a whole.

Party-wide discussion is held:

(a) on the initiative of the CC CPSU, if it considers it necessary to take counsel with the Party as a whole on a particular question of policy;

(b) at the proposal of several Party organizations at republican, territorial or regional level.

Broad discussion, especially discussion on a country-wide scale, of questions of Party policy must be so held as to ensure the free expression of Party members' views and preclude attempts to form factional groupings, to split the Party.

27. The supreme principle of Party leadership is collective leadership, which is an absolute requisite for the normal functioning of Party organizations, the proper education of cadres, the promotion of the activity and initiative of Communists, and a reliable guarantee against the adoption of volitional, subjectivist decisions, the manifestation of the cult of the individual and violations of the Leninist principles of Party life.

Collective leadership implies personal responsibility for the matter in hand, constant control over the activities of every Party organization, every worker.

28. The CC CPSU, the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, and territorial, regional, area, city and district Party committees shall systematically inform Party organizations, in the interim between congresses and conferences, of their work and of the actions taken on the strength of critical remarks and proposals made by Communists.

It is an unbreakable rule for the Party committees, primary Party organizations to objectively and promptly inform the higher Party bodies of their activities and the state of affairs in their organizations.

29. Meetings of the active of district, city, area, regio-

nal and territorial Party organizations and of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics shall be held to discuss major decisions of the Party and to work out measures for their implementation, as well as to examine questions of local significance.

30. Standing or temporary commissions and working groups on various questions of Party work may be set up at the Party committees, and other forms can also be used to draw Communists into the activities of the Party bodies on a voluntary basis.

IV.

HIGHER PARTY BODIES

31. The supreme body of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union is the Party Congress. Regular congresses shall be convened by the Central Committee not less than once in five years. The convocation of a Party Congress and its agenda shall be announced at least six weeks before the Congress.

Extraordinary (emergency) congresses shall be convened by the Central Committee of the Party on its own initiative or on the demand of not less than one-third of the total Party membership represented at the preceding Party Congress. Extraordinary (emergency) congresses shall be convened within two months and are considered competent provided not less than one half of the total Party membership is represented at them.

The rates of representation at a Party Congress are determined by the Central Committee.

32. Should the Central Committee of the Party fail to convene an extraordinary (emergency) congress within the period specified in Article 31, the organizations which demanded its convocation have the right to form an Organizing Committee, which shall enjoy the powers of the Central Committee of the Party, for the convocation of the extraordinary (emergency) congress.

33. The Congress:

(a) hears and approves the reports of the Central

Committee, of the Central Auditing Commission, and of the other central organizations;

(b) reviews, amends and approves the Programme and the Rules of the Party;

(c) determines the line of the Party in matters of home and foreign policy, and examines and decides the most important questions of Party and state life, of communist construction;

(d) elects the Central Committee and the Central Auditing Commission.

34. The number of members to be elected to the Central Committee and to the Central Auditing Commission is determined by the Congress. Vacancies arising in the Central Committee are filled from among the alternate members of the CC CPSU.

35. In the interim between congresses, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union guides the entire activity of the Party and the local Party bodies, selects and appoints leading functionaries, directs the work of central government bodies and public organizations of working people, sets up various Party bodies, institutions and enterprises and guides their activities, appoints the editors of the central newspapers and journals operating under its control, and distributes the funds of the Party budget and controls its execution.

The Central Committee represents the CPSU in its relations with other parties.

36. The Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU verifies the observance of the established procedure for handling affairs, the work involved in examining letters, applications and complaints from the working people in the Party's central bodies, the correctness of the execution of the Party budget, including the payment, collection and accounting of Party dues, and also the financial and economic activities of the enterprises and institutions of the CPSU Central Committee.

37. The CC CPSU shall hold not less than one plenary meeting every six months. Alternate members of the Central Committee shall have a consultative voice at sessions of the CC plenary meetings.

38. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union elects a Politbureau to direct the work of the Party between plenary meetings of the CC, and a

Secretariat to direct current work, chiefly the selection of cadres and the verification of the fulfilment of Party decisions. The Central Committee elects the General Secretary of the CC CPSU.

39) The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union organizes the Party Control Committee of the CC.

The Party Control Committee of the CC CPSU:

(a) verifies the observance of Party discipline by members and candidate members of the CPSU, and takes action against Communists who violate the Programme and the Rules of the Party and Party or state discipline, and against violators of Party ethics;

(b) considers appeals against decisions of Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics or of territorial and regional Party committees on expelling members from the Party or imposing penalties upon them.

40. In the interim between Party congresses the CPSU Central Committee may convene, should the need arise, an All-Union Party Conference to discuss pressing Party policy issues. The procedure of holding an All-Union Party Conference is determined by the CC CPSU.

V.

REPUBLICAN, TERRITORIAL, REGIONAL, AREA, CITY AND DISTRICT PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

41. The republican, territorial, regional, area, city and district Party organizations and their committees are guided in their activities by the Programme and the Rules of the CPSU, carry out all work for the implementation of Party policy and organize the fulfilment of the directives of the CPSU Central Committee within the Republics, territories, regions, areas, cities and districts concerned.

42. The basic duties of republican, territorial, regional, area, city and district Party organizations, and of their leading bodies, are:

(a) political and organizational work among the mas-

ses, mobilization of Communists, of all working people for carrying out the tasks of communist construction, accelerating socio-economic development on the basis of scientific and technological progress, increasing the efficiency of social production, raising labour productivity and improving product quality, fulfilling state plans and socialist commitments, and ensuring the steady rise in the material and cultural standards of the working people;

(b) organization of ideological work, propaganda of Marxism-Leninism, promotion of the communist awareness of the working people, guidance of the local press, radio and television, and control over the activities of scientific, cultural and educational institutions;

(c) guidance of Soviets of People's Deputies, trade unions, the YCL, the cooperative and other public organizations through the Communists working in them, and the increasingly broader involvement of working people in the activities of these organizations, development of the initiative and activity of the masses as an essential condition for the further in-depth development of socialist democracy;

(d) strict observance of the Leninist principles and methods of leadership, the affirmation of the Leninist style in Party work, in all spheres of state and economic management, securing the unity of ideological, organizational and economic activities, the strengthening of socialist law, of state and labour discipline, order and organization in all sectors;

(e) implementation of the personnel policy, education of personnel in the spirit of communist ideology, fostering moral integrity and a high sense of responsibility to the Party and the people for the work entrusted to them;

(f) organization of various Party institutions and enterprises within the bounds of their Republic, territory, region, area, city or district and guidance of their activities; distribution of Party funds within the given organization; regular reports to the higher Party body and accountability to it for their work.

Leading Bodies of Republican, Territorial and Regional Party Organizations

43. The highest body of republican, territorial and regional Party organizations is the congress of the Com-

munist Party of a Union Republic, the territorial or regional Party conference and, in the interim, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of a Union Republic, and the territorial or regional committee.

44. A regular congress of the Communist Party of a Union Republic shall be convened by the Central Committee of the Communist Party not less than once in five years. A regular territorial or regional Party conference shall be convened by the territorial or regional committee once every two-three years. Extraordinary (emergency) congresses and conferences are convened by the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of a Union Republic, the territorial or regional committee, or on the demand of one-third of the total membership of the organizations belonging to the republican, territorial or regional Party organization.

The rates of representation at congresses of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, at territorial and regional conferences are established by the respective Party committees.

A congress of the Communist Party of a Union Republic or a territorial or regional conference hears the report of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic or of the territorial or regional committee, and the report of the auditing commission, discusses at its own discretion other matters of Party, economic and cultural development, and elects the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic or the territorial or regional committee, the auditing commission and delegates to the Congress of the CPSU.

In the interim between congresses of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, the Central Committees of the Communist Parties may convene, whenever necessary, republican Party conferences to discuss topical questions concerning Party organizations' activities. The procedure for holding republican Party conferences is determined by the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics.

45. The Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, the territorial and regional committees elect bureaus, including secretaries of the committees. The secretaries must have a Party standing of not less than five years. The plenary meetings of the committees

approve the heads of departments of these committees, chairmen of Party control commissions and editors of Party newspapers and journals.

The Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, territorial and regional Party committees set up secretariats to attend to current affairs and verify the implementation of decisions.

46. Plenary meetings of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, of territorial and regional committees shall be convened at least once every four months.

47. The Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics, the territorial and regional committees direct the area, city and district Party organizations, inspect their work and regularly hear reports of the respective Party committees.

Party organizations in Autonomous Republics, and in autonomous and other regions forming part of a Union Republic or a territory, function under the guidance of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics or respective territorial committees.

Leading Bodies of Area, City and District (Rural and Urban) Party Organizations

48. The highest body of an area, city or district Party organization is the area, city or district Party conference or the general meeting of Communists convened by the area, city or district committee once in 2-3 years, as well as an extraordinary conference or general meeting convened by the decision of the respective committee or on the demand of one-third of the total membership of the Party organization concerned.

The area, city or district conference (meeting) hears reports of the committee and the auditing commission, discusses at its own discretion other questions of Party, economic and cultural development, and elects the area, city or district committee, the auditing commission and delegates to the regional or territorial conference or the congress of the Communist Party of the Union Republic.

The rates of representation at the area, city and district

conferences are established by the respective Party committee.

49. The area, city or district committee elects a bureau, including the committee secretaries, and approves heads of committee departments, the chairman of the Party commission and newspaper editors. The secretaries of the area, city and district committees must have a Party standing of at least five years. The committee secretaries are approved by the respective regional or territorial committee, or the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic.

50. The area, city or district committee sets up the primary Party organizations, directs their work, regularly hears reports on the work of Party organizations, and keeps a register of Communists.

51. The plenary meeting of the area, city or district committee is convened at least once every three months.

VI.

PRIMARY PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

52. The primary Party organizations are the basis of the Party.

Primary Party organizations are formed at the places of work of Party members—factories, state farms and other enterprises, collective farms, units of the Armed Forces, offices, educational establishments, etc., wherever there are not less than three Party members. If necessary, primary Party organizations may also be formed on the residential principle.

In individual cases, with the approval of the regional or territorial committee, or of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic, Party organizations may be formed within the framework of several enterprises that make up a production association and are located, as a rule, on the territory of one or several districts in the same city.

53. At enterprises, collective farms and institutions with over 50 members and candidate members of the CPSU, shop, sectional, farm, team, departmental, and

other such Party organizations may be formed within one primary Party organization with the approval of the district, city or area committee.

Within shop, sectional, etc., organizations, and also within primary Party organizations with less than 50 members and candidate members, Party groups may be formed in the teams and other production units.

54. The highest body of the primary Party organization is the Party meeting, which is convened at least once a month. In Party organizations with shop organizations, both general and shop meetings are held at least once every two months.

In large Party organizations with a membership of more than 300 Communists, a general Party meeting is convened when necessary as scheduled by the Party committee or on the demand of several shop Party organizations.

55. To attend to current affairs, the primary or shop Party organization elects a bureau for a term of two or three years. The number of its members is fixed by the Party meeting. Primary and shop Party organizations with less than 15 Party members do not elect a bureau. Instead, they elect a secretary and a deputy secretary of the Party organization. Elections in these organizations are held every year.

Secretaries of primary and shop Party organizations must have a Party standing of at least one year.

Primary Party organizations with less than 150 Party members shall have, as a rule, no salaried functionaries relieved from their regular work.

56. At large enterprises and institutions with more than 300 Party members and candidate members, and if necessary at organizations with over 100 Communists, by virtue of specific production conditions and territorial dispersion, and subject to the approval of the regional committee, territorial committee or the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic, Party committees may be formed, with shop Party organizations granted the rights of primary Party organizations.

The Party organizations of collective farms, state farms and other agricultural enterprises may form Party committees if there are no less than 50 Communists in them.

In individual cases, given the approval of the regional

or territorial Party committee, or the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic, Party organizations numbering more than 500 Communists may form Party committees in the larger shops, and the Party organizations in production sectors may be granted the rights of a primary Party organization.

The Party committees are elected for a term of 2-3 years. Their numerical composition is fixed by the general Party meeting or conference.

Party committees, Party bureaus and secretaries of primary and shop Party organizations regularly inform Communists of their work at Party meetings.

57. The Party committees of primary Party organizations with more than 1,000 Communists may be granted, with the approval of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic, the rights of a district Party committee in matters of admission to the CPSU, of keeping a register of members and candidate members of the Party and of considering the personal cases of Communists.

These organizations may elect enlarged Party committees within which bureaus are formed to guide day-to-day work.

58. In its activities the primary Party organization is guided by the Programme and the Rules of the CPSU. It is the political nucleus of a work collective, it conducts its activities in the midst of the working people, rallies them round the Party, organizes them to fulfil the tasks of communist construction, takes an active part in implementing the Party's personnel policy.

The primary Party organization:

- (a) admits new members to the CPSU;
- (b) educates Communists in the spirit of loyalty to the Party cause, ideological staunchness and communist ethics;
- (c) organizes the study by Communists of Marxist-Leninist theory in close connection with the practice of communist construction and combats any manifestations of bourgeois ideology, revisionism and dogmatism, backward views and moods;
- (d) ensures the growing vanguard role of Communists in work and in socio-political life, their exemplary behaviour in everyday life, hears reports of CPSU members and

candidate members on the fulfilment of their statutory duties and Party assignments;

(e) acts as the organizer of the working people in carrying out the tasks of economic and social development, heads the socialist emulation movement for the fulfilment of state plans and commitments, the intensification of production, the raising of labour productivity and product quality, the extensive introduction of the achievements of science and technology and advanced experience into production, mobilizes the working people for tapping internal reserves, works for the rational, economical use of material, labour and financial resources, shows concern for the protection and growth of public wealth, for the improvement of people's working and living conditions;

(f) conducts political education and propaganda work, educates the working people in the spirit of devotion to the ideas of communism, Soviet patriotism and friendship among peoples, helps them achieve a high level of political culture, enhances their social activism and sense of responsibility;

(g) helps Communists, all working people get used to participation in socialist self-government, ensures the growing role of the work collective in managing the affairs of enterprises and organizations, guides the activities of the trade union, YCL and other public organizations;

(h) on the basis of extensive criticism and self-criticism, combats cases of bureaucracy, parochialism, departmentalism, violations of state, labour and production discipline, thwarts attempts to deceive the state, acts against negligence, waste and extravagance, works to affirm a temperate way of life.

59. The primary Party organizations at enterprises in industry, transport, communications, construction, material and technical supply, trade, public catering, communal and public welfare services, at collective and state farms and other agricultural enterprises, design organizations and drafting offices, research institutes, educational establishments, cultural and medical institutions, enjoy the right to control the work of the administration.

The Party organizations at ministries, state committees, and other central and local government and economic bodies and departments exercise control over the fulfilment of Party and government directives and the observance

of Soviet laws by the apparatus. They must actively contribute to the improvement of the work of the apparatus, the selection, placement and education of its staff, enhance their responsibility for the matter in hand, for the development of a particular sector and of public services, take measures to strengthen state discipline, resolutely combat bureaucracy and red tape, inform the appropriate Party bodies in good time of shortcomings in the work of the respective offices and individuals, regardless of the post the latter may hold.

Note. Primary Party organizations may set up commissions to exercise the right of control over the administration's activities, and the work of the apparatus in certain production spheres.

VII.

THE PARTY AND THE STATE AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS

60. The CPSU, acting within the framework of the USSR Constitution, exercises political leadership of state and public organizations, directs and coordinates their activities.

The Party organizations, Communists working in state and public organizations see to it that these organizations fully exercise their constitutional powers and statutory rights and duties, and that they extensively involve working people in management and in deciding political, economic and social questions.

Party organizations do not supplant government, trade union, cooperative and other public organizations, and do not allow the functions of the Party and other bodies to be mixed.

61. Party groups are formed at congresses, conferences and meetings convened by state and public organizations, as well as in the elected bodies of these organizations with at least three Party members. The task of these groups is to carry out Party policy in the respective non-Party organizations, to enhance Communists' influence on the state of affairs in these organizations, to develop the democratic principles in their activities, to strengthen Party and state discipline, to combat bureaucracy, to verify the fulfilment of Party and government directives.

62. The work of Party groups within non-Party organizations is guided by the respective Party body: the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union Republic, territorial, regional, area, city or district Party committee.

VIII.

THE PARTY AND THE YCL

63. The All-Union Leninist Young Communist League is an independent public and political organization of young people, an active assistant and reserve of the Party. The YCL helps the Party educate the youth in the communist spirit, draw it into the practice of building the new society and running state and public affairs, and raise a generation of harmoniously developed people prepared to work and to defend their Soviet Motherland.

64. The YCL organizations must actively promote Party directives in all spheres of production and social life. They enjoy the right of broad initiative in discussing and raising in the appropriate Party organizations questions related to the work of enterprises, collective farms, institutions or educational establishments, and directly take part in solving them, especially if they pertain to the work, everyday life, training and education of young people.

65. The YCL works under the guidance of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The work of the local YCL organizations is guided and monitored by the appropriate republican, territorial, regional, area, city and district Party organizations.

In carrying out the communist education of young people, in mobilizing them for the fulfilment of concrete production and social tasks, local Party bodies and primary Party organizations rely on the YCL organizations, support their useful initiatives, give them every assistance in their activities.

66. Members of the YCL who have been admitted to the CPSU cease to belong to the YCL the moment they join the Party, provided they are not members of elected YCL bodies and do not work as YCL functionaries.

IX.

PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE ARMED FORCES

67. Party organizations in the Armed Forces are guided in their work by the Programme and the Rules of the CPSU and operate on the basis of instructions issued by the Central Committee. They ensure the implementation of the Party's policy in the Armed Forces, rally servicemen round the Communist Party, educate them in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and boundless loyalty to the socialist Motherland, actively further the unity of the army and the people, concern themselves with enhancing troops' combat preparedness and with strengthening army discipline, mobilize servicemen for carrying out the tasks of combat and political training, for becoming skilled in the use of new hardware and weapons and for irreproachably fulfilling their military duty and the orders and instructions of the command.

68. Party work in the Armed Forces is guided by the CPSU Central Committee through political bodies. The Chief Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy functions as a department of the CC CPSU.

The chiefs of the political administrations of military districts and fleets, and the chiefs of the political departments of armies, flotillas and formations must have a Party standing of five years.

69. The Party organizations and political bodies of the Armed Forces maintain close contacts with local Party committees, and regularly brief them on the political work carried out in the military units. The secretaries of army Party organizations and chiefs of political bodies participate in the work of local Party committees.

X.

PARTY FUNDS

70. The funds of the Party and its organizations are derived from membership dues, incomes from Party enterprises and other revenue.

The CPSU Central Committee decides how Party funds are to be used.

71. The monthly membership dues for Party members and candidate members are as follows:

| Monthly earnings | Dues | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| up to 70 roubles | 10 kopeks | |
| 71 to 100 roubles | 20 kopeks | |
| 101 to 150 roubles | 1.0 per cent | } of the monthly earnings |
| 151 to 200 roubles | 1.5 per cent | |
| 201 to 250 roubles | 2.0 per cent | |
| 251 to 300 roubles | 2.5 per cent | |
| over 300 roubles | 3.0 per cent | |

72. Candidate members pay admission dues of two per cent of their monthly earnings.

RESOLUTION
OF THE 27th CONGRESS OF THE CPSU
ON THE AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET
UNION

**To approve the Rules of the Communist Party
of the Soviet Union with the proposed
amendments.**

MEMORANDUM

TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

DATE

The Secretary of State has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

УСТАВ
КОММУНИСТИЧЕСКОЙ ПАРТИИ
СОВЕТСКОГО СОЮЗА

на английском языке

Цена 10 к.

