



Deutsche Gesellschaft der  
Plastischen, Rekonstruktiven und  
Ästhetischen Chirurgen



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
PLASTIC SURGEONS®

## Memorandum of Understanding

### Parties

1. American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)
2. German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC)

### Statement of Principles

The relationship between the two Societies is founded on the following fundamental principles:

- The Parties will operate to maintain the highest principles of surgical practice and professional ethics;
- In the areas of cooperation both parties will act with appropriate transparency and accountability;
- Both parties will respect each other's autonomy

In the acknowledgment of a spirit of cooperation and mutual benefit, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) agrees to:

### Membership

1. Provide a pathway for active members of the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) to obtain international Membership in ASPS. Such membership status to be henceforth referred to as International Membership in ASPS.
2. ASPS will facilitate membership of the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) members by streamlining application process:
  - Sponsor may be the organization, The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) or an International Member.
  - International Membership in ASPS facilitated by the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) is dependent upon German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) member being a full member in good standing German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) secretariat will provide verification letter to ASPS and will be void upon the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) member ceasing their membership in German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
  - German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) understands that the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) does not guarantee membership in ASPS; all International Members are vetted by voting members of ASPS.
  - In the event of the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) member with ASPS membership undergoes disciplinary action by the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC), the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) agrees to notify ASPS.



- German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) members won't have to pay the application fee of \$125 USD.
3. ASPS will provide access and benefits of its Resident Affiliate Group to Trainees \* in accredited training programs recognized by the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) who join the International Trainees Forum for a period not to exceed five (5) years at the prevalent annual fee. Benefits to include: Electronic version of *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Journal*, *Plastic Surgery News*, access to the Resident Education Center (an online training curriculum covering the core curriculum of plastic surgery) of the 'Plastic Surgery Education Network' and complimentary or highly discounted general admission to the ASPS Annual Scientific Meeting.

### **Publications**

1. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) agrees to name ***Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery***® journal as its official international Journal. In doing so, the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will have the opportunity to nominate up to two plastic surgeons from the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) serve as a Global Partner Society Editor on the *PRS-GO* Editorial Board.

### **Patient Education and Clinical Education Products**

1. Under a licensing agreement, ASPS will provide selected ASPS products to German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) for use by its International Members with the opportunity for joint branding as appropriate through the "Shop ASPS" program. Financial considerations and terms to be formally determined by agreement between the ASPS and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
2. Allow the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) to download for use on the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) website, selected website material and resources developed by ASPS, terms to be formally determined by agreement between of ASPS and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
3. Allow the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) to utilize the web-based trainee In-Service examination pending verification of compatibility of technical systems, available logistical support to implement, and payment of National Board of Medical Examiner fees for site development, and administrative fee to ASPS. Financial terms to be formally determined by agreement between the ASPS and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).

### **Education/Meetings**

Under the established ASPS endorsement policy, ASPS agrees to endorse selected official educational programs of the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC), and provide promotion in *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*, *Plastic Surgery News* and on the ASPS Website.

ASPS will explore and begin developing with the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) a reciprocal "International Scholar" program, facilitating communication with U.S. based training programs available to participate.



**In acknowledgement of a spirit of cooperation and mutual benefit, the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) agrees to:**

1. Provide a pathway for active members of the ASPS to obtain corresponding membership in the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC). The Implementation depends on whether the statutory requirements can be created.
2. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will advise ASPS of members with ASPS membership who have been disciplined for ethical violations through the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
3. Advise ASPS of changes and completion dates of training of eligible Trainee members – provided they are also international trainee members with ASPS, they have signed a valid data privacy statement permitting exchange of data and there are no national legal barriers precluding such an exchange.
4. Based upon interest request from the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) a licensing agreement, to provide selected ASPS products the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) use by its international members with the opportunity for joint branding as appropriate. Financial considerations and terms to be formally determined by agreement between the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) and German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
5. Request and obtain permission from ASPS to allow the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) to download for use on the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) website, selected website material and resources developed by ASPS, terms to be formally determined by mutual agreement between the ASPS and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
6. Request and develop an agreement allowing the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) to utilize the web-based trainee In-Service examination pending verification of compatibility of technical systems, available logistical support to implement, and payment of National Board of Medical Examiner fees for site development and administrative fees to ASPS. Financial terms to be formally determined by mutual agreement between the ASPS and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC).
7. In compliance with established German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) endorsement policies, the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) agrees to endorse selected official educational programs of the ASPS, and provide promotion in its Journals, Newsletter, and Website.
8. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will work with ASPS to explore and begin developing a reciprocal "International Scholar" program, facilitating communication with training programs available to participate.
9. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will identify two nominees to serve as Global Partners Associate Editors on the *PRS-GO* Editorial Board. The nominees must be plastic surgeons in good standing from the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC), who have a strong command of the English language and a desire to be part of the scientific peer-review process.

**It is Further Agreed:**

1. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) International members will adhere to the ASPS Code of Ethics.



2. ASPS Corresponding members will adhere to the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) Code of Ethics.
3. The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will undertake an internal marketing and communications campaign to inform its membership of the streamlined membership process to ASPS and the attached benefits.

#### **Related Reciprocal Benefits and Consideration**

#### **Collaborative Information Exchange**

The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) and ASPS agree to collaborate with each other, as appropriate, to further their alliance. They agree to allow dialogue between senior staff where it may benefit each organization. Areas that may be covered under this information exchange may include:

- Education of the public through media
- Registries and research
- Best practices of Society management between ASPS staff and the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) staff
- The German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC) will participate in the Global Leadership Forum, a consortium of ASPS global partners whom meet annually to address issues impacting the practice of plastic and reconstructive surgery.

#### **Consultation**

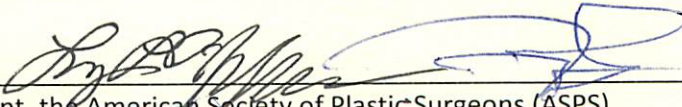
- The parties will commit to consult generally in relation to all matters covered by this Agreement.
- The parties will develop a process by which the parties may meet regularly to discuss matters of common interest.

#### **Statement of Effect**

The intention of this Agreement is to foster genuine and mutually beneficial collaboration, and will not prejudice or affect the rights of the parties to form agreements with others.

This Agreement is for an initial term of one (1) year from the date of signing, at which time the parties will evaluate. The Agreement will automatically renew for subsequent years unless one of the parties decides to terminate. The Agreement can be terminated with ninety-day advance written notice to the other Party.

**MOU AGREEMENT EXECUTED ON THIS SEPTEMBER 20, 2019**

  
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President, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)

  
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President, German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRAC)