



## **ASECS POLICY ON PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

Occasions arise when a scholarly society is compelled to make a public statement concerning current events, the ramifications of which fall within its purview and mission. For the purposes of this policy, ASECS statements can include public position and joint position statements as well as other formats that engage a public audience.

ASECS may not issue or endorse statements that cause it to be in violation of laws and regulations that govern its 501c3 nonprofit status. When an independent statement of policy or position is appropriate, the ASECS Steering Committee will convene, ensure that there is unanimous agreement, and develop and propose draft language to the Executive Board, who will be invited to participate in developing or amending the statement. Statements must receive approval by two-thirds of the Executive Board in order to become official policy. The Steering Committee will also use this process to consider adding the Society's name to statements drafted by allied organizations when the issue at hand carries implications or consequences for the field of eighteenth-century studies. All statements of policy will be communicated directly to the ASECS membership, posted on our website, and sent to other organizations or media as deemed appropriate by the Steering Committee.

Statements are the sole responsibility of the Executive Board. No other individual or group may write or approve statements on behalf of the society. The Steering Committee and Executive Board will consider expressions of concerns from members as they arise and may seek advice from individual members or other experts, including legal counsel, as part of this process.

*Adopted by unanimous vote of the Executive Board Sept. 8, 2023*