**Accord Project**
**Dispute Resolution Working Group Charter**

1. **Background**

   a. **Description and Goals**
      i. The purpose of the Accord Dispute Resolution Working Group is to produce guidelines, specifications, research, and open source software required to support and prevent dispute resolution for smart legal contracts. Key to this end is distinguishing between types of disputes, self-enforcing dispute resolution mechanisms, forums for dispute resolution, designing dispute resolution platforms, and integrating with and adapting existing alternative dispute resolution and online dispute resolution platforms.

   b. **Potential areas of focus and issues to address:**
      i. Categories of smart legal contract disputes
      ii. Divergences between natural language text and code; code as law
      iii. Potential approaches to smart legal contract DR, ranging from traditional legal mechanisms to self-enforcing contracts
      iv. Efficiency of the DR proceedings
      v. Relationship to online dispute resolution mechanisms
      vi. Need to define rules of the procedure or putting rules in place to ensure procedural guarantees for both parties (due process)
      vii. Need to designate a host for implementing a dispute resolution platform that uses blockchain technology (e.g., ad hoc or institutional platform)
      viii. Need to ensure the quality of the dispute resolution - qualifications of decision makers
      ix. Need to design a regulatory framework for smart legal contracts (e.g., domestic level)
      x. Privacy considerations
      xi. Need to define the scope of the disputes that will be resolved within this framework
      xii. B2B and SMEs applications
      xiii. Need to address ethical issues in online dispute resolution system (e.g., algorithms driving parties behaviour and the ethics behind that)

2. **Governance**

   a. **Organization**
      i. Co-Chairs
         ● Nevena Jevremovic
            ○ Manager, Corporate Learning, IACCM

- Alex Ivančo
  - Head of the International Law Unit at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

b. **Decision making**
   i. The Co-Chairs shall be responsible for carrying out the activities of the Working Group.
   ii. The Co-Chairs and each member have equal voting rights unless otherwise agreed or indicated by Accord Project rules.
   iii. The Co-Chairs may establish groups or committees of members subject to approval by the Accord Project Steering Committee, including a management committee made of the only members entitled to vote.
   iv. Proposals for deliverables, the establishment of sub-groups and committees, and other activities, are to be made by the Co-Chairs and voted on by members, and documented and stored appropriately.
   v. A quorum of 50% or greater (including the Co-Chairs) of members entitled to vote is required for any vote.
   vi. Any tie breaking vote, where needed, may be made by the Co-Chairs.
   vii. Any modifications to this Charter relating to governance may be made by the Co-Chairs subject to approval of the Accord Project Steering Committee.

c. **Regular Working Group Meetings**
   i. Meetings will take place at least every two months. The date for the next meeting will be set at the previous meeting.
   ii. Various methods of meeting (e.g. video conferencing, in-person) may be used by a given Working Group. Multiple methods of meeting may be used, as determined by the WG. For example, a Working Group may have an in-person meeting every two months supplemented by conference calls.
   iii. Eligibility to participate: only Working Group members (including a proxy if an organizational member), or others as pre-approved by the Co-Chairs.
   iv. Agenda and logistical information (e.g. dial-in information) to be distributed by email at least one week in advance by the Co-Chairs and based on prior consultation with Working Group members.

d. **Infrastructure and Communications**
   i. WG Website
   ii. Slack
   iii. Conference Calls

e. **Events**

        i.     Conferences, meetups, and outward facing events intended to include participation by non-members of the Accord Project to be determined by Accord Steering Committee and Working Group Co-Chairs in consultation with Working Group members.

## 3. Deliverables

### a. Documents
        i.     Primers
       ii.     Problems
      iii.     Workflow diagrams
      iv.     Surveys and studies
       v.     Reports and analysis

### b. Code and Technology
        i.     Technical Specifications
       ii.     Software at https://github.com/accordproject