

Location Barcelona, Catalonia/Spain
Date 4th and 6th of November 2011

Present members: Alexander Plahr (AP), Mette Lykke Nielsen(MLN), Vedrana Gujic(VG), Jeroen Diepemaat(JD) and Claudia Benchescu (CB), Matilda Flemming (MF) and Mireia Huerta i Sala(MHS)

Others Present: Slaven Klobucar (SK) and Julian Kirchherr

1. Opening and regularia

AP presented the agenda which was adopted unanimously. The meeting is called in due time and quorum has been reached.

2. Follow up of the decisions from the last Bureau meeting

MLN said that all decisions made on the previous Bureau have been fulfilled except the design and print of the Christmas cards for MEPs. This will be done in the coming weeks.

3. Current Political situation

This point was not discussed as nothing major has happened since the last Bureau meeting that would require instant action.

4. Preparation of the Congress

The Bureau discussed the program and organisational aspects of the Congress. SK said that organisationally all has been arranged and that the Congress is ready to start. Guests that will attend the opening of the Congress are Josep Rull, Deputy leader CiU Parliament group, Gerard Figueras President of JNC and Ramon Tremosa, MEP.

AP proposed the following chairs; Laurens Hainen, Simon Dyhr and Pietro Paganini. Jelena Jesajana and Timo Roefeld will be proposed as the secretaries of the Congress and volunteers for the scruteneers will be asked from the present delegates.

MLN has organised the Buddy programme for the Congress and the introduction lecture for the newbies that will take place just before the Congress starts. The Bureau members will each individually present their own Bureau reports.

The Bureau discussed the applications for the membership in LYMEC. The Bureau gives positive opinion on the application of LDP, Serbia and AYL, Lithuania, neutral opinion on EYU, Ukraine and negative opinion on Liberal Club, Belarus as they have not fulfilled the criteria.

VG said that a letter from Macedonian LiDem has been received in which they ask not to be disaffiliated from LYMEC.

5. Evaluation of the Congress

After the Congress, The Bureau continued the meeting with a discussion on the evaluation of the Congress. AP said that it was a good congress with good debates, better than in Utrecht. He proposed that in future we change the order of the agenda pushing the resolutions later in the agenda to avoid rushed discussion on membership issues and finances. Therefore, finances and membership issues should be put to an earlier agenda point. AP received many compliments from the delegates about the

Congress. Jelena was very professional with the minutes and he is confident that we will have a good minutes.

SK also expressed his satisfaction how the Congress went and would only ask in future for the help of the Bureau during the very first agenda points before the chairs and scruteneers have been appointed.

VG said that it was a good Congress, but that she is unsure in what positions can the Bureau members speak on the Congress, as individuals or as official Bureau of LYMEC. The Bureau discussed this issue. VG also said that the seminar did turn out to be good but that there were too many problems during its preparation, and that this is already third time that she had to step in to help organising the seminar programme.

MLN agreed with VG and expressed her content with how the Congress went. She also said that it is not good that all the chairs were male, the Bureau agreed, but due to the late cancellations of the chairs this was the only option. MLN proposed that in future we have 4 chairs, 2 from the welcoming organisation and 2 who the Bureau would choose. She proposed considering putting the requirement to put forward local chairs into the contracts with hosting MOs. MLN also asked that in future Buddy programme and preparation session should be put into programme of the Congress.

MF said that she would like to participate in future on the debates about resolutions. We should also ask the delegates not to lecture other delegates on what the true liberalism is.

CB proposed that in future we have tables for all the delegates so they could work better. She also proposed that Chairs intervene more into discussions and cut those delegates that take too long to speak.

MHS apologised for her lack of involvement in this Congress as due to her private obligations she was severely lacking time.

6. Where do we stand? What projects are doing well?

This point was also discussed under point 2.

7. Finances

MF said that we will end with deficit on the Congress; wine should not be included in the future in any of our meals. She proposed that we buy a good camera for the needs of the Office. MF said that LYMEC is liquid and that the financial situation looks well and stable. Regarding the ELDR delegates refund, she proposed that in future we do refund all our delegates up to 150 Euros and ensure the accommodation for them. This was adopted by the Bureau. MLN proposed that in future LYMEC holds its Bureau meetings on the ELDR Congress in order to save money as 2 of the Bureau members will be refunded by ELDR.

8. ELDR – Preparation for Palermo

VG said that the LYMEC delegation has submitted 3 resolutions and amendments on several resolutions. Currently there is no competition for the Bureau members of ELDR. LYMEC will hold –in addition to the official question and answer session that ELDR will organize for the first time- its traditional candidate talks in Palermo. AP said that he was approached by Marc Guerrero about the urgency resolution on Ukraine adopted at this LYMEC Congress – CDC considers co-signing it should it be submitted to ELDR. VG and AP will check if we hand them in and if so coordinate with Marc.

9. New Libertas

Julian Kirchherr, the newly elected Editor in Chief presented his vision of the New Libertas. He talked to JD about the New Libertas and he proposes that LYMEC issues three issues next year. One in February, other in May and the last one in November. The First issue will deal with youth unemployment. Julian already made an interview with Graham Watson on this topic. He proposed

creation of a web site for New Libertas. Julian proposed that the New Libertas changes its name back to Libertas. The Bureau adopted this. MLN proposed a comedian corner where comedians would give their comic insights into some of the issues we deal with. VG proposed to add the elections calendar into each issue.

SK will send out a call for editors. The printed issues should be delivered to our member organisations, MEPs, ELDR, LI, IFLRY, Commissioners, FNF, Youth Forum and ELF. MLN proposed to do a focus group on one of our events to find out from the members what are the good, and what are the bad sides of the Libertas. AP proposed to scrap the planned issue of New Libertas for this year and the articles should be published in our Blog section. SK responsible.

10. ELSN

CB examined the ELSN charter and according to it the ELSN elects its board each year. A call for election will be sent by the office, prepared by CB. Deadline for the applications will be 1st of December.

11. IMS

MHS said that there have not been any new developments. MLN proposed that MHS contacts the IMS delegates and ask them to produce a report from the Congress for all the individual members.

12. IFLRY

AP said that there is a good atmosphere between candidates for the IFLRY Bureau. MF said that financial agreement has not yet been reached and we have not received a clarification of our membership fee from IFLRY and therefore it has not yet been paid. CB will be LYMEC's delegate in Istanbul, SK will nominate her.

13. Events

SK gave an overview of the events for 2012.

Joint Bureau meeting of all political youths, 3rd – 5th February, Brussels

Training on campaigning and communication skills, Mid March 2012, Estonia
MF talked to ERPY and they are willing to organise it. They will send a letter of intent shortly.

Congress, Copenhagen, 9th – 13th May

SK said that a grant from ELF has been secured, and additional money has been planned for this event. MLN said that Microsoft will co finance the event, Pietro Paganini will also help out with fundraising. Response on a call for sponsorship from Danish Industry Association has not yet been received.

ALDE Summer Academy, date to be confirmed, Brussels

SK will contact Therese Murdock from ALDE to find out the exact dates of the Academy.

Freedom of Media Conference, June, Belgrade, Serbia

We are still waiting for the response from NED but additional financing from ELDR has been ensured.

Young Leaders Meeting, September, Location to be confirmed

Congress, November, Sofia, Bulgaria

14. Campaigns

AP said that we should start with the working group on campaigns. CB is in charge of drafting a call.

15. Promotional Materials

USB sticks will be made.

16. Press

JD is not present during this agenda point, so the point has been postponed. MHS will make a press release to be sent out following day.

17. Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place in February in Brussels, Belgium

18. Any other Business

MF said that she and CB will attend the Youth Forum COMMEM in Portugal. Thomas Leys is running for the advisory council.

SK said that an annex of his contract needs to be signed in order to increase his gross salary by 0.7% as required by the Belgian administration.