

Bureau meeting

9th September 2012, London, United Kingdom

Present: Jeroen Diepemaat, President (JD)
Vedrana Gujic, Vice President (VG)
Anne van der Graaf, Treasurer (AvdG)
Ed Sanderson, Bureau member (ES)
Sissel Kvist, Bureau member (SKv)
Igor Caldeira, Bureau member (IC)
Claudia Benchescu, Bureau member (CB)
Slaven Klobucar, Secretary General (SKlo)

1. Opening

JD opened the meeting and welcomed the Bureau members.

2. Regularia and adoption of agenda

JD announced that the quorum is reached and proposed to add two more agenda points, IFLRY and ELF. The amended agenda is accepted.

3. Adoption of the minutes

The minutes are unanimously adopted.

4. Current political situation

It was discussed on the Young Leaders Meeting. ES will draft a press release which will reflect the discussions from YLM.

5. Follow up of the decisions from last meeting

VG has gone through the list of tasks. Weekly video blog has not been initiated yet, VG and JD need to draft the instructions for the Congress chairs. AvdG needs to follow up on the Autumn Congress 2013. ES needs to create the databases of press officers and initiate the visual identity change.

6. Evaluation of Young Leaders Meeting

JD is content with the result of the YLM. SKv was not happy with the last part of the YLM, the panel was not executed effectively. VG emphasized that we need to have a better planned program. AvdG said that we have over spent on this event.

7. ALDE Winter academy

SKlo reports on the discussion with ALDE and they proposed Arab spring as a topic for the Winter Academy. JD suggests adding the "European foreign policy towards the region" as a subtheme and adds the European Asylum system to the program in light of migrations from the region.

8. Preparation of Congress in Sofia

a. Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage

SKlo said that there are only two applications so far. AvdG asked what to do with the refunds for CDA. It was agreed that they will be refunded based on the need. SKlo will send the names of the members of the current CDA to JD.

b. Disaffiliations

JDL, Luxembourg - ES said that there is no contact with them, the debt remains to be high and they do not attend our events. The Bureau proposes disaffiliation.

LiDem, Macedonia – AvdG said that there has been no concrete agreement with them yet, the debt remains, they do not attend our events. The Bureau proposes disaffiliation

Zares, Slovenia – Sklo said that the contact has been re-established and that we are hopeful that this situation will be resolved. The organization is not put forward for the disaffiliation.

c. Membership application

Two applications have been received, Ogra Fianna Fail, Ireland for Observer membership and EYU, Ukraine for the full membership.

EYU, Ukraine – JD explained the situation with the organization, their statutes are more democratic, they have followed all our suggestions. The bureau supports their application.

Ogra Fianna Fail, Ireland – JD explains the situation behind their application for observer member. The bureau supports their application.

d. Program

Sklo updated on the program and the developments with the local organizers. JD suggests we go through the program on 5th of October with the chairs. SKlo will send the updated program of the seminar and congress.

Chairs of the congress are Ikmal Jomova and Laurens Heinen. The third chair is yet to be named.

SKlo said that the online voting is not yet functioning but it is expected to start functioning next week. Each organization will vote via their accounts on our web site.

Facebook event for the Congress will be created by ES.

9. Update: Events 2013

SKlo updated on the applications for the projects in 2013. The projects are still pending but it is expected that they will be accepted. IC proposed that we have possible adhoc meetings and funding available based on the unplanned request for meetings from our members and IMS.

10. ELDR Bureau meeting in Brighton

JD will attend the ELDR Bureau meeting in Brighton. The agenda was not sent out yet.

11. IFLRY membership fee

AvdG said that we have re-negotiated the membership fee which will be 2500 Euros and we will cover the expenses of our representative in the IFLRY Bureau.

12. ELF – European Liberal Forum elections

IC updated on the elections in ELF. There are six candidates for five positions. Felicita Medvedev is the only candidate for the position of President. There is only one candidate for

the Vice President and the Treasurer. There are three candidates for two positions as the Bureau members.

13. ELDR Congress in Dublin

a. Delegation

The online applications are not working even though the deadline has passed.

b. Resolutions

We have sent in two resolutions by LYMEC and we are supporting one resolution. LYMEC supported a resolution drafted by Rohl Martens and Miguel Duarte on "Working for the creation of fully pan-european ELDR party" .

AvdG suggests we explain clearly how the delegation should function and how to vote as the delegation. VG said that the voting list should be prepared by IC. JD will arrive to Dublin on Friday morning. SKI will check with the ELDR who the candidates for ELDR Bureau are.

c. Fringe Meeting

Technically all is arranged but the program is not yet completed. AvdG and SKlo are in charge.

14. Finances

a. Participation fees

AvdG explained the different fees we have, however the policy of charging them is incoherent and we should have a decision on how to proceed.

After the discussion the decision by the Bureau is the following; if the participation fee is not paid the fee should be charged to the member organisations if applicable. Name change fee is scrapped and the late cancellation fee is scrapped as well. The only fee LYMEC will charge is the participation fee which even in case of late cancellation will be charged to the member organization/IMS.

b. Financial fund

AvdG propose to create the stabilization mechanism in case we lose our grants. Proposal is to create and Alumni organization/fund. SKlo will ask Vandernotte for the consultant services to inspect the possibilities of such a fund.

c. Expenditure policy

AvdG presented the expenditure policy draft which is a follow up of the Brussels bureau meeting. VG noticed that the communication expenses are not included in the draft. AvdG will add the parking expenses policy as well.

d. Write-offs

The following debts have been written off

LPP Philippines	No show fee	80,00 Euros
Orkhan Nabiyeu	No show fee	80,00 Euros
Oktavian Dot	Participation fee	135,00 Euros
Fortescu Vasile	Part of participation fee	55,00 Euros
CSL, Romania	Name change fee	50,00 Euros
Egle Merkeviute	Participation fee	150,00 Euros

Zares, Aktivni Three participation fees 405,00 Euros

Total of the written off debt: 955,00 Euros
CB will contact TNL and CSL to pay the pending debt.

e. Budget realization 2012

AvdG reported that we are liquid and stabile. We have a lot of money on the budget lines for Campaigning and representation to the member organisations.

f. Budget 2013

AvdG presented draft Budget 2013. The new addition is the new budget lines for the projects. IC plans to use the project money for advertising of prepared projects. All the Bureau members need to draft a one page project proposal by 22nd September with the budget.

15. Candidacy of Guoda Lomanaite for the European Youth Forum

JD presented the request of Guoda Lomanaite to support her application for the Vice President of the Youth Forum. So far she is the only political candidate for the position of Vice President. A Skype call will be organized with Guoda to discuss her application. SKlo will nominate CB for COMMEM.

16. White Paper

IC said that so far there has been no contribution. Later in the year we should approach the international officers. SKv suggested we approach the members earlier. AvdG proposed to organize a side event on the Congress in Sofia. IC will draft an action plan with a budget for the White Paper project.

17. Black hole project

IC drafted the proposal but the final proposal will be done within next two weeks. The proposal will cover the whole Europe and not only EU member states.

18. Press and digital media

ES will make a list of publications to which we will send our press releases. He proposes that we have a press release every week if possible. SKv said that it does not need to be a press release but it can also be a tweet or a Facebook message. ES will write a press release reflecting on this weekend.

VG proposes that we make reviews and analysis of the policies and publish interviews. IC proposed that we have at least three tweets per week. He also proposed that occasionally we present the happenings of our MOs. VG said that each Friday each Bureau member proposes which MO would be an MO of the week, for the following week..

Rebranding of the visual identity will be done in coming months. We would launch a call soon and ask our members to re-design the logo. We would keep the bird as our main motive of the logo. The gift would be a free visit to our event. ES in charge of drafting a call.

Feedbacks about the web site have been received; ES will make the proposal for some minor changes.

ES would like to create e-Libertas as a blog section on our web site. He is in charge of finalizing the proposal.

VG proposes to create the photo blog.

19. ELSN

SKv reported on the developments. There was a discussion in Copenhagen and a request from ELSN to organize an event in Brussels. So far there have not been any developments. JD said that it would be good if they would meet on each Congress.

20. Campaigns

The campaign for Press Freedom media is not yet finalized. SKv thinks that the former proposal of the campaign was too wide and should be narrowed down. SKv suggests that we create a Facebook campaign. SKI will contact LDP again to ask for the video shot in Belgrade. She also proposed to have smaller campaigns that would current and planned in a shorter period of time.

VG proposes design of the Christmas Card. SKI and SKv in charge.

21. Libertas

ES proposed that we get our members involved more. VG and ES asked for more control over the Libertas in sense that we should see the magazine before it is printed. However all in all, the Bureau is quite happy with the outcome and Julian Kirrchher's work. The Libertas should not have a theme.

22. Representation

JD will attend a JNC Congress; RU will send an invitation to JD as well. TNL will organize a seminar in Brussels and LYMEC Bureau is invited to attend. VG will host ISEEL meeting in September, she will also go to Macedonia. IC will represent LYMEC in European Resource Bank.

23. Any other business

CB and VG offer to host the Autumn Congress 2012.

24. Closing

JD has closed the meeting and stated that the next bureau meeting will be in Sofia.

FOLLOW UP

Write the instructions for the Congress chairs	JD / VG
Create the databases of press officers	ES
Draft a call for the new visual identity	ES
Send the updated program of the seminar and congress	SKIo
Create a Facebook event for the Congress	ES
Fringe meeting on the ELDR Congress	AvdG / SKIo
Ask Vandernotte for the consultant services	SKIo
Update the expenditure policy	AvdG
Draft a one page project proposal by 22nd September with the budget.	all
Nominate CB as delegate for the YFJ COMEM	CB / SKIo
Organise a Skype meeting with Guoda Loumanaitė	JD / IC / VG / CB
Design of the Christmas Card for the MEPs	SKIo / SKv
Contact LDP again to ask for the video shot in Belgrade	SKIo
Contact TNL and CSL to pay the pending debt	CB