

# MINUTES

## Bureau meeting

### Riga, Latvia

### 12 November 2023

Meeting between 10 h am EET and 12 h 30 pm EET

**Present: Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Ines Holzegger (IH), Marten Porte (MP), Ellinor Juth (EJ), Alexandre Servais (AS), Tanzer Yuseinov (TY) and Bàlint Gyévai (BG).**

**Also invited: Chiara Liguori (CL)**

**Connected online: Laia Comerma (LC)**

## 1) Finances

- Transaction and bank fees TRFs LYMEC:

BG explains that the bank fees have been too high to make international bank transfers to some delegates while issuing a refund. The Bureau discusses that we should highlight the issue in calls for participants for next events and also on the actual TRFs or Freedom Fund. In order to avoid any additional cost for the members, we wish to create an alternative way to pay. We will propose the use of Paypal or Revolut. This way we make a clear understanding that there is a free option, and they pay a fee if another option is suggested. **The Bureau agrees on not paying these fees anymore and proceeding with the above mentioned.**

- End of Year financial closing - 1 Dec 2023 deadline to submit documents:

The Bureau members will provide all documentation as soon as possible to enable smooth closing.

- 2024 Membership survey (draft, timeline):

The Bureau approves the proposed call and timeline by BG, the survey will be out in December until mid-January. Earlier and shorter timeline will be used because of the early Spring Congress this time.

- Internal Audit - 4 to 7 January 2024:

MP and BG will book travels and accommodation for MP, Elsie and Daniel in the coming weeks.

- Next delegation system WG on finances:

Document to be set up to prepare the session - questions and points to discuss to be drafted by IH, MP, TY and BG.

- Fundraising - current situation and next steps:

We have set the target of 10 000 EUR for the next financial year. We have some contacts through ALDE, however after the budget is approved, we can move on towards implementing the fundraising strategy we drafted in Tallinn. The lead on this will be on the Bureau.



- Regarding the MO and IMS fees for 2024:

Our Bureau has been gradually changing MO fees (which were not changed for years). We have, however, taken a slow approach as such organisational changes may have a significant impact on some of our MOs. The cap on MO fees (1200 EUR/year) is an old restriction meant to rule out big member fees. Currently, only YMRF surpasses the 1200 EUR fee so could be discussed within the next Bureau mandate to lift that. **This Congress has approved to raise the IMS fees for 2024.**

- MP note on budget and numbers:

MP will have to revise the proposal and wants to stress that we enter a year of uncertainty, so we need to be more careful and plan in a cautious way. **The Bureau welcomes him back as the interim treasurer until the Electoral Congress in March 2024.**

## 2) Congress

- Outcomes and follow-up:

- ✓ Membership issues (disaffiliation and debt erasure to implement - MP/BG),
- ✓ New members induction- MO fees to be invoiced (MP/BG),
- ✓ Congress minutes (CL),
- ✓ Updated policy book with 12 resolutions and renewal process (LC/MC),
- ✓ Delegation to ALDE Party Congress induction (LC organised a meeting date already - first communication planned for next week and whatsapp group will be set up),
- ✓ Membership fee 2024 publication and update for IMS (BG/CL).

**The Bureau wishes to highlight how respectful the conversation and the adoption of the resolution on Israel and Gaza was. It was much appreciated, good work overall.**

- Confirmation dates and location 2024 Spring Congress:

- ✓ Brussels between 22 to 23 March 2024.
- ✓ Applicants were informed that we would go to Brussels and in March instead of initial call and April dates. They were understanding. We are still waiting for the final Renew approval to communicate about the final date and location arrangement.
- ✓ We will communicate about this next week announcing the dates and also inform the local member organisations.

## 3) Human resources

- Extension Maurizio Cuttin contract - Spring 2024:

The Bureau discusses the point. He is the perfect fit for this position, and we would need him further during the Spring. Both electoral ALDE and LYMEC Congresses and EP Elections campaign are coming up, he would be great in the team then. We will propose to him to extend and stay for a few more months (as per legal framework).

- End of year bonus BG and CL 2023:

**The Bureau proposes the bonus for both.**

## 4) 2024 calendar updates

The Bureau discussed the first dates of 2024. It is also based on the updated Congress dates. Due to that change, YCA had to be moved to April and May. Dates are confirmed until March for now.

## 5) EC grant reporting and application

- 2024 grant application submitted:



The results will be received by the end of February 2024. We thank the members involved in the drafting, a big effort from the whole office.

- 2023 continuous reporting:

It is open until 31 Dec 2023. It is at an 80% completion rate so far. Communication part will be fixed next week and also the main summaries at the beginning of December. 3 more deliverables need to be submitted this year.

- 2023 final reporting:

It will be open between 1 Jan and 28 Feb 2024 for completion. Team will be working together on this, and MP/BG are in charge overall. The Bureau members will be tagged on the google doc to flag where their contribution is needed most in order to be more efficient.

## 6) ELF projects and 2024 cooperation

- Closing year 2023: last events, financial aspects, components and evaluation:

- ✓ All components were submitted. We are about to close the YLM: only the printed booklets and the Libertas articles are left.
- ✓ Evaluation forms to complete for each single project as a long report. Contributions will be requested from each Bureau members for their respective projects. The deadline is 1st December for inputs. CL will coordinate this process.
- ✓ 2500 EUR are left for this year from the ELF budget (LCN went under budget). There is a possibility to produce goodies with the ELF/LYMEC logo. The Bureau proposes useful goodies we can use as merch. Thermoses, note pads and socks will be targeted.
- ✓ **The Bureau accepts this allocation of the remaining money for 2023.**

- Preparations for 2024 under special agreement - log frame:

- ✓ The agreement is covering the 3 years: long-term vision and impact.
- ✓ First part is composed of outcomes and outputs while the second part is about the activities.
- ✓ BG and CL revised it together to set the milestones.
- ✓ We have a meeting with the ELF team to develop it further on Friday, 17 November.
- ✓ **The Bureau members will check the milestones for their respective projects, and they should reach out to CL before Thursday lunch if they have any input.**

- 2024 YCA call for applications:

- ✓ CL explains that a timeline will be discussed with AS.
- ✓ We have material to re-use about the 2023 participants for the promotion of the 2024 applications. We will probably launch the process early January if the first event is in April instead of March.
- ✓ CL proposes to have a unique identity to the YCA (a bit like Rainbow Platform/Alliance of her). For this, we need to create a branding and visual identity. Creating separate accounts could be envisaged but also a landing page on NationBuilder. EJ says that we won't have the resources for the separate accounts on social media, IH agrees. However, own identity for YCA is a good idea to have it as a brand but it must follow ELF guidelines of course. Website could be good if feasible. IH is raising concerns on the amount of time it would take to manage it. CL will work on a visual identity, and we check what is feasible in terms of a separate website or page. It all needs to be checked with ELF before moving forward.



- EJ is bringing up the LCN Masterclass 2023 that didn't take place, we will check with the ELF team what happened.

## 7) FNF cooperation 2024

- Digital Assembly/Bureau meeting - Rome, Italy - 1 to 4 Feb 2024.
- We would also like to cooperate with FNF around the Spring Congress in Brussels but also on a training session ahead of the elections, perhaps in Gummersbach. AS and TY will be involved in that.
- Concept has been presented and waiting for final approvals from FNF to start booking accommodation and travels. We should know by mid-December for sure what happens to the whole package proposed.
- BG will update the Bureau on the developments in the next weeks.

## 8) Invitations

- Renew4Youth regional event in Dusseldorf between 15/16 Dec 2023 - DAS and BG to attend.
- ALDE leaders summit - not sure yet if DAS goes on 14 Dec 2023 in Brussels, he will check in the coming days.

## 9) News from MOs and IMS

- On the IMS: Based on the question that came in during the Congress, AS is going to send a message to the Steering Committee - Clara and Ahmed to do something about engagement of the membership.
- On the MOs:
  - ✓ AS explains that two Belgian organisations approached us: it's the youth of the Défi party and the other one is more promising, the youth of a component party of MR in the German speaking Belgium. We are in touch with both of them.
  - ✓ Keskusta youth in Finland had elections, EJ attended.
  - ✓ AY also elected a new IO, EJ attended online. They need to send in the contacts.
  - ✓ OFF Congress will be attended by EJ in two weeks. They will have elections for IO.
  - ✓ JMR and Jong VLD are going to elect new IOs in the coming weeks.
  - ✓ JOVD re-elected Roelof as IO for a new mandate.
  - ✓ Eesti 200 youth representatives joined our Congress. They are in a coalition government with our liberal parties already. We will discuss further cooperation.
  - ✓ Azione youth will be contacted to check cooperation in Italy.

## 10) AOB

- **Social media LYMEC4EU issues:**

We need to make sure that we are professional looking in our stories as well on Instagram without too many effects and gifs.

- **2024 LYMEC Project Fund:**
  - ✓ We will organise a longer call to select participants to make sure we have options to pick from,
  - ✓ We will ask for additional explanations on why they cooperate with each other,
  - ✓ This Bureau launches the call and next Bureau to select the winning application. It will be opened at the beginning of next year. **Event should be in September or October pending the European Commission approval so we will wait for that to launch the process.**



- **2023 LYMEC Project Fund:**
  - ✓ It is now ready for closing - we have all the documents - Libertas article was published, and reports were sent to the EC.
  - ✓ We are ending up below the planned budget - around 3000 EUR will be used out of the available 5000 EUR funds. One travel refund is missing but we have no news from the participant so we will close without receiving that.
- **YFJ upcoming COMEM In Berlin:**
  - ✓ Several topics for decision - Turkish Youth Council etc.
  - ✓ We wait for Maurizio to send the document and it can be discussed then with Tanzer.
- **IFLRY cooperation:**
  - ✓ Call for the Executive Director is still open.
  - ✓ The mandate of the Bureau has been extended by cancelling the Autumn Congress. A lot of interest for V-P positions again for the Spring. They are planning for March to have their next GA. It will be two weeks before or after ours since we set the date first.
  - ✓ Cooperation issues on their Brussels event were highlighted where we weren't involved.
- **2024 IMS delegates elections:**
  - ✓ CL explains the timeline:
  - ✓ 28 November call for applications opens.
  - ✓ 12 December deadline to apply.
  - ✓ 14 December we launch the website and set up the debate before Christmas.
  - ✓ 5-8 January elections are held online.
- **Regional responsibility reshuffle:**
  - ✓ MP is taking the ones that Tuuli had previously. We will update the website accordingly.

## 11) Date and location next meeting

- 6 December 2023 at 18 h 00 CET - Brussels time

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