

## Bureau Meeting Brussels 7 March 2022

**Present: Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Marina Sedlo (MS), Marten Porte (MP), Ida-Maria Skytte (IS) and Bălint Gyévai (BG).**

**Antoaneta Asenova-Bihlmayer (AA) joined at 19:00 and Laia Comerma (LC) left earlier.**

**Not present: Ines Holzegger (IH) - excused**

**Meeting starts at 18 h 40**

### 1) Situation in Ukraine and LYMEC actions - 30 minutes

1. Our objective is to bring together our two member organisations (LDLU and EYU) and the youth of President Zelensky's party - **Ze!Molodizhka** (as guests) for a discussion with our membership. Ukrainian unity is the most important and we need to have as many of our members participating in this.
2. AA proposes to organise an **emergency digital assembly** early next week with an internal discussion to hear the testimonies of our Ukrainian members: what they have to say and ask for. We will ask if they wish to have it live broadcasted or instead keep it internal. It would be next Monday, but we have to ask the Ukrainian organisations (what format, date and time would work).
3. There was contact with **Ze!Molodizhka**. Deadlines were communicated, they want to apply in the near future. The Bureau underlines the importance of leaving them more time and adopting a more **lenient approach at the application time due to the circumstances**.
4. Motion to archive a resolution/or submitting a new resolution archiving the previous one could be used to modify the last resolution we adopted on the topic of Ukraine. The Bureau will table it and MS will start working on it. We will tell it to the Ukrainian members and also in the IOs group. **MS will launch an extraordinary working group to start the work on the matter. There should be 1 person/MO interested in this group.**
5. Campaign tomorrow for International Women's Day: we are highlighting women in war situations. We got inputs from Ukraine and IS is working on the visuals. MS and IS will reach out to Laura from JMR explaining what we do at the end and propose to cooperate on the Veil pact later.
6. **The Bureau decides to grant MO fee exemption for our members in Ukraine for 2022.**

### 2) Congress - 1 hour:

#### - Agenda

It was approved by the Bureau with one change. BG will publish it tomorrow.  
The change was about moving the elected President's speech to the very end.

#### - Bookings and logistics

It is in the process, and we need to finalise the paperwork. We are waiting to get an updated version from the hotel.

#### - Evening programmes

Marketa will get in touch. We plan on having a moving boat evening programme for one of the nights. The other night will be at the restaurant of the hotel.

#### - LYMEC team travel bookings

Team members will have to send their options by the end of March.

#### - Upcoming 8 weeks deadline

25 March:

- Date and location of the Congress
- Proposed agenda of the Congress
- Proposal of Statutory changes
- Proposal of changes of Congress Rules
- Applications for full membership
- Application for associate membership
- Changes in member organisations
- Proposal to expel or suspend membership

#### **- Registrations (on-going)**

It is an on-going process; the call is now open. 18 March is the deadline to register for the delegations. The Bureau members will reach out to their respective MOs to remind them about the opening call for this Congress.

#### **- Elections**

There is nothing to add at this stage. Applications should be sent by the 4 weeks deadline to be given visibility and to have them added to the website for candidates.

#### **- Chairs**

Sara von Bonsdorff and Keith Henry accepted to be the chairs of this Congress. BG proposed Mlade ANO one spot, but we are not sure yet who that would be, probably Marketa. BG will update the Bureau about this when getting news.

#### **- CDA**

The Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage has to be renewed. The Bureau will look into good candidates for the new Committee. We will first ask the former Committee members if they wish to continue.

#### **- Guests/Observers**

Guests and observer organisations were discussed for the Congress. We will finalise the list and invitations will be sent out in the coming weeks.

### **3) Staff - 30 minutes:**

#### **\*Recruitment Project assistant**

- 16 applications were received
- 5 candidates were shortlisted
- 4 interviews are planned for this week as first step

**\*Validation of the salary package new position - gross salary decided by the Bureau and an addition of meal vouchers provided.**

**The Bureau approves the salary package.**

**\*Validation of the updated reward scheme for Staff (see attached).**

**The Bureau approves the updated reward scheme after Marten's explanations of the package.**

### **4) Finances - 15 minutes:**

#### **- Final numbers for 2021**

Internal and External audits took place. We had a few technical issues at the external audit that we fixed for this time and to start well for the next year.

**The bookkeeping adjustments made it to a 18 000 EUR profit for us in 2021.**

#### **- External Audit report**

It will have to be expected by the end of the month.

**- New camera**

It was bought and is now ready to be used in the office.

**- EC+ Grant final report 2021**

Final report was sent by BG, it is therefore submitted. They confirmed good reception from the Commission side.

**- MO fees 2022**

Our Ukrainian members won't be invoiced this year, no MO fees needed for them this time. The Bureau discussed the state of the payments and last invoices to send out. BG will update the Bureau later on the reminders to do (depending on which payments are missing).

**5) Events - 20 minutes:**

**- AoH Youth Academy - Session 1 - Ronchinne**

We got positive feedback from participants. We had some group sessions as well as more focused training- it is a great opportunity from ALDE to do this with us.

How to face failure was addressed and in addition: Svenja, Jana and AA participated as speakers together with the usual trainers.

Next session will be in Budapest in June.

**- YELL 2022 - Marseille**

Despite organisational issues, we had great sessions with our chair speaker from Lithuania. It was more of an exchange with the delegation. Very good delegation and everyone joined the compulsory parts. They had free choice on the other sessions. 2 participants didn't join on time, it will be noted for the future. There was a good bond in our group that is set to last even after the summit.

**- YCA 2022 - Event 1 - Bologna**

Programme and speakers are confirmed.

The logistics are booked now and we just need to focus on all the COVID rules (including ELF requirements on testing).

**- YCA 2022 - Event 2 - Athens**

The hotel was selected, we will be this time close to the seaside.

Programme is set up step by step, with some more speakers to confirm.

**6) Year of the Youth 2022 updates - 10 minutes:**

\*The EC communicated fonts/the official logo and a campaign was prepared by Chiara to inform the membership. We put it on hold due to the war in Ukraine (it will be released later).

\*MEP Dragos Pislaru for the event on the Year of the Youth we discussed earlier. We have no updates - DAS will check and see if we know more. We need to tailor the topic to something relevant. We will probably postpone it. Topics we could work on: migration, climate/energy and military/defence aspects.

\*Renew Taskforce on the Year of the Youth- we will be invited for meetings soon to contribute.

\*PPYO's cooperation on the matter is a work in progress, it stopped a bit with the Ukrainian situation now.

**7) News from MOs and IMS - 5 minutes:**

\*IS is going to visit Ogra Fianna Fail in April at their upcoming Congress.

**8) Libertas latest updates - 5 minutes:**

- The call is closing this week - we have at least 15 applications.
- Lucasta and Chiara will work on this together with Laia - call is planned for the 15th of March.

- 9 or 12 Editorial team members will be selected and then the editorial team will elect the editor-in-chief among those interested in the position.

#### **9) Invitations - 5 minutes:**

**ELF Liberal Awards nominations** - AA was asked for the jury (DAS to step in if she wouldn't be able to do this) - she is going to accept the request - they will launch the call again for the 3 categories. We will have to propose names for these 3 and the Bureau will start thinking about them. Deadline is around mid-April.

The **next Renew Europe COFOE Caucus meetings** will most likely be the following dates:

- 25 March (If Brussels AA will go, otherwise online)
- 8 April (someone to attend online)
- 29 April (DAS to check availability)

**AA was asked by Jóvenes Ciudadanos** for a one-minute video to record about the importance of women in politics. AA delivered that to them for International Women's Day.

MS updates the Bureau that the Israel trip she was selected for is cancelled, probably postponed to later.

The ALDE event for International Officers will take place in Dublin, Ireland during the last weekend of March. MP will go to that.

#### **10) Next meeting**

**Thursday, 31 March 2022 at 19 h CET in the evening online.**

#### **11) AOB**

##### **Emil Dzijas reached out regarding the CoFoE plenary in Strasbourg:**

We will send him the proposals and see if he could fit them in the topics discussed, only what he feels comfortable about. We would also give him more info on other people involved from LYMEC (if any selected).

**End of the meeting at 21 h 30 CET**