

Bureau meeting Belgrade 23 to 25 August 2019

Attending : SH, EM, PCC, DR, LH, DAS, AA and BG, DV

Friday 23 August 2019

Update finances (LH):

- BG and LH were busy with bookings and balancing ELF budget. However, book-keeping will be one of the priorities for the upcoming weeks. London and Portugal events nevertheless still have pending bookings.
- Few updates regarding ELF:
- We won't longer book ticket for us, we need to go through a travel agency called SMART in Bulgaria.
- Organizer's fee issue at the beginning of the year: too much was spent on Building Europe Together compared to the overall cost of the event.
- Bureau members if participate, have to get a specific role (participant or speaker/moderator).
- Congress: Venue was not yet paid in February but the accommodation partly yes.
- We have an outstanding issue: Renew Europe Group couldn't make payments at that time and not yet either (holidays). We will have to claim back the money at a later stage, not sure how much will be refunded to LYMEC. VAT will be unfortunately lost for us.
- LH to spend an extra day at the office to sort out finances in September. There are a few technical issues in Xero (accounting system) that LH will try to understand and solve.
- Internal Audit is taking place between 28-29 September. Statutory deadlines to respect: 4 weeks before the Congress, provisional financial report is needed and 2 weeks before auditors report.
- Regarding the credit cards: Instead of having a new credit card for a third person, we should put a higher limit to the SG card (from 3000 to 5000 EUR).
- It's important for the Bureau members to send phone bills earlier so that it goes in the right book-keeping year.
- LH to communicate also which organization didn't pay the yearly membership. Nova Stranka Youth Forum is set to pay in London in cash.

Membership fee issues:

- *Nowoczesna* has to be contacted by DR to pay their debt and fee. They are associate members so they can't apply for reduced fee. They are supposed to pay 50 EUR as a payment plan for 350 unpaid and 175 in addition for this year.
- *Mladi LDP*: 850 EUR is still pending. They should apply for reduced membership fee. LH has to get back to them with the figures and the process to apply.
- We have to find a contact point to *UDI Jeunes*. BG is going to ask Rémi from *Jeunes Radicaux*.

YLM (BG, LH):

- LH sent the Diversity Plan (to be accepted by London Congress). It's important to discuss it with all MOs as much as possible and not only at the YLM. She is asking feedback from the Bureau first in the coming weeks.

Programme:

- LH opens the event. Progressive Slovakia Youth will attend to give a speech.
- BG will moderate the first "Roundtable discussion" - get to know each other and expectations from the participants.
- Sarah Chander is the first speaker on Friday evening. DR will moderate.
- On Saturday morning: Linda Nordlund is not available. NIMD was contacted in the Netherlands and is not available. The European Women's Lobby has to be contacted by LH. Ani Hirvela is the last option if EWL not coming.
- Saturday afternoon: local speaker from OSF should be MEP from Progressive Slovakia. We need to contact them for confirmation.
- LH and EM to close the day.

Priority is to confirm the 2 missing speakers in the coming days.

Autumn Congress and seminar (BG, PCC, LH):

- *Logistics*
- Prices for the *lunch* remain to be specified (Sandwich has to be put on the agenda so that people expect to eat light food). *Dinner* has to be checked with Naomi - it should be proper food.
- *Venue* and *accommodation* are booked and mostly paid.
- We can't ensure the Freedom fund at this stage for participants' travel: therefore it will be advised to people to apply to the seminar so that travel can be refunded.

- We need to ease visa applications for non-EU participants. BG will draft invitation letters to make that happen. BG will also reach out to the UK foreign affairs/representation and the EU Commission representation in the UK to get updated information on Brexit immediate consequences for border crossings.
- LH: We have to foresee a deficit of 5000 EUR if Renew is not paying. This is an exceptional situation due to the elections.
- Visit in the Parliament on Sunday morning was discussed, Naomi to get back to us (around 40 people could do it).

- Speakers seminar
- Daniel Kaddik + PCC to welcome the participants
- Setting goals: PCC
- Roundtable: AA to moderate (1 Lib Dem Robert Woodtorphe + Conservative + British Chamber of commerce in Europe).
- Friday morning: PCC and AA - different levels of agenda-setting and roundtable.

Autumn Congress (BG, LH):

- Chairs:

Northern Irish representative + Young liberals representative + Former LYMEC President, Sissel - Naomi was requested to come up with names to fulfil these positions at the Congress.

- Minutes:

The office + someone from the Young Liberals

- Registrations:

LH and Naomi

Membership applications

Full membership:

- Jóvenes Ciudadanos were contacted by EM
- Greek liberals were contacted by AA and a reminder sent through Eleni by BG

Associate membership:

- USR +: DAS has to follow-up and see if there is interest for this time or even coming as observers eventually.
- Swiss Green Liberals (1 or 2 spots) as observers - invitation to be drafted by BG.
- TLDE has to be contacted to check their status in LYMEC. LH will send an email to get in touch.
- Policies
- AA explains that 9 organizations got back to her regarding the call to reform the Policy book - no new resolution will be proposed on the Bureau side. This **process is the priority**. Bureau would propose the merger of these resolutions - new replacing old ones. Manifesto points (1.42 and 1.52) can't be touched. AA will organize groups of interested people in the coming days including IMS as well to work on that.

ALDE Party Congress resolutions to be submitted by 30 August:

- Resolution on climate change
- Resolution on transnational lists and Spitzenkandidaten

AA to work and submit latest resolution taking into account policy book, previous work and ALDE MO feeling about this policy topic. AA to reach out to the delegation on Monday 26 August about further steps.

Book - "A liberal vision for Europe":

a. **Brussels at the FNF office - 19 November**

Second book launch would take place in Brussels and not at ALDE Congress due to shorter programme at the latest. DR will send new proposal for speakers.

It will be linked to the RLPA and be part of Anela's programme from Boris Divkovic Foundation under their ELF project.

b. London - Saturday evening after Congress - 9 November (boat tbc)

c. Publication:

- Few bullet points from EM and SH for the foreword
- BG finalizes the proof-reading and editing in the coming weeks with Lauren from ELF
- There is a need to come up with a new title
- It will be sent for printing the latest end of September

IMS Seminar:

Status

- Date: November 22-24
- To be discussed with the SC in September - proposal from Tiago
- Ricardo Silvestre from MLS to be kept in the loop if Lisbon or Porto
- Draft programme available on basecamp - to be updated and shared with ELF in September

ALDE Congress:

- Flights and accommodation are booked.
- Alumni event is not sure to take place yet (we will reach out to ALDE asap to know more).
- We don't know if refund can be granted for the delegates until ALDE gets back to us.
- Board meeting will be held on the spot at the venue before flying out.

ALDE projects status update (LH):

- Concept to turn this into a roadshow with Central Europeans - JUNOS, MOMENTUM Tizen-X, Nowoczesna were interested. Estonians were also interested in doing something similar. BG to reach out to Andràs to get an update on where the concept stands at the moment.

Assistant:

- BG explains that Kylefors Matilda from Sweden starts on Tuesday with LYMEC for the upcoming 6 months.

Communications Update (DAS):

- DAS is presenting what is done for the upcoming month (done every month).
- Video of the youth day did well, we got many new followers.
- YLM will be the next highlight - local media might be interested (contact through LH).

Libertas and Online learning Platform (DV):

- The first call took place with the editorial team.
- Deadline for articles passed, 2 were submitted and its going through editing now.
- Webinar on the online platform is planned. 2 actors contacted for this, DR will follow-up.
- Rework the website for libertas by the end of the year - depending on the finances.
- We got a video from Sarajevo for the platform. We will collect more at the next seminar (taping the sessions on Saturday at the YLM thanks to EM).

Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage (SH):

Open case and Members

° No updates - SH will get in touch with them next week according to what was discussed last time.

News of member organizations (all):

- Polish national elections in October -Nowoczesna in platform with conservatives
- Bulgarian local elections during the ALDE Party Congress Day.
- Hungarian local elections mid-October before the ALDE Party Congress.
- BM to update the MO list so that right data is entered - DAS to do it for the Nordic changes.
- TLDE from Romania to get back to us at the beginning of September after National Congress.

ELF RDR at JOVD congress (12 October):

- RDR was accepted.
- Anouk is asking for speakers - programme will be shared with the Bureau by BG for comments.
- EM will represent LYMEC and facilitate if needed (bring material also as organizer).

News from IMS (all):

- *Work with SC*

Holidays for the moment. EM is working on redesigning the IMS package. Sent for comments to SC.

- *Registration tool*

The nation builder tool is the target. We could have it also for the alumni network. EM is going to get in touch with Jacob, Secretary General of ALDE Party directly.

- Collaboration Tool
- PCC will send a document about Kialo (platform for deliberation and political discussions). It can be an add-value for those who want to exchange views and not only be member. Tree with arguments - interesting device for exchanging arguments and vote on them. Enable IMS to work internally.
- Document will be sent to the Bureau first for comment and then PCC will follow up with the delegates after. The idea is to use it already before the Congress with delegates. In fact, the thematic hangouts could be also structured by this tool in the long run.
- To be used also for libertas (previous to writing articles) engage people to participate.

Invitations (BG):

- *Uppreism*: invitation to their electoral Congress on 28 September. DR is going.
- *ELF* General Assembly: on 20 September. PCC is going.
- *MLS Podcast* - EM to reach out directly to MLS.
- *ELF publication*: No-one to spend the required time on it so at a later stage, we will be asked to proofread the inputs on youth unemployment.
- *Jubel festival* SH on climate change on Friday 6 September- DV to take care of the request.
- *YFJ Extraordinary GA*: Taking place in Amiens - DR is going. We need to respect the deadlines and BG is sharing it with the Bureau for information..

Saturday 24 August 2019

Review of KPIs (EM, SH):

Achieved and falling behind:

- *Most of the objectives were achieved or have a significant impact.*
- *It will be included in the annual report presented to the next Congress.*
- *Gaining legislative impact - position on the copyright directive.*

1. Communicate and write articles on the **6 priorities of the Bureau**:

Bureau members to write:

- Democracy and structural reform - SH
- Defence and cybersecurity - EM
- Digital market and trade - SH
- Education and labor market - LH
- Environment, climate change and energy - DAS
- Migration - AA

2 at least to be published before our Congress. The goal is to reinforce our positions

2. Communication of the content - social media week campaign.

- DV reminds that the most successful campaign was in dialogue with MEPs (interview of the MEPs). We have the opportunity to use the young MEPs of this mandate. It's a win-win situation.
- SH is in internal market and international trade committee. We could use the LYMEC policy book into questions for Commission hearings. Deadline to be checked. We will think about this in January when actual work starts. Important for Bureau to be actively shaping legislation.

Analyse what we need to focus and work on, developing ideas on KPIs to be met :

1. Communication:

- Figures: We increased in terms of reaches and likes - especially on Instagram. Visual identity was achieved. We improved website and newsletter reach out - 25% increase newsletter - 247 now, it is growing from 180 after GDPR change.
- EU elections campaign - didn't reach the main target but innovative campaign - people liked it. Personalized promotional content is appreciated. Faces are good.
- Idea of a Takeover of the accounts of Renew/ALDE during our Congress?
- DV advice is not to put money on Facebook but share articles there.
- Bureau members to share what was shared on our platforms. Important to put it as a priority for Facebook. We should all comment, like and share when something is posted.

2. Events:

- We have to focus on having a practical guide for all events.
- Consolidated file is created on the basecamp about feedback we get. The goal is to collect information. It has to be organized by type of event so that we can easily improve from one year to another.

3. IMS:

- There is not enough growth.
- EM to reach out to ALDE Party SG for tool.

4. Alumni network:

- Alumni network should be refunded. The statutes in English and Dutch were never registered actually. **BG will translate statutes to French and register them.**
- Funding meeting at ALDE Congress or Brussels if first isn't working.

5. Finances:

- Goal is to diversify the sources of money. We need to approach sponsors.
- Crowdsourcing is another idea.
- Donation.

New project: Image Video - Brainstorm Session (EM)

"What is LYMEC"

- We need a short video which works on the website and SM but also a longer one to share in presentations (what we do more emotional/value based + practical information first - be concrete).
- Happy pushy music in the background would be the best and a lady speaking.

Possible Campaigns 2019/2020 - Brainstorm session (EM, DAS)

- Theme weeks to be organized per priority we have - content will be in the articles.
- Idea is to use the policy book and videos of dialogues with MEPs to share the content.
- DAS: we need better monitoring of what's happening/ legislative process.

Two steps process:

1. Article by Bureau members
2. Video interview with MEPs

Following structure is adopted:

- Migration- Anna Donàth HUN
- Democracy and structural reform- Michal Simecka SVK
- Defence and cybersecurity- Ilhan Kyuchyuk BG
- Digital market and trade- Klaudia Gamon AUT
- Education and labor market - Irena Joveva SLO
- Environment, climate change and energy- Frederik Federly SWE

Social media content - bullet points out of the policy book in visuals:

- From mid-November to the end of the year.
- Raise awareness and put our ideas in priorities.
- Target group - liberals part of our network, raise awareness on our stances
- End of the year - President sums up the year.

Cooperative working on open topics: you have a topic you want to work on with the team? Put it on the table.

1. PCC:

- We should react to **JNC request** regarding Hong Kong: the bureau agrees that we won't make a Hong Kong statement but we will make a tweet. IFLRY suits better for that, its at international level.

International Officer's document:

- Bureau will comment it before sharing with IO's. It focus on quality vs quantity in resolutions. Not first come first served approach - that needs to be removed from the draft proposal.
- The aim is also to trigger more co-signatures in the resolutions. Log-in data to be checked by them more often and also the registration through our platforms.
- BG and DV to double-check it too.

2. LH:

- Diversity plan was sent to Bureau
- It is important because it changes a few practices in the future. It should be discussed at YLM and presented to Congress. It will be proposed as an internal motion to the Congress. Thus, proposed for discussion with possibility to amend.
- Gender balance is addressed as a general principle to follow. We can't put quota for Bureau members.
- Deadline on bureau side is 2nd of September for comment.
- It has to be submitted 4 weeks before the Congress.

3. AA:

- Junos and RU would like to propose a sunset clause of archiving mechanism for resolutions. OR make sure all future resolutions have a component till when they are valid.
- AA proposes an amendment to the Congress rules - sunset clause in the resolution or principal position to be reviewed.
- Internal motion adding a few lines to the Congress rules and explaining the sunset clause. Add: *only for new one.*
- It's a statutory change so it needs to be done 8 weeks before (12 September).

- General sunset to be implemented: 6 years automatic sunset unless motion to keep or revise it. Application for the future. Active role of the Policy officer is important.

RLPA

- Boris Divkovic Foundation reached out to us for cooperation under ELF umbrella involving young people from the Western Balkans. It is about practical skills building with us in the office in Brussels between 18 and 21 November
- It's about learning how to do resolutions, do it and submit through MO's at the Spring Congress.
- Observer status is available if interested for those not member - way of getting closer to them.

AOB

- BG: ELF support letter for Georgian organization. Bureau agrees that we don't know the organization and the people. No experience working together so we can't back them at this stage but nothing prevents future cooperation.
- LH: Unison on the reports from Bureau members at ALDE Party.

Team building activity to close the meeting!