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youth wing of ALDE Party

Bureau Meeting 9 September 2018 Budapest

Present: Svenja Hahn, President (SH), Edgaras Mascinskas, Vice President (EM), Lena Höglund, Treasurer (LH), Antoaneta Asenova, Bureau Member (AA), Deimante Rimkute, Bureau Member (DR),

Participating over Skype: Pau Castellví Canet, Bureau Member (PCC)

Apologies: Dan-Aria Sucuri, Bureau Member (DAS) (Absent due to general elections in Sweden)

Also present: Danica Vihinen, Secretary General (DV)

Minutes

1. Opening and quick general update (SH)
SH welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for participating, also welcomed PCC who attends over Skype.
2. Recap YLM Budapest (DV)
SH: Didn't manage to participate much, but the glimpses she got looked good and heard good feedback, happy to get together with other presidents. Some asked about manifesto process, unclear to some but mainly because they come from different organizational backgrounds where presidents meeting is a statutory body (Germans).
LH: Had some discussions, some thought manifesto ate away from concrete experience sharing, would have preferred "hard skills". Though, very active participants and vivid discussions and many participants. Can't never please them all.
SH: It was a special YLM because of the manifesto, and it was communicated on beforehand and it was very important to anchor it with Member Organisations ahead of the Congress.
AA: Important to give an opportunity to already get a glimpse of what the possible issues could be.
EM: Good to have constructive criticism, we have certain MOs that are more hands on which means NFE is not familiar to them.

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DV: Late cancelations, need to communicate better with the MOs so that they understand that there are fees for late cancelation and no shows, this has been communicated in the registration form so they should know. Also: HJ (Huw James, new assistant) did a great job with logistics, especially restaurants.

3. Finances (LH)

a. Update on Budget 2018/2019

LH: Sent a few reports to all regarding the interim report she needs to present at congress. It's a large package, please bear with her. Budget is presented as original for 2018, updated and 2019. Congress budget is still an estimate. The balance for congresses should be met, 37000 for Berlin and 25000 for Vilnius. ELF events also still pending. Explains colour coding. Significant: the visual identity was an investment decided by the previous bureau, meaning there's a deficit of 8500 for this year (matching the surplus in 2017). Will send an updated version as soon as we get final numbers. Could cut from promotional material but the idea was that we will make a deficit so we might as well get sufficient amounts of promotional material now to go with the new visual identity. Also left some room for printing manifesto to send to MOs.

SH: What's the idea of mailing the manifesto to the MO?

EM: Makes sense for visibility

SH: I get that we could send this to the new group in the EP as well after the elections

AA: Next year we could make more of these with more budget for it

LH: OK to have a deficit in the run up to elections (would be very weird if we made a surplus now).

LH: Budget 2019: only changes to be anticipated is if the

Changes: 70k from ALDE Party as opposed to 60 this year. 50% increase in IMS fees for new members, going from 10 per year to 15 and 35 for 5 years to 50. Have already informed the IMS delegates who were not completely happy.

SH: We have increased all MO fees so this is just fair

EM: Inflation, should actually be more

DV: not sure if possible to change the automated renewals in PayPal.

LH: MO fees boosted because we have more MOs paying, not because it would be increased.

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Participation fees, EYF: Explained the logic of applying for projects for two years from European Youth Foundation in order to be eligible for structural grants after that.

Donations: Difficult to receive more than 1000 euros, also don't want to be over positive.

ELF: Added the overhead costs. Pointed out that the way ELF projects have been budgeted is not really ideal as we include parts that do not go through our accounts.

LH walked through the expenses in general, pointed out that staff costs are boosted in accordance with the staffing plan foreseeing a second (political) assistant. Will look for partners for this.

DV: There's also PIA money to be gotten from ALDE Party, let's see if we can use for any of our projects.

SH: How about the Group grant for 2019? Will it be affected by the elections?

EM: Will be for all of 2019

AA: Keep in mind that we can't use 400 funds one month ahead of elections.

LH: Updated version will be sent next week after discussions with ALDE Group and Party.

LH: In general we need to take care of getting the refunds for other events, because these sums do add up.

LH: During the internal audit discovered that MdP had made automated bills for various recurring costs that in fact are not always the same sum monthly, meaning there are "ghost" bills affecting the balance, will need to take a day the upcoming week to make sure that all are deleted.

LH: Ran through outstanding MO fees and which organisations have been contacted and which have not responded, what payment plans to expect and debt reductions.

LiFT (Hungary): Need to look into if they even exist anymore as most members went to Momentum, DR will investigate, possible disaffiliation at spring congress.

LH: Keep in mind that associate members are actually not eligible for reduced fees, so they need to apply for payment plan if needed.

4. Update LYMEC Manifesto Process (AA)

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a. Wrap up of process so far and next steps

AA: Had manifesto sessions during YLM, did not really progress significantly as many had concrete proposals point by point. The idea was to have a broader discussion but that didn't happen. Did not manage to cover the whole manifesto, only section 1-3, but good discussions.

The Bureau will propose the presidents' amendments to congress on behalf of YLM, and then it's up to congress.

Have explained to the leaders to use the resolutions tool for smaller amendments, a few good ideas came up and are to be expected.

HJ will finish the notes and send to AA by Tuesday noon the latest, so that the draft can be updated and published ahead of resolution deadline.

SH: Better to propose the amendments separately but at the same time with manifesto proposal.

AA: Huw needs to look into the proposal very carefully to proofread.

EM: Can't we propose the manifesto to Congress including the amendments made by YLM? As Bureau executive decision. Instead of proposing a lot of amendments?

SH: Let's do that, Bureau proposal to congress will be including the YLM proposals as long as they're not conflicting with the policy book.

AA asked for vote for the record: In favour: all present.

Decision to have Huw prioritise this so that we have it up asap. Office will prepare all and AA will only check that it is correct.

5. Update Visual Identity (EM)

EM: working on business cards, should be done by next week, will then order, distributed in Vilnius (SH will get earlier)

Has sent price estimates for things to LH, will make a launch video but has to film in Brussels because had no time during YLM.

The new visual identity will be launched by a video at congress.

The material to get: 3 Banners, a photo wall, lanyards. Discussion on where to buy these.

6. LYMEC Communication Strategy (DAS, EM)

EM: Will present as DAS is not present due to elections. Will move forward only after the elections in Sweden as DAS has been preoccupied but working on it, much is included in the POA. EM has already bought some graphical assets,

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mainly the communication strategy will be more in use once the new visual identity is published. Will make a video with the assistant as well, to promote the internship next time we're hiring.

Issue with many people using twitter and getting thrown out, could use Buffer, EM will send email about that.

7. LYMEC EP campaign (DR)

DR: Had a workshop at YLM and it ran smoothly, will launch call to get campaign managers to sign up next week. Idea is a get out the vote campaign, explained the concept, will have a digital platform with two different aims: social media and events ideas.

SH: So twofold, one digital campaign from LYMEC and one MO cooperation platform?

DV: Get out the vote is something the EC will love. LH: Also requests from MOs to have something more concrete so this will answer to that.

PCC: Could we also include webinars? DR: Why not, can cooperate on that.

8. Young elected politicians' summit (EM, DV)

EM: Cooperation annually with ALDE CoR, this year 16 local and regional politicians (13 LYMEC, 3 YDE) will meet in Brussels on 16-17 September, starting with LYMEC afternoon at ALDE Party HQ on Sunday, DV and EM will give info about LYMEC, also a short session on data analysis by ALDE Party data analysis team.

Monday starts with a summit on the topic sustainability and climate change, after that a session on democracy under attack followed by a joint session with ALDE Group in the CoR on increasing the voter turnout in the European Elections.

Secretary General of ALDE CoR has invited president of JAM as speaker to the ALDE CoR group meeting. EM and DV will set up meeting after that.

DV: It is worth mentioning that we explicitly told the Secretary General earlier this summer that we do not wish to invite JAM representatives to the summit as they are not members and have not shown any interest in even cooperating, and we wanted to keep this as an event for our members and not train outsiders or provide them with opportunities to network.

SH: ALDE CoR SG told at ALDE Party BM that their budget for next year was cut so not sure if we can arrange this summit next year.

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9. Young Candidates Academy (SH, DR)

a. update and next steps

SH: Need to work on the content of the events, have three events in total: first one this year on fundraising and speaking; the shadowing a MEP in Brussels for which we need to find MEPs; and also one with FNF. Need to finalise the programme and open the call soon. Need to have a lot of informal communication to the MOs so that they understand the scope as it can't be framed as only for candidates. MOs get to nominate one person each.

SH: Office will draft a call the week after next in order to have proper wording. Only limited number of spots (10). After that we need to start working on the content, DR and PCC will work on it supported by SH. The three will have a call to go through everything.

AA: think of which MEPs they'd most likely want to have for the shadow events.

b. Brand Yourself, Present Yourself event in Brussels

DV: ELF needs draft programme and budget 6 weeks before which is congress so let's have all done before that.

10. Update Alumni Network (SH, LH)

a. Transition to new board (SH)

i. EM and PCC will take over the coordination from SH, transition to new board soon, possibly 26.9 when LH in Brussels

b. Fundraising event at ALDE Congress (LH)

i. Emily Death from ALDE Party secretariat has been on vacation and now for work in California, need to get in contact with her somehow but the idea is to have an event in Madrid. DV and LH will look into venue.

11. Autumn Congress, Update and Decisions to be taken (DR, DV)

a. Status Update

LH: asks for explanation for the participants lists. DV explained. Need sponsorship for dinners, tight budget

DR: Venues: Kablys meeting on Tuesday after that clarity on exact costs:

LH: Budget for location in total just under 4000

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Flights need to be cheap: DV: Please send asap

LH: No party budget but as we get photographer for free some hundreds for this

SH: is the hall set? DV: Will sit down with Mykolas (president of LLJ) after the BM to settle issues

AA: Looks ok in pictures, should be OK for us we're a youth org.

SH: How about the evening programme? Friday launch the visual identity, Saturday costume party

b. Seminar

DR: Have a draft programme, need to check the speakers but two are set already.

LH: Venues? DR: Thursday in parliament, Friday in the hotel. Four presentations in total.

DR: requests for the Thursday after party? DV: Somewhere not too far away from dinner venue.

c. Membership applications

i. Associate: Momentum TizenX, Young Progressives: DV: those responsible for these organisations should check the application very carefully and see that they are in line with the statutes, and then prepare bureau recommendation. Also prepare the MO for questions.

ii. Full membership:

1. LDLU, DR will go to their congress. Discussion on how to prepare the MO for congress

2. TLDE, DAS responsible, DV will have a call to explain what he needs to do. SH gave update from the ALDE Party BM regarding the mother party. DAS especially needs to look into their statutes and status. SH suggested we can also refer to ALDE Bureau in our Bureau recommendation.

3. Jeunes Radicaux: EM responsible, DV went to merger meeting. Their merger might be more of an announcement than decision point for the agenda, chairs are looking into this.

d. Resolutions tool and voting tool

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SH: Auditors have offered to take over the voting tool, also in accordance with statutes. Need someone to take over the resolution tool, suggests PCC who agrees. SH will explain everything to him.

12. ALDE Party Congress

- a. Organizational issues (DV): Hotel booked, need to send info about travel refunds
- b. Policy (AA): Manifesto, it's quite toothless, especially migration but there's a new version on that part. ALDE IMS have a resolution on transnational lists, DV has asked for it but at least draft was quite delusional so we have to see final version before promising any support. We already agreed on not having any resolutions of our own to allow more time for manifesto.
- c. Organization of Delegation (AA): email sent with info. Registration: DV will check upcoming week if all in, if not contact the ones missing directly

13. IMS (EM, PCC)

- a. Cooperation with delegates and process of reform
 - i. EM: process done, credits to Benjamin Fievet for leading it, participatory process, statutory changes submitted by the deadline. Explained the changes, biggest change is introducing a steering committee to be elected for two years aligning with the Bureau mandate.
- b. IMS delegates by-elections
DV explained the process, 3 candidates by the deadline, website open, elections online Friday 14th to Monday 17th. Have saved a congress spot for the new delegate.

14. MOs and Regional responsibilities (all)

- a. Situation between LYMEC and JD
 - i. SH explained the situation, a massive misunderstanding as SH thought she was giving the ALDE Group VP a statement for her webpage, not an endorsement for D66 internal elections. Guilty of being too eager to cooperate with the group VP but not intentionally intervening in internal elections. Explained how it

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evolved and contacts with JD and Sophie in't Veld, when asking Sophie to take down the quote Sophie even asked why as it's not an endorsement but only a statement on their cooperation.

- ii. Will send explanatory letter to JD, explaining that she did not lie it was an honest misunderstanding. Will suggest taking it to Committee on Discipline and Arbitrage if needed, to have a neutral body look into the accusations from JD. Also suggests for bureau to propose as an internal motion to congress that a code of conduct to be written in order to avoid anything like this in the future.
- iii. Decision to first have a call with JD president, then send letter. SH asks PCC to set up a call Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evening.

15. European Youth Forum

- a. COMEM and GA in Novi Sad: DV, DR will represent LYMEC
- b. Sustainability WG: EM looks into it, AA can pitch in after 19th

16. Invitations (DV)

- a. Visits to MOs
 - i. Momentum TizenX congress: Video of SH
 - ii. LDLU Congress: DR will attend and also give presentation on LYMEC
 - iii. JUNOS congress 19-21.10: Doesn't fit into guidelines, SH can send video
 - iv. YMRF 20 years: SH will go, participates in dinner with party leadership, will be speaker at conference, give interviews, side meetings with MOs, meeting with IFLRY president.
 - v. EYU 30.11-1.12: Nobody this time
- b. Other invitations
 - i. ELF GA: EM, AA, DV, HJ attends
 - ii. ALDE Party FAC 26.9: LH
 - iii. YFJ Youth, Peace and Security event 5-6.10. No-one
 - iv. The Role of Young People in Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution, 5-8 October in Stockholm, Sweden: Nobody available
 - v. NYC Study Session (Budapest, CoE): Not our priority

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vi. ELF Communication event: Directly after our congress, not relevant for us as we have contacts with the Party, CoR and ELF already

vii.

17. Any other business (SH)

Committee on Discipline and arbitrage to be proposed to congress: SH and DV suggested names, all approve of the list, DV will contact and see if they're interested.

Next Online BM will not be 1st October but rather 8th to run through last congress preparations.

SH: Friday is the deadline for bureau reports!

SH thanked PCC for attending over skype and all others for a constructive meeting and closed the meeting at 13:29

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