

## Bureau meeting

# EUROPEAN LIBERAL YOUTH

Location Brussels, Belgium  
Date 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012

**Present members:** Jeroen Diepemaat (JD), Vedrana Gujic (VG), Anne van der Graaf (AG), Ed Sanderson (ES), Igor Caldeira (IC), Sissel Kvist (SKv),

**Others Present:** Slaven Klobucar (SKI)

**Absent bureau members:** Claudia Benchescu (CB)

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### 1) Opening and regularia

JD opened the meeting and established that the meeting has been called in time and according to the LYMEC regulations.

### 2) Adoption of the agenda

Agenda was adopted unanimously.

### 3) Adoption of minutes previous meeting Minutes

Minutes from the Bureau meeting in Copenhagen were adopted unanimously.

### 4) Follow-up last bureau meeting

VG has gone through all the tasks set on the last bureau meeting establishing that all tasks have been fulfilled.

### 5) Evaluation of Copenhagen congress

After a discussion the following has been concluded:

- The congress will start to use a line-up style of debating, where the delegates will line on the side who's arguments they support in order to bring to the dynamic of the debates
- The chairs need to be prepared better, a Skype meeting will be held before the Congress and a short document will be drafted to help them lead the congress (JD and VG in charge)
- More time will be planned for the Buddy and Newbie programme on the Congress
- Bureau meeting will be held before the Congress to discuss the flow of the Congress
- Minute taker will be appointed in advance from the Congress delegates
- The contract will be changed so that the local organisers would provide two Congress assistants(AG and SK)
- The Congress books and readers will not be printed anymore
- Internet access for all delegates is required on each Congress from now on
- The Congresses should be streamed or video recorded
- Review the resolutions and ask the delegations who submitted similar resolutions to merge them if possible
- Encourage submitting resolutions by 2 or more MOs
- Set up resolutions template (noting submitting organisations, spokesperson of the resolution and standardised format)

## **6) Constitution of bureau / division of responsibilities**

VG has presented the proposal of division of responsibilities between the Bureau members. After the discussion and amendments the distribution of responsibilities has been approved and can be found at the end of this document. The duties will be revised on the Bureau meeting in October.

## **7) Program of action**

After the discussion it was decided that the yearly theme for 2013 will be "Redrafting Europe" and for 2014 "Standing up for liberalism". Member organisations and individual members will be asked to contribute to the draft of the Manifesto for 2014 European Parliament elections which will be finalized as a "white paper" of LYMEC. IC is in charge of the preparation of the "white paper".

The ideas for the program of action are the following:

- Promote IMS on Facebook with paid ads directed for certain countries
- Try to approach young liberals who are not associated to any political party
- Strengthen the communication with MOs, not just with the International officers
- Improve the contacts with local young officials, parliamentarians and councilors
- Have more online campaigns
- Events should be more practical, such as the skill building events and political education events
- We need to find the way to engage the newcomers/generally less active to speak on our events
- LYMEC should team up with an MEP to organize an exhibition in the European Parliament about LYMEC. VG in charge of drafting the proposal, SK in charge of contacting ALDE
- We need to strengthen our networks; JD should meet with Graham Watson, Alexander Beels and ALDE CoR.
- IMS Club 'Adam Smith Society' could help out on the LYMEC events
- Setting up of projects for strengthening LYMEC in countries where we have no representation
- Setting up of projects aiming at coupling MOs and encouraging cooperation
  - o A first step can be by coupling people with the same positions in different MOs at congresses
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## **8) Upcoming events 2012**

AG and SK will revise the standard event contract.

### **a. Seminar media freedom Belgrade**

SKI gave a report on the developments regarding this event. The event is prepared and ready to start.

### **b. Young Leaders Meeting London**

ES gave a report on the developments regarding the event. The event will most likely be held in the Liberal house in London. The Bureau drafted the program of the event. The call should be sent in July.

### **c. Autumn congress Sofia**

The date has not yet been set. CB should contact YMRF and ask about the developments. The event needs to take place in Sofia. SKI and AG drafted the budget; we will watch our budget so that we do not go over budget, unless extra funds come in. .

**d. ALDE winter academy Brussels**

The topics that we will propose to ALDE will be; "The Duff report" and "The European Asylum system'. The event will take place in December.

VG presented the idea of the LYMEC Academy. She will draft a proposal  
JD proposed we start the pool of trainers for the future seminar teams.

**9) Planning / applications events 2013**

After the discussion it was agreed on the following draft events plan:

- First Congress in Tallinn, Estonia, SKv in charge of contacting (May)
- Second Congress either in Germany or Belgium, AG in charge of contacting (November)
- Threefold event supported by ELF focusing on the campaigning for the EP elections (March, July, September) to take place in Portugal, Italy and Finland. SKI contacts the ELF, IC contacts the Portuguese and the Italians. VG and ED will help with the ELF applications.

The Bureau members are asked to prepare the proposals by 10<sup>th</sup> of June. SKI will send the forms to the Bureau members.

**10) Relationships with partner organisations**

**a. MO's**

JD said that we expect the membership applications from OFF, Ireland and EYU, Ukraine. IC said that he was approached by Alega from Galicia, Jeune Centriste from France, and Jeunes LibDem France. VG suggested IC and ES should start working on the Black hole project trying to find the organisations in the countries where we have no member organisations. IC and ES should approach ELF and FNF for contacts.

SKI should check if we can downgrade organisations to lower status (observers). VG proposed we should consider the write off the debt to LiDem from Macedonia.

VG asked the Bureau members to send introduction mail to their MOs.

**b. ELDR**

Dick Roche asked LYMEC to organize a fringe event on the ELDR Congress in Dublin. AG and SK are in charge, the topic is "Energy efficiency". JD will attend the ELDR theme resolution workshop in Brussels. JD will meet with Graham Watson soon.

**c. ALDE**

LYMEC Bureau should meet with Guy Verhofstadt in December. SK and JD will meet up with Alexander Beels and ALDE CoR.

**d. ELF**

LYMEC should keep a close eye on the candidates for the elections for the ELF board and potentially endorse some candidates.

**e. IFLRY**

Current membership fee is 3.500,00 Euros. AG is in charge of negotiations for the reduced fee. LYMEC Bureau unanimously re-appoints Ivo Thijssen as the LYMEC representative in IFLRY Bureau.

IFLRY plans to move back to Bruxelles and they have approached LYMEC to see if the office could be shared. SKI will look into it. They also asked if they can apply for some YiA grants and MEP grants. The Bureau has decided to consider their requests on case to case basis.

**f. European Youth Forum**

VG asked that we keep close eye on the Operational Grant. IC gave a report on the current happenings with the Erasmus for all program. IC also presented the project proposal "League of the young voters".

**11) Finances**

AG gave a report on the current state of finances. The finances are stabile, we went over budget on some points but overall we are doing well. AG will extend the Refund guidelines. For some budget posts, the specific possibilities of expenditures will be given. She proposed that we build up the reserves this and next year. SKI in charge of seeing if this is legal.

**12) Political planning (issues to address etc)**

The bureau discussed and decided to tackle upon the following topics in coming months:

- Multiannual financial framework 2014 – 2020
- Elections in Greece
- Human rights violations connected to Ukraine and the European Football Championship
- Gay prides
- Agenda for growth

**13) Press and visibility**

After a discussion the Bureau has decided to:

- Change the style of the press releases from the current one
- Our participants and delegates will be approached and asked to take photos that can later be used for the Libertas (inhouse photographers)
- Bureau members should start having a weekly video blog
- Twitter, Youtube and Facebook account should be used more
- The PowerPoint presentation will be redrafted by SKv
- LYMEC will launch a rebranding contest to change LYMEC's logo and visual identity, ES in charge of drafting the call.
- ES is in charge of drafting press strategy
- Network with local media as well
- Make database of the press officers in our MOs. ES in charge of drafting the call

#### **14) Campaigns**

SKv said that the Campaign on “Freedom of speech” will be postponed to autumn due to the delays resulting from the change of the bureau leadership. The idea and the plan will be further developed in Belgrade.

#### **15) Libertas**

The number of printed Libertas should be reduced to 500. ES is in charge of communicating this to Julian Kirrcher and to start planning the new issue. The new issue should have two specials; The gay prides in Europe where our MOs would be asked to submit the photos, and the presentation of the new bureau.

#### **16) Closing and planning next bureau meeting**

The next Bureau meeting will take place in London in September.