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LYMEC

Liberal House

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Dear Members, Bureau, and Secretariat of LYMEC,

I am seeking your support to join the LYMEC Bureau as a Bureau Member, where I hope to make our organisation more influential, inclusive, and connected.

I became involved in politics out of a desire to build a more cohesive, fair, and forward-looking society in Northern Ireland. Growing up in a post-conflict society shaped my understanding of how politics impacts everyday life, and reinforced the importance of putting people at the heart of decision-making. It is this principle that underpins my belief in liberalism as a force for effective governance, strong democratic institutions, and a society that is both free and works for everyone.

My interest in European politics began through a UK-German Connection seminar, where I first experienced the value of cooperation and shared European principles. Since then, I have been driven to turn my motivation and beliefs into action. I ran in the 2023 municipal elections in Antrim and Newtownabbey for the Alliance Party with a mandate to represent young people, and I have since been serving as Alliance Youth's International Officer, where I have focused on strengthening our international engagement and creating spaces for young liberals to create and influence policy and learn political skills.

Moreover, I have been actively involved in LYMEC over the past number of years. I was honoured to participate in the Young Changemakers Academy in 2024 and to represent LYMEC as part of our ALDE Delegation in 2025. Alongside the Congresses I've attended and the many conversations I've had across our network, these experiences have played an important role in shaping my political development and engagement. I am very proud of what we have been able to deliver as an organisation, even in difficult moments for liberalism, and this is what inspires me to take on a position within the Bureau.

I believe that I bring both the experience and the motivation to contribute effectively to the LYMEC Bureau. At a time when democracy is under increasing pressure, it is essential that LYMEC continues to strengthen its advocacy, visibility, and political impact across Europe.

Building on our work to date, I would like LYMEC to take a practical approach and focus on turning resolutions into real action. For me, that means strengthening how we advocate, making sure our ideas translate into real political impact through a clearer and more focused strategy. It also means widening the scope of our policy work so we can better respond to the challenges facing young people across Europe. At the same time, we should continue to deliver in areas where we already lead, from equality and LGBT+ rights to defence and support for Ukraine.

Alongside this, I want LYMEC to become a space where everyone feels able to step forward and get involved. There is real potential to do more here, for example, through initiatives like a women's network to support participation and leadership. Just as importantly, I think we can do more to bring our member organisations closer together, creating more opportunities to share ideas, learn from each other, and work together across borders.

To deliver on these ideas, I would be particularly keen to take on the advocacy or projects portfolio, drawing on my professional experience as a European Affairs Consultant in Brussels. Through my work across the EU institutions, as well as the political systems in the UK and Ireland, I have developed a practical understanding of how policy is shaped, how influence is built, and how effective advocacy and project management delivers results, giving me a strong foundation to take this work forward within LYMEC.

That being said, I approach this role with a collaborative mindset. Being a Bureau member means working together to shape LYMEC's direction, and I am ready to contribute wherever I can add the most value. I am ready to step into this role and take on the responsibility that comes with it. I would be very grateful to have your support and would like to thank you for your consideration.

With liberal regards,



TOMMY MONAHAN

**INTERNATIONAL OFFICER
ALLIANCE YOUTH**