

MINUTES
Bureau Meeting
31 MARCH 2022
ONLINE

Attending: Antoaneta Asenova-Bihlmayer (AA) Ines Holzegger (IH), Marina Sedlo (MS), Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Laia Comerma (LC), Marten Porte (MP) and Bálint Gyévai (BG)

Meeting starts at 18:30.

Joined at 18:50: Ida-Maria Skytte (IS)

1) Situation in Ukraine and LYMEC actions - 30 minutes

- Including ALDE Party Leaders meeting feedback from AA

The content was explained during the meeting with our Ukrainian MOs on Monday where members were also present. It was a great opportunity for LYMEC to be present there.

3 Ukrainian members from ALDE were present. AA got the floor to close the meeting with the youth voice.

- We organised our second “voices from Ukraine” meeting

We sent out the outcomes and follow up actions to our members today.

- Renew Europe meeting on Ukraine

Full content of what LYMEC did about the Ukrainian war is summarised in a PDF to be sent out to Renew Europe ahead of the meeting on Wednesday with MEPs. Our 3 organisations will be present to give their accounts as part of the Task force on the Year of the Youth next Wednesday between 10 and 11.

- We will continue the “voices from Ukraine” in the coming weeks.

2) Congress - 1 hour:

- Bookings and logistics updates

*Signature issues until now but we will have this finally settled in the coming days and move ahead with payments;

*We asked for extra rooms and wait for the hotel to give us an invoice and settle contract for that second part;

*The technical/hybrid aspects are also still unclear but it will be included in a deal with us.

- Programme (including evenings) and schedule

*AA to ask the MEPs from the Czech Republic to see what's possible - an email will be sent to follow up on earlier talks;

*One evening is at the hotel and the second would be on a boat;

*We start on Friday at 16 h until 19 h;

*The whole day on Saturday between 9 h until 18 h.

- *Working Groups on resolutions*

*Saturday 14 May, one week before the Congress online probably between 10 h and 14 h CEST.

*Will be taking part in this: MS, BG, Amy, Chiara, two chairs and one additional Bureau member - Laia is available, Ines too.

- *Newbies session*

*Online before the Congress - The Bureau decides it will be at **the same date as the OpenSlides training on 19 April.**

- *8 weeks deadline outcomes*

MO applications received - see website:

1. Applications for associate membership: Ze!Molodizhka Ukraine + Youth of Democratic Alignment Cyprus.
2. Applications for Full Membership: Movement for Youth! Latvia + Young Green Liberals Switzerland + Youth Democratic Movement Vesna Russia.

Vesna Youth Movement still needs to invite us to a statutory meeting to have a valid application. DAS will follow up with them.

- *MO fee exemption for Civil Forum Belarus*

The Bureau decides to proceed and avoid invoicing our organisation in Belarus this year due to the fact that they just came back from suspension and we re-evaluate at the moment their involvement in the organisation.

- *Freedom Fund requests*

(a) Nasa Stranka Youth request for prepayment of travels to the Spring Congress:

- Refund will be done based on what was decided by the Bureau earlier
- We can't do prepayments

(b) EYU request for the Freedom Fund:

- 200 EUR/person will be granted by the Bureau

(c) LDLU and Ze!Molodizhka Ukraine will have the door open if they want to take the opportunity as well at the same rates as EYU.

- *Elections (including debate of candidates)*

*Openslides will be used.

*Presentation of the candidates on the elections page before the Congress

*Debate of the candidates will take place - organised by the IMS in the last two weeks before the Congress

- *Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage*

Keith Henry - CONFIRMED

Lena Höglund - CONFIRMED

Katharina Schreiner - CONFIRMED

Pieter Sannen - CONFIRMED

Clara Puig de Torres-Solanot - CONFIRMED

- Participation fees

MP will send them out over the weekend or next week/weekend.

- Openslides

BG worked on it and prepared everything. We need to import the database of registered people. Will be done by mid next week so we can open Openslides as planned by the end of next week. MS will be in charge of the questions and technical support for OpenSlides during the Congress.

- Christine Khomyk participation Congress

The Bureau discussed and decided that since she didn't register at all, she can join in-person and attend the event but she has to take the initiative on her accommodation. She would have to pay the participation fee without accommodation. Otherwise she could join online.

- IMS delegation

Nicoleta Ciobanu resigned as IMS delegate and therefore her vote was transferred to Tim Robinson who will have two votes for this Congress.

3) Staff - 10 minutes:

- Recruitment Project assistant

Chiara Liguori was hired by the Bureau and she is starting on Monday as a full time employee.

4) Finances - 15 minutes:

- Update on the situation in 2022 until now

*Flight tickets are getting very expensive so we will spend more money on that than initially planned;

*ALDE Congress in Dublin will be very expensive in general;

*Increased budget will be used based on the profits of the past two years.

- Follow up external audit 2022

A few technical aspects weren't the clearest but everything is fixed by now.

We are waiting for the final report that will have to be approved and signed by the Bureau.

- MO fees 2022 updates

The Bureau discussed the outstanding ones and will follow up to have them paid before the Congress.

5) Events - 20 minutes:

- YCA 2022 - Event 1 - Bologna

*Feedback report with the completion of the starting survey

*Good quality event with an active group - a lot of ambitious advocacy projects

- YCA 2022 - Event 2 - Athens

*Communications - all speakers are confirmed and booked

*We are sorting out the shuttles at the moment

*Saturday evening trip to Athenes - restaurant and shuttle are confirmed

- ALDE Congress - Dublin

Registrations

It is an on-going process, the whole Bureau should register and then we will replace the relevant Bureau members after the elections.

Policy work

*First meeting took place and all of the delegation members attended;

*Brainstorming took place and 3 topics were mentioned:

- Mental health
- Migration (Dublin process and social side)
- Legalise drugs

*Deadline to submit the proposals at ALDE is 15 April.

Accommodation booking

We booked the accommodation and BG is going to make the payment very soon to save the option. It is around 5000 EUR but Dublin is expensive. **The Bureau approves the expenses.**

Participants and travels booking

*We will provide refunds of **125 EUR** per delegation member based on the completion of the form and submission of the necessary documentation;

*We will book the travels for BG, CL and MS soon and the rest will be booked after the elections at the last minute (no other option).

- Liberal Communicators Network - youth edition 2022 - Helsinki

*Call for participants and programme will be presented to ELF soon;

*First meeting will be set up between Chiara, IS and BG to discuss these two points in the coming weeks.

- Alliance of her Youth edition Session 2 - Budapest

*BG updates on the logistics that are being finalised and he is checking venues in Budapest the day after;

*LC presented the programme, in cooperation with Momentum.

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

*Youth of Europe's neighbourhood closer to the EU - growing EU identity and link with Ukraine should be our focus/emphasise;

*Willingness from Renew Europe and other youth organisations to cooperate and do more on the topic, we can facilitate;

*Meeting with the European Commission at the 4th Stakeholder meeting. IH explained to focus on the values in these times of war.

7) News from MOs and IMS - 5 minutes:

None

8) Libertas latest updates - 5 minutes:

*Next week, the distribution of the topics and priorities will take place;

- *3 candidates to replace Lucasta as Editor-in-chief, the election will be soon (internally);
- *Lucasta will remain in the team for a smooth transition.

9) Invitations - 5 minutes:

ELF Liberal Awards nominations

- *We must ensure that young people get visibility and we should nominate youth representatives;
- *The Bureau will think about it more until Monday. Ria Schroder will be nominated as a rising star.

Rainbow platform - BG

BG to participate in this Academy, he will disseminate the outcomes in LYMEC to improve our practices on diversity and inclusion.

Organising Freedom Conference in Stockholm - DAS

- *DAS is running in elections so he can't participate because it's an ELF event.
- *3 to 5 May 2022 during the week - no one is available so we can't send anyone this time.

Renew Europe Caucus in Strasbourg - MS

- *Discussions with the citizens (100) selected from applicants took place, some were LYMEC related representatives.
- *The next one is on April 8. MS will go again to represent us.

ALDE International Officers meeting - MP

- *Discussion took place with the EU Affairs State of Secretary;
- *Common brainstorming on how to support the national elections and parties despite the rules of the EP.

Invitation to SU Congress - IS

IS will be there as chair so she could also give an address on behalf of LYMEC.

Liberal Breakfast about the Hungarian elections - BG

BG to speak on Tuesday with Daniel Berg to assess the outcomes of the elections.

10) Next meeting

Thursday 19 May 2022 between 18 h 30 and 20 h 30 before Congress

11) AOB

A point is made on the Working Group structure. In fact, all the coordinators aren't necessarily delivering. It depends on the WG's. We will have to reassess and change the current practices where need be. The next Bureau should think about it.

End of the meeting at 22:00