



## MINUTES Bureau Meeting 16 November 2025

The meeting started at 10h00 CET 16/11/2025 and ended at 12h00 CET 16/11/2025. It was held in Bratislava, Slovakia

**Present:** Ines Holzegger (IH), Marten Porte (MP), Alexandre Servais (AS), Sean Bennett (SB), Dimitra Papadopoulou (DP), Willemijn Krans (WK), Sorcha Ni Chonghaile (SNC), Even Diot (ED).

**IH** opens the Bureau meeting and introduces the first agenda point.

### 1. LYMEC Congress 2025

**IH** thanks everyone for the LYMEC Autumn Congress, which just finished yesterday.

One learning from the elections to keep in mind:

Only having the possibility to vote YES for the Elections to the ALDE Congress, and for the Snap Vote for the Order of the Resolutions.

**IH** reminds the Bureau Members that it is their responsibility to advertise the Onboarding on OpenSlides to their MOs in their respective geographical area. As this is an opportunity not taken by a lot of delegates. This training is an Onboarding for the Congress and the OpenSlides Tools, which makes the Congress go smoothly.

**SNC** will remind all International Officers joining the Congress Working Groups to come with a minimum of 2 delegates to cover the different Working Groups when they are submitting amendments. If no one is present to present and defend an amendment during the Working Group, it will be debated on the Congress Floor, which is slowing the process.

Similarly, the IMS Debate is also a missed opportunity for the delegates as questions are asked twice: during the debate and again on the Congress Floor.

**WK** thanks the Chairs who, during the Congress, handled with brio the Policy discussions despite the numerous amendments to amendments. We need to remind the Chairs to speak clearly to enforce that order is respected on the Congress Floor.

**WK** also stresses the lack of Gender balance in our Congress, and proposes a Gender Watch of the Minutes to assess how gender balanced our Congresses are. This tool will be presented at the upcoming congress in Vienna.

**IH** agrees with **WK**, adding that whether it is who is taking the Floor during the event, or, for example, who the candidates are in Elections, there are ways of improvement.

**DP** will set up a meeting in the next weeks with **IH** and **WK** to discuss the gender balance in the organisation and ways of improving.

**SB** adds that the presence in the Congress Working Group will be addressed in the Onboarding guide for IOs, as well as on the LYMEC HUB, to ensure proper attendance.

**SNC** asks about the possibility of realising the snap vote ahead of Congress.



**IH** decline the idea, as ALDE is doing it, and it creates the issue with the Urgency Resolution being accepted and therefore discussed first and not subject to the Snap Vote of the Order of the resolution.

**IH** reminds the Secretariat that, following the Congress decisions, UDI Jeunes (France) and the Civil Forum Youth (Belarus) should be removed from the Website and Database.

**IH** tasks **AS** to set up a meeting with the Jeunes Radicaux in early 2026 to discuss the way forward.

## 2. YFJ Updates - WK 10 min

**WK** summarises the outcomes of the GA/COMEM of the European Youth Forum, which took place the previous week in Switzerland.

On policy, they are lacking concrete security proposals, and we should keep pushing on this policy area. Especially next year, as the Board will change and the new Strategic Plan will be voted on for the next mandate.

One positive aspect during the policy discussion is related to housing, where the term social is replaced by affordable to encompass more private ownership, relying less on state-funded schemes.

Several motions were also accepted on Train travel, digitalisation, peace building and menstrual poverty (Pink Tax)

On the organisation side, **WK** will draft a report for the bureau to detail the unfolding of the GA/COMEM that led to Vice-President Giorgos Aggelos Papaioannou having to step down following a vote of no-confidence.

**WK** also notes that several times the floor was refused to her without grounds by the Chair.

A formal complaint to the YFJ Board will be sent in December 2025.

The next General Assembly meeting will be held on May 7-9, 2026.

## 3. Erasmus+ - ED 5min

**ED** reminds the Bureau of the upcoming deadline for the application to Erasmus+ for 2026

**DP** reminds everyone that the European Commission is detecting the use of AI tools.

The Applications will be submitted on December 5, 2026.

## 4. Update from the Secretariat

**ED** presents the new Communications Assistant, who will be with LYMEC for the next 6 Months and presents the onboarding schedule with meetings planned with **AS** and **DP**. The former Communications Assistant will also be present for 3 days in November as support staff to ensure a smooth onboarding process.

## 5. EYF Call



**ED** presents the Project submitted to the European Youth Foundation for 2026. A training for writers aiming to professionalise the Libertas Team and members who wish to improve their writing skills.

The results of the selection process will be announced at the end of December 2025.

## **6. 50 Years of LYMEC / LYMEC Spring Congress 2026**

**AS** presents the schedule for the drafting phase of the 50 Years of LYMEC publication.

**AS** will send the drafting document to all Bureau Members to start writing.

- January: Draft finalised
- February: Draft sent to the Editors and for Design
- March: Publications sent to Print

**AS** informs the Bureau that FNF came to LYMEC to support us in reaching out to all former presidents of the organisation and to incentives the ongoing crowdfunding campaign in their regard.

ELF also expressed an interest in supporting us financially via a Flexible Format for the publication.

**DP** will meet with the Archives of Liberalism of Gummersbach in January.

## **7. Updates from the Meeting in Vienna**

**IH** presented the outcomes of the meeting held on November 13 in Vienna between LYMEC, ELF, JUNOS and NEOS Lab regarding the upcoming LYMEC Congress and ELF GA of April 2026.

The ELF GA will take place from Thursday through Friday.

On Friday Afternoon, ELF will organise from 12h00 to 16h00 a Conference organise a Conference, on Skills and Education

This Conference will be interactive with world cafe and workshop-style sessions.

This Conference will be the Congress Fringe of our Congress.

ELF will cover the cost of this Conference and support the organisation of a joint reception with LYMEC on Friday, April 17, 2026

**DP** stresses that it would be great if LYMEC could provide some trainers and speakers to the event.

**AS** mentions as well that the conference will be open to everyone and not only to Congress delegates.

## **8. AOB**

The first Digital Assembly 2026 on February 6-9 will be held in Istanbul, Turkey. LYMEC will seek support from FNF for the organisation of this event.

**MP** asks about the programme for Saturday at our next Congress.

**IH** explains that the Saturday reception will be the 50th Anniversary Reception.



**IH** mentions the Internal Audit report that was presented at the LYMEC Autumn Congress 2025, which has put both the Secretariat and the Bureau on the defensive. The focus of the report for the Autumn congress should be to focus more on Finance rather than HR.

**SB** expresses that the biggest concerns seem to have been the tone of the report itself rather than its content.

**DP** outlines that the report lacked context.

**AS** will meet with the Internal Auditors ahead of the next meeting and will express the will to be present at the next Internal Audit meeting.

**SB** presents the work done around the Code of Conduct. 2 LYMEC members are already working on it, and SB is coordinating their work. The First draft will be presented to the Bureau in early January for the first round of comments.

The Document will be presented at the Digital Assembly in February.

The Code of Conduct will be approved by the Bureau of the organisation and implemented from its adoption. The Document will be split into two with an appendix.

## 9. Tour de table

**DP** Meeting in December with **IH** and **WK** to discuss the proposition of the Gender Watch to be presented to the membership at the LYMEC Spring Congress 2026

**AS** will send the Draft of the LYMEC 50 Years to the Bureau Member for the writing phase.

**AS** will inform the Jeunes Radicaux of the Congress Decision and set up a meeting with them and **MP** in January 2026

**AS** will have a meeting with the Internal Auditors.

**WK** will send a report on YFJ GA/COMEM to the Bureau.

**IH-WK** will draft a formal complaint to the YFJ Board.

**WK** will deliver the remaining 2 Policy Briefings by the end of November and Early December.

**SNC** will work on updating the policy book following the adoption of 13 Resolutions

**SB** will deliver the draft of the Code of Conduct by early January 2026 and edit the Onboarding Guide for IOs to stress the importance of attending the Congress Working Group.



*ED left the meeting.*

### **10. Review Staff Reward Scheme - MP 5min**

The Bureau Approved the New Staff Reward Scheme.

The Document is stored internally at the LYMEC Secretariat.

*The Bureau Meeting ended at 12h00*

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