



MINUTES Bureau Meeting 01 July 2025 Online

The meeting started at 19h CEST and ended at 20h45 CEST. It was held online via ZOOM.

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

Excused: Chiara Liguori (CL)

IH opens the Bureau meeting, presents the new format for the Bureau meeting as more of a brainstorming and strategic planning session and introduces the first agenda point.

1. ALDE Congress LYMEC Campaign [topic and direction brainstorming]

IH proposes to the Bureau of the European Liberal Youth, LYMEC, to prepare a campaign for the upcoming ALDE Congress similar to the previous one on Chat Control, realised in 2023 at the ALDE Party Congress in Stockholm. Ideally, we would propose a topic from the Advocacy Plan. The topic should be decoupled from the work of the LYMEC Delegates to the ALDE Congress and their work on Resolutions.

IH opened the floor for discussion

SNC approves the decoupling between the campaign and the resolution to be proposed by LYMEC at the upcoming Congress. The delegates are working on 2 resolutions on Tech Innovation and Europe as a peace-building power. She advocates for a less technical campaign, with a clear message from the Programme of Action 2024-26. SNC put forward the idea to link the campaign to the Digital Assembly in Serbia on Free speech and education.

ED, in the absence of WK, presents the advocacy plans with the current EU legislation that LYMEC can work on this year:

- Omnibus I and II Packages,
- EU Space Act,
- EU Digital Network
- and the Amendment to the European Climate Law.

AS proposes to work on the Omnibus package, where we have potentially strong inputs on simplification with a focus on competitiveness and the benefits for the European economy in general. AS also presents the second event of 2025 of the Young Liberal MEPs that will be co-organised by ALDE and LYMEC during the Congress.

DP stresses the importance, regardless of the topic chosen, to be specific and simple. Competitiveness is indeed key for us, for liberalism and for our member organisations.

MP presents another idea, highlighting that the success of our previous work on Chat Control was due to the fact that LYMEC's perspective on Chat Control was not fully shared by ALDE, thus bringing



controversy. One aspect in our policy book that can recreate the same effect is the creation of a European Defence Force.

SNC stresses the importance of securing enough MEPs to be represented at our Young Liberal MEPs event.

AS confirms that the Secretariat is working with the ALDE Party to ensure proper attendance during the Congress.

SB supports the idea of MP on bringing up the European Defence Force topic. Firstly, because it is timeless and timely, secondly, this topic allows members from non-EU countries to be involved.

IH would like the upcoming political campaign to be linked to an upcoming piece of legislation at the EU level.

ED will provide the LYMEC Bureau with an overview of the upcoming European Defence legislative packages.

DP presents the benefits of having our campaign detached from our advocacy work and more as a conversation starter.

AS approves the idea of defence, it brings more controversy and it is a wide topic, so we can focus more on a simpler message and then get more specific with stakeholders, either with a focus on Budget, on SMEs, on a European Army, etc.

IH thanks all the Bureau members for their input. She asks every member to keep thinking throughout July about the campaign topic. She will have a call with WK to coordinate the upcoming steps.

The LYMEC Bureau will agree on the Advocacy Campaign at the Bureau Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia.

SNC mentions that the LYMEC Resolutions to the ALDE Congress will be ready before the next Bureau meeting in Serbia.

WK joins the meeting

2. 50 years of LYMEC

IH reminds the Bureau that the organisation is turning 50 in 2026 and that we need to think forward. **AS** presented the work that has already been done, starting with the event held in The Hague in December 2024, the Fringe event with the Alumni Network at the ALDE Council 2025, and the upcoming Young Leaders' Meeting in Luxembourg on EU Strategic Autonomy. We should look back at how the organisation has evolved in the past 50 years, taking inputs from former members to reflect on what we should focus on for the next 50 years.

MP mentions that a trip to Gummersbach will be needed to gather some content from previous resolutions passed, pictures, and files that are stored there.

DP will prepare a project plan in cooperation with the LYMEC Secretariat to kick off the discussion. One aspect not to forget throughout this project is our uniqueness. We are not only a youth political



organisation, but we are also proposing a set of training and capacity building that most PPYO are not doing.

WK is encouraged by the discussions about this project and is willing to provide input to the plans and proposes content based on personal stories, Libertas articles, etc. WK asked about the dissemination plan for the publication.

MP will get back to the Bureau in Belgrade regarding the Budget available for this project.

ED states that, regarding the archive in Gummersbach, this is something that will be needed as barely any files from the first archives have been digitised, and we will plan a visit to the archives to digitise media and retrieve resolutions and articles from the early years of the European Liberal Youth LYMEC.

WK brings up the idea of a general fundraising campaign and how to make it appealing. She proposes to do so in a similar way to what we are doing for the current LYMEC 50-year publication, but more generally and with an explanation of what that money is contributing to. WK also recommends doing some social media bits and videos with alumni such as Svenja Hahn, Xavier Bettel, etc., to keep the momentum going during the fundraising period and the survey collections.

DP comments on the way to commit members to engage more with the LYMEC Community and acquire new members during this campaign.

SB agrees with WK on the global fundraising strategy to be copied and developed from the one we are doing for the publication, and to provide context on where the funds are allocated.

SNC presents an idea for the publication to have a growth map of members from the different countries, including members who were present since the beginning and members who arrived later to show the extension and growth of the organisation throughout the years.

DP adds that a mapping of the stakeholders and partners will be interesting, as well as a series of videos from past LYMEC Presidents.

ED expresses the idea of decoupling the project between the Publication and the social media campaign.

SNC mentions that, despite the importance of highlighting some political stories, such as Alumni who became MPs, MEPs, Ministers, etc., It is also important to emphasise the community aspect of LYMEC, where being an elected politician is not always the end goal, as we are an organisation also focused on capacity and community building.

AS expresses the will to start the video campaign during the summer, following the adoption of the project plan to create some video content. With alumni reacting to old content, a sort of series of testimonial videos.

IH thanks everyone for their inputs and asks to keep thinking of the narrative of the project to launch everything after the Bureau meeting in Serbia.

3. IFLRY Representative: next steps



IH: Ioana Abaseaca had to leave her position as IFLRY Representative of LYMEC following the start of her new position within the Romanian Government. The LYMEC Bureau thanked her for the great work done over the mandate and wished her the best of luck in her professional endeavours.

The Bureau should now appoint the new IFLRY representative. Based on Article 23 of the Rules of the Procedure:

"The LYMEC Bureau can decide to appoint an interim IFLRY representative for the period until the next Congress. The interim IFLRY representative must be proposed to the first upcoming Congress for the remainder of the term."

To be transparent, LYMEC will launch an open call within the Membership asking to provide a letter of motivation to apply for the position. The Bureau will approve the candidate by written procedures and present the new IFLRY Representative at the Digital Assembly in Belgrade, Serbia.

SNC left the meeting

4. Comms collaborations: where to go from here [for decision]

DP shared partnership opportunities with 2 organisations prior to this Bureau meeting and asked that every bureau member provide written feedback by Thursday, 03/07.

WK mentions that one organisation will be a good fit for the webinar on Voices from Ukraine.

5. SNC asked about a potential meeting with the newly elected IFLRY Bureau.

IH mentions that a call will be scheduled first between the 2 Presidents, VPs and Treasurers and that we will coordinate later during the Autumn for a call altogether with the two Boards.

The meeting ends at 20h45 CEST.

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