

MINUTES
Bureau Meeting
22 October 2021
Paris, France

In-person Bureau meeting, taking place between 9 h 30 and 12 h 00 on Friday 22 October 2021 in Paris, France.

Present: Antoaneta Asenova-Bihlmayer (AA), Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Ines Holzegger (IH), Marina Sedlo (MS), Marten Porte (MP) and Bălint Gyévai (BG)

Joined online first and then in-person Laia Comerma (LC) and Ida-Maria Skytte (IS)

Guest: Daniel Kaddik - Executive Director, ELF - European Liberal Forum

Meeting starts at 9 h 50

1) Congress (30 min)

**Roles and responsibilities*

The Bureau discussed the last details and everyone reflected on their own tasks. Briefings were clear and last updates were shared by BG.

**Logistics - metro tickets*

MS and MP will buy the transport tickets for all participants to ensure smooth travel to the evening venues.

**Bureau reports and MO application*

USR Tineret applied and the Bureau will give a positive recommendation to the Congress to accept them as full members. They will show a video to Congress. All Bureau members will be present at the stage for short comments and questions during the Bureau reports.

**MO suspension*

a. SMC Youth - Slovenia

An email was received from the new President willing for her organisation to be active again and pay their debts. If they pay then the suspension will not be proposed to the Autumn Congress, money needs to be in the account, proper proof of payment will be requested.

The proof of payment was received during the meeting so the Bureau withdraws the suspension.

b. Mladi LDP - Serbia

We move forward with the suspension and will see how to reduce their debt. We had no reply from them despite several attempts.

c. Mladi Liberali - Bosnia/Herzegovina

Suspension is proposed since the last MO fee wasn't paid. They are waiting for new leadership to be active again and asked to be suspended in the meantime.

2) Finances (15 min)

***Closing of the year**

- Two new laptops for SG and Assistant were bought and are in use now;
- End of the year will be a significant surplus again because the website and the Congress were cheaper than expected;
- We planned the internal and external audits for February 2022 already.
- New Alumni Network Board was elected and composed as follows: Daniel Kaddik, Jan van Run-Kvist, Svenja Hahn and Danica Vihinen. They are meeting next week to divide responsibilities, a signal group was created and access to the Alumni members' last was given. We clearly need more members and fundraising events will be organised.

3) Location of the next LYMEC Spring Congress 2022 - for decision (30 min)

Regarding the location, we need to check where it will be possible for people to connect. For the Spring Congress, we need to take four indicators into account before deciding:

- Price
- Location that is easy to reach - connectedness
- How willing locals are to cooperate
- Access for non-EU

The Bureau decides that Skopje will not have the Spring but the Autumn one. The Bureau also decides that the Congress will take place at the end of May- between 20-22 May.

We will OPEN a CALL FOR CONGRESS hosting with pre-selected conditions as leading criteria. Accessibility for non-EU members to send delegations to ensure equal chance in the Electoral Congress. Current restrictions specifically for non-EU citizens. Budgetary constraints. Hybrid capabilities. Strong internet - strong local organiser team.

Timeline as follows: Wednesday opening of the call - deadline on 15 November. Final decision on the location on 6 December at the next Bureau Meeting.

4) Calendar 2022 - for decision (30 min)

The Bureau discussed and decided about the dates of the calendar for next year. It will be soon available on our website (by the end of the year) for everyone. We are expecting clarity about a few additional events and their dates. We will then release the final version.

5) Winter Academy - maybe - checking access to EP (6 to 10 December)

The rules to access the EP building for visitors will be revised on 3 November. They might decide to open it or not - depending on the pandemic. Not sure if the situation changes - maybe with the COVID certificate. We have to wait till 3 November and see if we go ahead with the Winter Academy and the Anniversary event.

The Bureau agrees that if no Winter academy takes place this year then we also postpone the anniversary event.

6) Suspension Civil Forum from Belarus - for decision

The Bureau was in touch with the main stakeholders and decided to lift the suspension - welcome them back in the LYMEC family. An e-mail is ready to be sent out.

The Bureau therefore welcomes the Civil Forum Youth of Belarus back. DAS will send out the email communication to them to let them know about the news.

7) Upcoming events (15 min)

**ELF YCA in Brussels:*

We will use the ELF facilities for the event (their conference room). BG confirmed details with the participants. IH and MP to be present from the Bureau side. Focus on fundraising, talking with media and meeting with MEPs/stakeholders Hotel was booked at Renaissance hotel close to the office.

Regarding the sessions: MEP Nico Stefanuta to be considered - invite to be sent (by IH), Joveva to do an intro (online), Emma Wiesner to be considered, Anna Donàth to check, Daniel Kaddik to be present too.

**CoE Study session in Strasbourg:*

IS explains and gives updates on the event:

- Prep meeting wasn't the best experience - bit unstructured
- 3-4 people from CoE are now involved on our project
- 20 selected participants both from ACP YCN and LYMEC
- Laia has been replaced by Sara
- Adelaide couldn't make it for the full programme so another person from ACP YCN replaced her
- A lot of upcoming deadlines and work to be done but good team
- Team members booking their own flights and ask refund to the CoE
- BG to send a reminder on the refund request for the prep meeting costs

8) News from IMS and MOs (10 min)

- a. Julis Congress in November with the election of a new President
- b. JOVD had a Congress and elected a new Bureau
- c. IH will attend the JUNOS Congress

9) Invitations (15 min)

**COFOE:*

a. Renew Europe Group Citizen Panels

We will send it out to our members and mention it at the CoFoE point during the Congress. We will motivate our members to join.

b. ELF

They will also organise some more CoFoE events by the end of the year. DK explains that LYMEC is always welcome to join.

c. JAM

JAM came up with a project proposal on organising discussion all over Europe. Partnering on the project is a good idea and we can involve our MOs. More information will follow. IH and BG will be involved.

**COP Glasgow - 7 to 8 November:*

The British Conservation Alliance invited us for the side event “YES” next to the COP in Glasgow. They are looking for participants. It looks like an interesting event and would be relevant for us. ALDE/LI side event will be taking place online on the 8 as well.

The Bureau decides that MP could go with Chiara to represent us.

**Auschwitz delegation - 8 to 9 November:*

No info on accommodation and travels, we need more information and details and decided on that basis. Who is organising and what is included, who else is confirmed and who is actually in charge would also be asked. AA is not sure to go but maybe possible.

**FNF Georgia study visit*

DAS will check availability and check with ELF how it goes.

**ELF Executive class*

DK explained that it is a test run for an internal leadership training as a service for ELF members - management and campaigning are the objective.

We might send someone, AA could make it but need to check with another event first. If not AA then MP could apply.

**Head of policies meeting*

16-18 November meeting in Stockholm - MS should try to attend if DAS can't

10) AOB (5 min)

Next Bureau meeting will take place on **6 December at 18 h CET online on Zoom.**