

MINUTES Bureau Meeting 06 February 2026

The meeting started at 10:00 GMT+3 06/02/2026 and ended at 17h30 GMT+3 06/02/2026. It was held in person in Istanbul and via Zoom.

Present: Ines Holzegger (IH), Marten Porte (MP), Alexandre Servais (AS), Sean Bennett (SB), Willemijn Krans (WK), Dimitra Papadopoulou (DP), Even Diot (ED), Lily Marie Hornstein (LMH)

Excused: Sorcha Ni Chonghaile (SNC)

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

1. Digital Assembly 2026-1

- Women@LYMEC presentation

WK and **DP** presented the data on Women Representation at our Congress ahead of the Digital Assembly of February 7th.

Observations will be presented at the DA to the participants ahead of the preparations and registrations for LYMEC Congress Spring 2026 to encourage gender balanced representations from Member Organisations.

- Code of Conduct - SB

SB presented the steps taken in the last couple of months to have the code of conduct ready to be implemented for LYMEC and presented to the membership soon.

IH asks about the potential deadline for the implementation of the Code of Conduct.

SB the Survey will be sent to the members next week and will be open for 1 month. Following this, a first draft will be sent to the Member Organisations for comments. After a feedback period of 2 weeks, the final Document will be drafted and approved by the Bureau ahead of its adoption at the LYMEC Spring Congress in Vienna.

Dimitra Papadopoulou (DP) left the meeting.

MP expresses the need to amend the Rules of Procedures in line with the Adoption of the Code of Conduct. The document will be edited to mention the code of conduct.

The amendment will be proposed at the 8-week deadline of Congress.

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2. 50 years of LYMEC - Publication AS

- Updates Publications

AS thanked the Bureau for the work done in the writing phase of the publication.

AS and **DP** are gathering offers for the Graphic Design, and the offers will be sent to the Bureau for a written decision.

The graphic designer will be selected before the end of February. The designed publication will be ready for early March and sent for printing mid-march.

The Secretariat will look for options to ship the publications directly to the Congress.

- Updates fundraising

AS updates the Bureau about the Fundraising campaign ongoing on our website and the discussions with FNF Europe for additional financial support to design and print the publications.

- Online-Event #LYMEC50 Campaign, March 4

AS presents the Webinar launching the #LYMEC50 Campaign. On March 4, LYMEC will organise a webinar open to its members to present the publications and the ongoing campaign celebrating the anniversary of the organisation.

Once the design is ready, members will be allowed to pre-order the publications on our website to help us determine the quantity of the publications LYMEC will need to print.

The event will be shared on the newsletter and through the website.

3. End of Mandate

- Preparation of Handover Document

ED informed the Bureau, as the mandate is coming to an end, that they should draft a Handover Document for the upcoming Bureau of 2026-28. The document should include the list of the different tasks they are responsible for, their regional responsibilities, the projects they are in charge of, as well as the responsibilities with regard to the Secretariat.

Following the election of the new bureau, a handover meeting should be planned not only between the outgoing and newly elected Bureau, but also with the individual Bureau Members per portfolio for a smooth transition.

The deadline to submit the Bureau Handover Document is set for April 3rd.

The Internal Auditors will also draft a handover note to the Bureau that will be added to the Handover Documents.

4. Finances

MP informs the Bureau of the result of the Internal Audit, which was conducted in Brussels on January 30th and 31st. A good result is expected for 2025 with a surplus of around 30 000 EUR, bringing our internal reserve to around 120 000 EUR. This was made possible thanks to the diversification of our partners supporting us throughout the year and at Congress.

AS was also present at this Internal Audit for the Human Resources part. All recommendations have been implemented, and no additional recommendations have been added.

MP listed the outstanding invoices due to LYMEC in 2025

- **3H** - membership fee 2025
- **CUB Junior** - membership fee 2025
- **Liberal Students of Norway** - membership fee 2025
- **Jeunes Radicaux** - membership fee 2024/23 - No Show Fee LYMEC Spring Congress 2023
- **JULIS Member** - No-Show Fee - YLM 2025
- **Gibraltar Liberal Youth** - No Show Fee - LYMEC Autumn Congress 2025

MP reminds the Bureau to contact the remaining organisations that have not filled out the membership survey for 2026.

The Membership Fees for 2026 will be sent next week.

5. Erasmus+ State of play - ED 5mn

- Final Reporting / Decision 2026

The deadline to submit the Final Reporting for 2025 is the end of February.

LMH contacted **SB** and **DP** for the remaining Inputs needed on the Reporting documents.

The Secretariat will submit the Final Reporting on February 12th.

Lunch Break 12h-14h

6. LYMEC Spring Congress - 5 mn

- General Updates

ED informs the bureau about the state of play regarding the organisation of the Congress in Vienna on April 17-18, 2026.

The Congress Venues and the Hotels will be separated but located close by in the city.

- Saturday Reception

IH introduces the LYMEC 50th Anniversary Reception, taking place on Saturday, April 18th. The event will be open to Congress delegates, LYMEC Alumni and selected VIP Guests upon registration.

The Secretariat will create a specific Event page for the Reception with a dedicated Registration link.

A Save The Date will be shared within the Alumni network and in the newsletter.

- MPs

IH will contact NEOS MPs and invite additional NEOS representatives to the reception.

- External ALDE leadership.

The Secretariat will invite the ALDE Leadership to the LYMEC 50th Anniversary Reception.

- Conference ELF Friday 17

The Conference on Skills with ELF and NEOS will take place in the Congress Venue on Friday, April 17th.

Upon reception of the Draft programme and Registration link, the event will be shared to Congress Delegates and shared with our broader membership.

JUNOS will support us in inviting local participants from their network.

ED informs the Bureau that, as the Conference will be in the same rooms, the secretariat will need support on Friday morning to set up the room ahead of the beginning of the Conference and Congress.

Bureau members are expected to arrive on Thursday or early Friday Morning to support the setup.

- Updates MO

- Applications Associate Member - NOVA Italy

ED informs the Bureau that NOVA, an Italian organisation, applied to join LYMEC as an Associate Member at the LYMEC Spring Congress in Vienna.

SNC met with them already and will issue a membership recommendation ahead of the Congress.

- Congress Deadlines

- Change to the Statutes - 8 Weeks Deadline
22/02/2026
- Change to the Rules of Procedures - 8 Weeks
Deadline 22/02/2026
- Annual Budget 2026 Update - 4 Weeks Deadline
20/03/2026
- Annual Financial Report 2025
- Financial Report January- March 2026
- Bureau Reports - 4 Weeks Deadline 20/03/2026
- Membership Recommendation - 4 Weeks Deadline
20/03/2026
- Deadline for applications for Bureau Members and
Internal Auditors to be advertised on the LYMEC
Website - 4 Weeks Deadline 20/03/2026
- Deadline for requesting a reduced membership fee - 4
Weeks Deadline 20/03/2025
- Internal Audit report - 3 Weeks Deadline 27/03/2026

- Suspensions/disaffiliations of Member organisations

IH proposes to suspend the CUB Junior (Moldova), an organisation with whom we lost contact since Spring 2025. The Membership fee for 2025 remains unpaid. Additionally, **IH** informs the Bureau that the Party CUB was expelled from the ALDE Party at the Autumn Congress 2025. In order for the organisation to accumulate debt, **IH** propose for CUB Junior be suspended.

Vote: In Favour: 5 - Absent: 2

Decision: CUB junior will be proposed for suspension at the LYMEC Spring Congress 2026

IH proposes to disaffiliate Jeunes Radicaux (France). The organisation was proposed for disaffiliation at the LYMEC Autumn Congress 2025. Since then,

LYMEC has not been in contact, has not received a debt reduction plan, nor a contact for an international officer.

IH propose to disaffiliate Jeunes Radicaux in case they do not provide us with the contact of an international office and a debt payment plan before the 8-week deadline. If they do so in time, the proposal for disaffiliation will be withdrawn

Vote: In Favour: 5 - Absent: 2

Decision: Jeunes Radicaux will be proposed for disaffiliation at the LYMEC Spring Congress 2026.

- Fringe Event Women's Empowerment

DP presents the idea of a Fringe on Women's Empowerment ahead of the LYMEC Spring Congress 2026.

The Secretariat will check for availability for the venue and coordinate the Programme with ELF.

This 45-minute fringe event will be open to women and diverse members of Congress.

7. Selection LYMEC Autumn Congress 2026

3 Member Organisations applied to host the LYMEC Autumn Congress 2026: Nasa Stranka (Bosnia i Hercegovina), USR Tineret (Romania) and the Lithuanian Liberal Youth (Lithuania)

Decision: The Bureau selected the application put forward by the Lithuanian Liberal Youth for Vilnius.

8. European Liberal Forum

Every Bureau Members have set their dates for the Project Initiation Calls for the project with ELF:

- Young Changemakers Academy
- Young Leaders Meeting
- Women and Leadership Accelerator
- Liberal Hack

9. European Youth Forum

The Electoral General Assembly of the European Youth Forum is taking place in Tromsø, Norway. May 07-09/05.

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2 Delegates from LYMEC can travel there. The registrations will close in March ahead of the elections of the new Bureau.

The Bureau decided that **SB** and **WK** will be attending the GA on behalf of LYMEC.

10. Update from the Secretariat

- ALDE 50 years / Youth Leaders Summit

ED presents the project of the Youth Leaders Summit of ALDE for 2026. The Secretariat is supporting the ALDE Party in organising a summit on the 8th of May in Brussels.

- European Youth Foundation

ED informs the Bureau that the Grant agreement has been signed for the Libertas Bootcamp 2026.

The organisation of the training will start following the selection of the LIBERTAS Team for 2026.

- RENEW COR YELL

ED informs the Bureau that RENEW COR will organise again in 2026 the Young Elected Local and Regional Leaders in Brussels.

Following the election of the new Bureau, a member will be appointed to support the Secretariat in the organisation of this event.

- RENEW Europe - Renew Youth Summit

ED informs the Bureau that, in addition to RENEW's financial support to LYMEC, a youth summit will be held in Brussels during the Autumn of 2026, similar to the Youth Can Do It summit of 2023 and 2025. LYMEC will support its organisation with the programme and the participants.

- Fundraising

- APPLE

Ongoing discussions with the company. A discussion is scheduled in February with the Secretariat for potential support in 2026.

- Microsoft

Ongoing discussion with the company for the organisation of ad-hoc events in Brussels in 2026.

- Even's foundation

Ongoing discussion with the Foundation for a potential training between the different European political youth organisations.

- Youth Agenda

ED Informs the Bureau that the Secretariat attended the launch event of the organisation in Brussels. Newly established youth led organisation, transpartisan, with the purpose of youth advocacy at the EU level, with national offices to be established across Member States.

No further meeting expected until the new bureau is elected.

11. Tour de table / AOB

MP will work on the Statutory changes for the Rules of Procedures and the Statutes changes, as well as the Congress Deadlines.

MP will send the Membership fees for 2026.

SB will select the new LIBERTAS team for 2026 with its new composition of 1 editor-in-chief and 2 managing editors. An introductory call with the new team will be scheduled, and a calendar for the articles will be drafted.

SB will send the Survey related to the new Code of Conduct as decided by the Bureau.

SB, the updated guide to International Officers will be sent to the IOs with their new Login details to the LYMEC HUB in coordination with the Secretariat.

SB mentions the Standing Inclusion Form of LYMEC. Its name should be edited as it relates to the disclosure of information rather than the inclusion. The Inclusion Form will be renamed the Disclosure Form.

DP will work with LMH for a name for the ELF project on Women's Empowerment.

DP will work with AS for the selection of a graphic designer for the LYMEC50 Publication, as well as a videographer for the social media campaign.

The call for the new Communication team will be launched in July 2026.

AS will focus on the LYMEC50 Publication, its proofreading and the selection of the designer.

AS will coordinate the soft launch on March 4th.

AS will hold an HR meeting with the LYMEC Secretariat on February 11.

WK will work with MP for the Policy Briefing of February.

WK is coordinating with IFLRY for the complaint to the YFJ following the incidents that occurred at the last COMEM/GA.

WK inform the Bureau that a letter will be sent from INGO addressed to the Board of YFJ. They will circulate the letter to us for comments.

WK will work on the Voices from Ukraine scheduled for February 2026. To work with our Ukrainian members and partners on the content of the event.

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- **MO Invitations**

YGL invited AS to be present at their general assembly. As LYMEC was already represented at the previous meeting, the invitations will be declined.

- **MO Engagement**

ED reminds the Bureau members to provide the Secretariat with pictures when travelling to the MOs General Assembly and Congresses for reporting purposes to the European Commission.

ED also informs the Bureau that, following comments of the European Commission we will recommend statements from our members Organisations to be provided in both their national languages and in English to improve the language diversity of LYMEC through 2026.

ED reminds the Bureau of potential Full Membership Applications, the attendance of a Bureau member at one of their Statutory Meetings is statutory in the application process of becoming a Full Member of LYMEC.

12. Any other business

No AOBs were discussed.

The Meeting ended at 17h30