

LYMEC – Internal Motions document

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*Following the LYMEC Spring Congress 2025 in Zagreb, Croatia, **motions 10.22 and 10.24** were incorporated into the new Rules of Procedure, formally approved by the Congress on April 5, 2025.*

10.21 Gender equality within LYMEC

Movers: SU, JnC

Adopted at LYMEC Autumn Congress in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 13 October 2018

Considering that:

- Gender equality is a fundamental human right of crucial importance, a right that LYMEC and all of LYMEC's Member Organisations support.
- ALDE, LYMEC, YDE and CoR organised a Summit of Young Elected Local and Regional Leaders in Brussels 17.9.2018. 18 young politicians participated, 1 of the participants was a woman, 17 were men.

Believing that:

- In order to reach true gender equality, gender considerations need to be included on all political levels.
- Acknowledging the importance of gender equality will contribute to reaching equal representation in politics.
- Improved gender equality within decision-making results in more representative politics, and therefore contributes to democracy.
- Gender quotas cannot be part of a liberal solution.

Calls for:

- LYMEC to actively strive for gender equality within the organisation, i.e. by including gender considerations when planning events, and by encouraging especially women to participate in LYMEC's events.

- Member Organisations to actively strive for gender equality within their organisations, i.e by recruiting and supporting more female members and candidates.

10.23 Introducing a sunset clause to LYMEC resolutions

Adopted at the LYMEC Autumn Congress 2019 in London, United Kingdom, 9 November 2019

Acknowledging that:

- The LYMEC Policy book contains 410 pages and 338 resolutions creating an important number of proposals.
- Resolutions approved at the Congress are automatically added to LYMEC Policy Book and constitute LYMEC positions.

Whereas:

- LYMEC representation is based on the positions embedded in the LYMEC Policy Book.
- Currently, the LYMEC Policy book contains some resolutions that have already achieved their purpose, that are too dated to represent a LYMEC position, or that in part contradicts other LYMEC positions.

The LYMEC Bureau calls:

- that all future resolutions shall include as a mandatory requisite either of the following sentences in the end of the text: "This resolution archives Resolution (number) on (name) adopted in (place and time)" or "This resolution does not archive any previous resolution", in order to be admissible.
- that all future resolutions shall be subject to an automatic 6 year sunset clause, entering into force from the day of their adoption. After the passing of 6 years (to be understood as the similar congress six years after the congress of adoption and not as date to date), unless a discussion on prolonging the validity of a resolution with another 6 years is requested by at least one member organization, an IMS delegate or by the LYMEC Bureau, the resolution will be automatically archived. The motion for prolonging the validity of a resolution shall be made 4 weeks before the Congress along with resolutions and motions. The discussion on prolonging the validity is to be added in the

beginning of the order of resolutions. If the motion to prolong the validity of a resolution is approved by Congress, the said resolution shall not be archived. An additional line shall in that case be added to the tags of the resolution, stating "Prolonged at LYMEC Congress in (place) on (date), in order to identify the next point of review/automated archiving.

- that prior to Congress the LYMEC Bureau shall make a list of the expiring resolutions and recommend their prolongation, archival or an updated version. The bureau can submit the necessary motions and resolutions accordingly.
- that the validity period of a resolution is from the congress of adoption to the congress of the same season 6 years later and not a strict 6 calendar years.

10.25 When great communicators come together, they create greater results

Movers: Junge Liberale (JuLis), Jungfreisinnige, Junos, LHG, USR Tineret, JOVD, LLY, Centerstudenten, LDLU

Adopted at LYMEC Electoral Spring Congress in Prague, Czechia on 21 May 2022.

Considering that

- A new Communications Officer will be elected at the Spring Congress.
- LYMEC is expanding as an organization and aims for its policies to reach a broad European audience.
- LYMEC started training young communicators of its member organizations with the "Young Communicators Network."
- A squad is a group of experts in a particular field who divide up the work that is part of public relations, for example, and have specified their responsibilities. For example, one person may be responsible for press releases, another for creating social media content and managing campaigns, while a third person may be responsible for external communications with other organizations and politicians. Together they collaborate with the communications officer.

Believing that:

- for the impact of LYMEC's political values, convictions, and activities, its broad communication and social media reach are essential.
- the fields of Communications are optimized with wider collaboration and the input of experts.
- sharing responsibilities and delegating individual projects to experts will support the newly elected Communications Officer and enhance the quality and quantity of content to also increase the outreach in the long term.
- LYMEC's member organizations have shown throughout Europe that their expertise in communications, social media, and campaigning leads to the spread of liberal values and policies and reaches a broad audience in traditional press and social media.

LYMEC MO's call on the new board to:

- define the target group of the social media channels of LYMEC.
- evaluate the implementation of a "Communication Squad" to support the Communications Officer in various fields such as campaigns, social media, presswork, and other tasks.
- to create a press/social media database to make logos, press releases, and campaign materials more accessible for member organizations when collaborating with LYMEC.
- create a communication strategy that involves actions "on the ground" like demonstrations or other real-life actions in the public sphere to support social media campaigns.
- develop joint public communications formats with and among the member organizations in order to reflect the existing, valuable cooperation of the member organizations in the form of media.
- use instruments like public letters to persons in charge or public statements to react to current political issues based on the policy book.
- in addition to communicating LYMEC's policies and personal activities, use social media in a more effective way to disseminate educational content around its liberal European politics.
- develop a campaign targeting the general public, and in general adopt a more active stance on social media, in order to increase awareness and visibility of LYMEC among the general public.

10.26 Practising what we preach: a sustainable LYMEC

Moved by: IMS Delegates

Co-signed by: Lithuanian Liberal Youth, Young Liberals, JNC, Ógra Fianna Fáil, USR Tineret, Svensk Ungdom

Adopted at LYMEC Electoral Spring Congress in Prague, Czechia on 21 May 2022.

Considering that:

1. LYMEC has repeatedly endorsed sustainability measures; as of the 2021 Autumn LYMEC Congress, there are 14 resolutions on climate action, energy and natural resources in the LYMEC policy book. Several of these resolutions specifically endorse the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
2. According to an IPCC report published in April 2022, it is "now or never" to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius in the 21st century: to meet this goal, set by the Paris Agreement, global emissions would have to peak in 2025, and fall by 43% by 2030. This target looks unlikely to be met at present;
3. LYMEC is a significant contributor to global emissions: several hundred people travel to attend LYMEC congresses, bureau meetings, and other events each year, the vast majority of whom arrive and depart by air;

Believing that:

1. LYMEC is deeply committed to the cause of sustainability, and sustainable development according to the UN's SDGs. Sustainability is not just about the environment, but social and economic goals too;
2. climate action is not something external to us. It is not enough to demand that governments and corporations change their policies:

- we must adapt our own behaviours too. Net-zero emissions will not be brought about by government policy alone;
3. the time for action was yesterday: it may already be too late to limit global emissions to acceptable levels in the 21st century. Progress has been too slow, proposals have been too unambitious, and above all, too many people are not incentivised to reduce carbon emissions in the short-term;
 4. we must practice what we preach. We cannot talk about sustainability without addressing the sustainability of our own organisation;
 5. it is impossible for LYMEC, as an international organisation, to conduct our work without significant use of air travel. We must also recognise that alternatives to air travel are limited outside mainland Western Europe: particularly for insular areas. None-the-less, we cannot simply write these emissions off: we must use alternatives to air travel where reasonably possible, and find ways to compensate for flight-based emissions in our activities where we can;

LYMEC moves for:

1. the LYMEC bureau to commission a thorough carbon audit of LYMEC, including direct and indirect emissions from LYMEC's administrative activities, events, and travel by bureau members;
2. the LYMEC bureau to circulate the report of the carbon audit among LYMEC member organisations and individual members following its completion, and to institute regular reporting on LYMEC's carbon footprint in the future;
3. the LYMEC bureau to develop a sustainability strategy that aims to reduce LYMEC's carbon footprint through various means, and incorporate LYMEC's commitment to the SDG's into internal decision-making. Measures should be selected to ensure that they are appropriate to the needs of LYMEC and its member organisations and individual members, but could include:
 - encouraging bureau members, congress delegates and event participants to select the most eco-friendly method of transport available when travelling to Bureau meetings, Congresses and other events;
 - modifying travel subsidies for LYMEC events to encourage the use of rail travel and compensate for the often higher cost of rail (whilst recognising that rail is not always a feasible alternative);
 - exploring the use of carbon offsetting for events and travel, and recommending carbon offsetting programmes to Congress delegates and event participants;

- if possible, purchasing low-carbon electricity for LYMEC's offices;
 - ensuring that food waste is minimised at LYMEC events, and that left-over food is donated instead of disposed of where possible;
4. the LYMEC bureau to take into account the lack of reasonable alternatives to air travel in much of Europe, particularly insular areas, and ensure that a sustainability strategy does not disadvantage member organisations and individual members in these areas;
 5. the LYMEC treasurer to estimate the cost of possible sustainability measures in LYMEC and factor provision for these costs into future LYMEC budgets;
 6. the LYMEC Congress to have a controlling role. The LYMEC Congress should discuss how our organization's emissions burden is being reduced and whether commitments are being met in the right way.