

ANES FOR LYMEC BUREAU



Dear friends,

My name is Anes Hodžić, and I am running to serve as a member of the LYMEC Bureau.

I was born in a small town of Tešanj in the north of Bosnia and Herzegovina, just two weeks after the end of a war that tore my country apart. I grew up in a society still divided, still healing, still searching for a way forward. In such an environment, choosing to get involved in liberal politics was not the expected path. It was the result of a **deep belief in something better: in cooperation over division, in dialogue over conflict, in unity over fear.**

That belief led me to study Political Science and to join Naša stranka and the Youth Forum of Naša stranka. It also brought me to LYMEC. When I took over as the International Officer of the Youth Forum of Naša stranka in 2024, our organisation was largely absent from international events. We had no active presence, limited resources, and little connection to other organisations. Step by step, we managed to change that. We returned to LYMEC Congresses. We grew our delegation. We wrote and passed resolutions. We connected with partners across the region. We helped organise joint events. We hosted the IFLRY General Assembly in Sarajevo in 2025. During this time, we brought members of our organisation to international events, giving them training and experience that they now use in their political work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Two years ago, my organisation was largely unknown within LYMEC. Today, we are an engaged and reliable partner. I would like other organisations to be able to do the same, and that is why I decided to run. **My goal is to ensure that every organisation, regardless of size or experience, can actively participate, contribute, and feel that they belong.**

I aim to strengthen how we connect and support each other by encouraging more exchange between organisations. Many of us face similar challenges, yet we rarely share solutions in a structured way. **I want to create more opportunities for organisations to learn from one another, exchange experiences, and build practical cooperation.** In this way, participation becomes not only easier, but more valuable for everyone involved.

I also want LYMEC to invest more in its people. **Through trainings, events, and closer engagement with one another, we can equip our members with skills they can take back home and profit from it.** At the same time, we must strengthen cooperation across regions, ensuring that organisations from all regions are fully engaged and contributing; because LYMEC is strongest when all of us are connected, active, and working together.

Having been part of Libertas' editorial team for two years and now serving as its editor-in-chief, I see great potential in the magazine as a platform to connect and inspire our community. By showcasing interviews with young leaders, highlighting success stories from member organisations, providing in-depth reporting, and offering thought-provoking commentary, we can make it more compelling and widely read. With multimedia content and interactive discussions, **Libertas can become a space where knowledge, inspiration, and best practices are shared across all members.**

We are entering a decisive period for Europe. Enlargement of the European Union is back on the table. Ukraine continues to fight for freedom and needs our support. Our safety, energy security, and democratic principles are at risk. In such a moment, fragmentation is a risk we cannot afford. We need each other more than ever. **In challenging times, both action and belief matter.** As Harvey Milk said: "I know that you cannot live on hope alone, but without it, life is not worth living."

I am ready to work for all of us and to deliver. **It would be an honour, a privilege, and an immense responsibility to have your vote and confidence to serve on the LYMEC Bureau.**

Yours sincerely,

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