



IMS Internal Rules

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Individual Members' Section Internal Rules

Written by the Individual Members of LYMEC and ratified by the Bureau in February 2011, in accordance with article 11 of the Statutes

Preamble

LYMEC exists to promote liberalism throughout Europe through the engagement of young people. LYMEC's Statutes provides for individual membership of LYMEC. Citizens and residents of a European country, aged between 14 and 35 years, who broadly agree with its Manifesto and Policy Book can become individual members of LYMEC - here in referred to as IMS (Individual Members' Section). This document sets out the framework under which the IMS work so as to gain the maximum benefit for the individuals, LYMEC and liberalism.

Article I - Definitions

For the purposes of these Internal Rules, the following definitions apply:

- a) "IMS" refers to "LYMEC Individual Members' Section".
- b) "Individual Member" refers to an individual member of LYMEC, in accordance with LYMEC's Statutes.
- c) "Delegate" refers to an Individual Member elected by Individual Members to represent them in the Congress, in accordance with LYMEC's Statutes and Rules of Association.
- d) "IMS Council" refers to the informal advisory body detailed in Article VI, which provides assistance to Delegates in carrying out their duties.
- e) "Thematic Working Groups" refers to groups of Individual Members that join forces to focus on a specific task, including, but not limited to, writing a policy paper, conducting a study or preparing a political campaign, as detailed in Article VII.
- f) "IMS Club" refers to informal groupings of Individual Members organised around a certain theme or geographic area, as detailed in Article VIII.

Article II - Nature and Objective of the Internal Rules

1. These Internal Rules regulate the internal workings of the IMS.
2. The IMS is comprised of all Individual Members.
3. Everything within these Internal Rules should be interpreted in accordance with LYMEC's Statutes, Rules of Association and Rules of Procedure.

Article III - Goals of the IMS

The IMS has the following goals:

- a) To provide a forum for Liberal minded people to share ideas, debate and develop policy at all levels;
- b) To promote Liberalism, in particular in countries where no Liberal organisations exist;
- c) To assist in setting up Liberal organisations in countries where they do not yet exist;
- d) To provide support to LYMEC in its various activities, in Europe and throughout the world;
- e) To assist Individual Members of LYMEC in being active within LYMEC.

Article IV - Members' Rights and Responsibilities

1. Individual Members have the following rights:

- a) to take part in IMS activities, such as seminars and campaigns;
- b) to apply for LYMEC events;
- c) to take part in developing LYMEC's policies and political positions;
- d) to vote for, and be elected as, IMS Delegates;
- e) to attend IMS General Meetings.

2. Individual Members have the following responsibilities:

- a) to abide by LYMEC's statutory documents and these Internal Rules;
- b) to help promote LYMEC's official policies and political position;
- c) to support and develop Liberalism.

Article V - IMS Delegates

1. Delegates shall be elected for a one year term, in accordance with the procedures set out in the Rules of Association of LYMEC.
2. IMS Delegates (“Delegates”) shall have the following rights and responsibilities during their term of office:
 - a) They shall represent IMS at LYMEC statutory meetings;
 - b) Coordinate IMS activities, in cooperation with the LYMEC Bureau, and with the assistance of the IMS Council;
 - c) Answer questions from current or potential members with regards to both LYMEC and IMS, so as to provide a better understanding of what LYMEC and the IMS are, what they do, and what they stand for;
 - d) Perform all other duties attributed to them by these Internal Rules.
3. Delegates will decide among themselves which Delegate is charged with carrying each individual duty described above.

Article VI - IMS Council

1. The IMS Council is tasked with assisting the Delegates in coordinating IMS activities and holding them to account.
2. The IMS Council is comprised of all Individual Members that wish to join it.
3. Members of the IMS Council are encouraged to remain involved, have a regular presence and take part in its activities and discussions.
4. Official IMS Council meetings shall be chaired by a Delegate unless none are available, in which case a chair shall be elected by those present.

Article VII - Thematic Working Groups

1. Working Groups may be formed by two or more Individual Members through a request including a concise description with name, topics and objectives.

2. IMS Delegates shall have the ability to recognise Working Groups, subject to the decision being ratified at the next Mandatory Meeting.
3. Working Group progress shall be monitored by the Delegates, with the assistance of the IMS Council.
4. IMS may formally adopt a policy paper, a study or a similar document through a formal vote in one of its Mandatory Meetings, where it may also decide to submit that document to the LYMEC Bureau, and/or to present that document at a meeting of the LYMEC Congress.
5. If a policy paper, a study or a similar document is formally adopted in the way described by the previous paragraph, then a Delegate shall be asked to formally present the document in question to the LYMEC Bureau or present it at a meeting of the LYMEC Congress.
6. IMS Working Groups may request to make short presentations of their activities during Mandatory Meetings.

Article VIII - IMS Clubs

1. Three or more Individual Members may present a request at a Mandatory Meeting to create an IMS Club. Such request shall include a concise charter stating name, objectives, and organisation.
2. The decision of the Mandatory Meeting needs to be presented to the LYMEC Bureau for final approval.
3. IMS Clubs may request to make short presentations of their activities during Mandatory Meetings.

Article IX - Mandatory Meetings

1. Three online IMS General Meetings will take place, called for by the Delegates.
2. These meetings will take place:
 - a) During the electoral campaign for the Delegate position;
 - b) At least one week before the Spring Congress;
 - c) At least one week before the Autumn Congress.

3. These meetings shall be chaired by a Delegate. In the case of the meeting taking place during the electoral campaign for the Delegate position, it may only be chaired by a Delegate that is not taking part in the campaign; if no delegate meeting these criteria is available, the Individual Members present will elect someone to chair the meeting.

4. The agenda of the meeting taking place during the first week of the electoral campaign for the Delegate position will include a presentation of the prospective Delegates' platforms and also a question and answer session with all prospective Delegates.

Article X - Annual Seminar

Subject to LYMEC's financial position and political priorities, the IMS and the LYMEC Bureau will work on an annual seminar on themes relevant to European citizenship and individual participation on European politics.