

## Statements on website 2016

### 1. IRI and Centre and Right youths for jobs and education

In Vienna, 29-31 of January, LYMEC, represented by President Vedrana Gujic and Secretary General Igor Caldeira, joined the conference European Democracy Youth Summit organized by the International Republican Institute (IRI), joining the youth wings of ALDE Party, EPP and ECR.

Young Liberals, Christian Democrats and Conservatives discussed the political disengagement of citizens, the need of adaptation by political parties, youth unemployment and extremism and populism. A reform of the educational system, a reduction of bureaucracy and taxes and more inclusive social policies are among the solutions found to economic and social imbalances, as well as more cooperation between national governments in the European context to combat terrorism.

LYMEC PUSHED FOR MORE MARKET-ORIENTED ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS AND PROGRESSIVE COMMON LINES IN TACKLING RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM. Cooperation between moderate political families is essential to find common ground whenever possible to find solutions to the challenges our continent and our generation are facing. The European Liberal Youth is thus thrilled to join the debate and thanks IRI for its invitation.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/02/02/iri-and-centre-and-right-youths-for-growth-and-education/>

*Published on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016*

### 2. Keep church and state separated and let women decide over their own bodies

LYMEC is appalled by the current developments in Poland and strongly opposes the decision of the Polish Prime Minister to back the move towards a total ban on abortion. LYMEC ardently believes in the division of church and state powers, and that religious points of view should never be imposed on others. Moreover, LYMEC stresses the importance of safeguarding human rights, including the reproductive rights.

We thus strongly support our colleagues from Nowoczesna and Projekt:Polska in their fight against the anti-abortion proposal by the Catholic Church and the Law&Justice party and invite you to join the demonstration called "Being a woman isn't a sentence", organized by Nowoczesna and scheduled for Friday, April 8th at 5 pm. Female MPs from the Nowoczesna party will meet outside the Parliament and read a letter to Agata Duda, the Polish First-lady, whom they will address their manifesto to.

You can find more information about the demonstration and get all the updates on this FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/481973365334499/>

The letter to the First-lady by female MPs of Nowoczesna can be read here.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/04/07/keep-church-and-state-separated-and-let-women-decide-over-their-own-bodies-2/>

*Published on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016*

### 3. LYMEC supports Commissioner Malmström in her efforts to negotiate a deal on TTIP respecting EU standards

The European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) sees no scandal in the TTIP documents leaked by Greenpeace, as they only reflect an ongoing negotiation process in which it is normal that both sides lobby for their

interest. LYMEC therefore calls on Commissioner Cecilia Malmström to keep up her work to fight for a trade deal that is clearly shaped by the European Union.

LYMEC President Sissel Kvist states: “The papers published by Greenpeace do not contain results or real news, merely details on the current state of the talk between the EU and the US. The documents are not the final outcome of the negotiations, and it would be odd if there were no disagreement to be found between the two parties of one of the most ambitious trade agreements the world has ever seen.

Kvist adds: “The United States have publicly made their interests very clear as has the EU and Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström, who said that no EU trade agreement will ever lower our level of protection of consumers (read the full statement here). LYMEC, the European Liberal Youth supports Commissioner Malmström in her efforts to negotiate a trade deal that respects and protects EU standards and consumer rights.”

TTIP opponents celebrate the leak as a transparency offensive but in fact the document proves that the negotiations are as transparent as ever seen before, having in mind that the EU published all negotiations results themselves. If anything, it is not the alleged lack of transparency that is troubling the TTIP negotiations, but the lack of trust in elected EU officials to work for the people of the European Union and negotiate in their interests. This has turned the debate about TTIP into an emotional one rather than a rational one.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/05/03/lymec-supports-commissioner-malmstrom-in-her-efforts-to-negotiate-a-deal-on-ttip-respecting-eu-standards/>

*Published on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016*

#### **4. Young people demand the election of the President of the European Commission remains democratic**

Statement from the political party youth organisations on discussions by Heads of EU Member States to block the “Spitzenkandidaten” process of electing the President of the European Commission.

The 2014 European elections were the first time voters were able to have a say on who should run the European Commission, with the five main European political parties putting forward candidates who became known by the German term “Spitzenkandidaten”. The main European political party youth organisations have strongly defended this democratic system following reports[1] that almost all EU Heads of States or Government are planning to revert to the previous system, under which they decide on the President behind closed doors.

The European Union is facing challenges on multiple levels, and clear European leadership is essential if Europe is to act cohesively to solve its existential issues. It is vital, therefore, for the EU’s future that it strives to be ever-more democratic and transparent. The process of European elections determining the next President of the Commission has been a hugely positive step in empowering citizens to choose the direction of the EU, adding transparency and more democratic legitimacy to the process. Reversing this would be a regressive step in the democratising trend that has been ongoing in the EU for several decades, especially at a time when the citizens already feel that the EU lacks legitimacy.

THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN ELECTIONS DETERMINING THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN A HUGELY POSITIVE STEP IN EMPOWERING CITIZENS TO CHOOSE THE DIRECTION OF THE EU, ADDING TRANSPARENCY AND MORE DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY TO THE PROCESS.

The Spitzenkandidaten process gave a face to European leaders. It helped to open up EU democracy, which often seems to be very distant from citizens, especially for young people. In 2014, the European Youth Forum, along with the University and City of Maastricht and Euronews, organised the first-ever televised debate between these Spitzenkandidaten. This debate, broadcast live to millions of viewers, focused on youth issues. Over the course of the elections, the Spitzenkandidaten process contributed to bigger media coverage and, in several Member States, it stopped the tendency of continuously decreasing participation rates. A regressive move back to the old system would risk further alienating voters, particularly young voters, who are often skeptical of engaging in traditional politics. To secure more popular support, the European Union needs to be more democratic, not less.

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It is in the interest of our national leaders to support the continuous opening up of European democracy. Therefore we demand that they follow the recent call from the European Parliament to secure and develop the Spitzenkandidaten process.[2]

After all, is it not better that one of the key leadership positions of the EU is decided on by its 500 million citizens rather than just by 28 heads of state?[3]

YFJ – European Youth Forum

YEPP – Youth of European People’s Party

DEMYC – Democrat Youth Community of Europe

FYEG – Federation of Young European Greens

EFAY – European Free Alliance Youth

LYMEC – European Liberal Youth

JEF – Young European Federalists

IUSY – International Union of Socialist Youth

YES – Young European Socialists

IFLRY – International Federation of Liberal Youth

[1] <http://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/eu-parlament-mitgliedsstaaten-wollen-macht-der-waehler-beschraenken-1.2971462>

[2] <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-%2f%2fEP%2f%2fTEXT%2bTA%2bP8-TA-2015-0395%2b0%2bDOC%2bXML%2bV0%2f%2fEN&language=EN>

[3] Not all 508 million Europeans have the right to vote. In some MS citizens have the right to vote from the age of 16, in others only at the age of 18.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/05/12/young-people-demand-the-election-of-the-president-of-the-european-commission-remains-democratic/>

*Published on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016*

## 5. LYMEC: We need modern media laws!

The European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) calls the commission to draft modern times media laws and not to apply old concepts to modern technology.

President Sissel Kvist states: “We welcome the Commissions move to update the 30-year-old audiovisual media laws but we call them to not stick to old fashioned ideas of controlling media but to

acknowledge the character of modern media and to create common outlines and legal security for the whole EU to give all EU citizens equal access to online products!"

Kvist comments on the concept for audiovisual media services: "Laws protecting children are welcomed, but laws to prevent sedition on the internet needs to be draft carefully as censorship and limits to freedom of speech can in no way be accepted. Issues such as a 50% airtime quota for European productions for broadcasting companies as well as forcing video on demand companies to offer at least 20% material that was produced in the EU are absurd. LYMEC believes that the success of video on demand companies like Netflix is due to their attractive assortment. It is in their own interest to offer products their customers are interested in, if these are produced in the EU or elsewhere should be based on the customer's demand and not by a ruling by the Commission."

WE CALL ON THE COMMISSION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CHARACTER OF MODERN MEDIA AND TO CREATE COMMON OUTLINES AND LEGAL SECURITY FOR THE WHOLE EU TO GIVE ALL EU CITIZENS EQUAL ACCESS TO ONLINE PRODUCTS

Regarding the digital single market Kvist states: "Especially young people are used to buy services online, artificial borders by schemes like geo-blocking are a disgrace for the EU and an obstacle on the way to a single digital market. Harmonizing laws especially regarding data security and consumer protections have to go hand in hand with this process."

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/05/30/lymec-we-need-modern-media-laws/>

*Published on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016*

## **6. LYMEC co-signs call for investments in solutions to integration and employment**

Investing in solutions for refugees/migrants and creating quality jobs for young people Young people across Europe have been deeply affected by the migration and refugee crisis and have often been the first to act to protect human life. Civil Society Organisations and Youth Organisations in particular have done their best to translate the goodwill of young people into adequate responses to the urgent needs of migrants and refugees at local and national levels. Young people, often working as volunteers, are helping to stem a humanitarian crisis in countries across Europe.

As the Commission launches proposals to deal with the refugee crisis today – we state that a European solution to the migration and refugee crisis focusing on solidarity and European values is urgently needed. Europe cannot and must not return to national borders.

Young people want to continue making their contribution to a European solution to this crisis, believing that such a solution will create more quality employment opportunities for young people, including refugees and migrants themselves.

We call for efforts to focus on the following:

Reception of refugees and migrants: To ensure that refugees and migrants are treated in a way that protects their rights, is in accordance with European values and creates jobs in Europe – European borders should be in Europe and not outsourced to Turkey or other countries.

Humanitarian programmes to provide services and decent conditions for and with migrants and refugees. This must include tailor-made support for refugees and migrants.

Inclusion programmes to engage refugees and migrants in local communities. Young people and youth organisations are uniquely positioned to carry out this effort, given our open and welcoming attitude

to refugees and migrants. Done well, these can create social integration and harmony – one example being citizenship education and peace education programmes that can facilitate exchanges regarding identity. These can also create many quality jobs for European young people, refugees and migrants themselves, including through skills and competences acquired through non-formal education programmes.

Concrete actions of youth organisations:

Don Bosco Youth-Net volunteers in Germany, Italy, Spain and Austria offer free language courses and sports/leisure activities to young refugees as a first step to the integration in the local community.

Scouts are providing tents, medical supplies, basic medical assistance, organising the collection of donations among the local population, preparing food according to the different religious beliefs and organising its distribution on a daily basis

Signatories: Austrian Youth Council, European Liberal Youth (LYMEC), Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG), Young European Socialists, Don Bosco Youth-Net, European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL), World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). Coordinated by European Youth Forum.

[Full Statement](#)

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/06/07/lymec-co-signs-call-for-investments-in-solutions-to-integration-and-employment/>

*Published on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016*

## **7. LYMEC and IFLRY urge European Institutions to immediately proceed with visa liberalizations for Georgia and Ukraine**

The recent delay in granting visa waivers to Georgia and Ukraine raises not only important concerns about the commitment of the European Union to its core values of free movement and integration but also about its internal transparency and the reliability of their legal agreements. Both Georgia and Ukraine have fulfilled their obligations and meet the criteria outlined by the European Union in order to obtain visa liberalizations.

LYMEC President Sissel Kvist and IFLRY President Pauline Kastermans jointly call upon the European Institutions: “This delay in the visa liberalization process is unacceptable. Georgians and Ukrainians deserve this new visa regime, having worked hard and committed living up to the requirements set by the EU. The EU has to stick to its promises, instead of pushing neighboring countries away. We are now facing a scenario where pro European-minded citizens in both Georgia and Ukraine could turn away and search for other alliance alternatives (e.g. Russia) if the EU does not immediately stop to maintain the image of being an unreliable partner.”

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/06/15/lymec-and-iflry-urge-european-institutions-to-immediately-proceed-with-visa-liberalizations-for-georgia-and-ukraine/>

*Published: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016*

## **8. LYMEC: EU must use the Brexit as a new beginning**

LYMEC has listened to the voices of British people and is saddened by the news that a majority of the British voters have decided to leave the European Union. No matter how much we believe this decision

will weaken both the EU and the UK, we respect the choice of the British people and now turn our focus to the exit negotiations.

While we hope that the EU will maintain a strong relationship and cooperation with the United Kingdom, leaving the EU comes at a price. The United Kingdom should not be given preferential treatment over other countries bordering the EU.

LYMEC moreover urges the EU to use the Brexit as a new beginning. The decision by the British voters serve as a wake up call for all EU institutions, but especially the Council, which in our view too often is the barrier for sustainable solutions to pan European issues such as the refugee crises, youth unemployment and climate change.

The Europeans want an EU that provides solutions on the great challenges. LYMEC calls upon the liberal heads of state of the European member states to lead this positive change in the European Council.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/06/24/lymec-eu-must-use-the-brexite-as-a-new-beginning/>

*Published on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016*

## **9. LYMEC and IFLRY joint statement on the situation in Turkey**

Once again, IFLRY and LYMEC are appalled about the events happening in Turkey. In a spectacular and rather unexpected coup attempt certain parts of the Turkish military seemed to have sought to overthrow the current government and president Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. As of now, this attempt seems to have failed.

In our roles as international organizations, we have been involved in Turkey for a long time and have observed the political situation closely and with increasing worry for the last couple of months. The instability of the country seems to have reached an unfortunate pinnacle with tanks rolling through the streets of Ankara and Istanbul and jet-fire over the Bosphorus.

As of today, we can not be sure about anything that will happen to Turkey in the near future. We can just be sure that yesterday was not a good day for freedom and political liberalism. This urges us to reassure our brave friends from 3H that they have our full and unconditional support more than ever:

IFLRY President Pauline Kastermans: "What happened in Turkey last night felt like history in the making. But not good history. In these scary times we want to reach out to our friends from 3H and tell them that we are not only with them with our thoughts and hearts but we stand closely by their side in their fight for a free and secular Turkey. Be assured of that. Until then: stay safe in these days of turmoil!"

LYMEC President Sissel Kvist: "There is plenty to talk about what exactly happened in this political earthquake and the roles of president Erdoğan, the military, the muezzins calling for a civil uprising, and the motivations of the people on the streets. However, it is more important to show a way out of this chaos than only unfolding it. We therefore call upon the Turkish authorities to remain calm headed in the treatment of the putschists, to refrain from further violence and to enter constructive and peaceful dialogue with oppositional forces and the civil society."

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/07/16/lymec-and-iflry-joint-statement-on-the-situation-in-turkey/>

*Published on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016*

## 10. LYMEC: Cherry picking cannot be an option

The European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) condemns rumors about EU plans to allow the United Kingdom exemptions from the freedom of movement of people while retaining full access to the single market.

LYMEC president Sissel Kvist states: “The British people voted to leave the Union, and though the campaign was emotion rather than fact based, the UK and the EU have to deal with this decision. But for the sake of the future of the European Union cherry picking cannot be an option, neither to keep a state in nor to soften the way out. The EU already buckled before populist demands when it accepted a deal with Cameron that would have limited main achievements of the EU, which was bad enough giving a single member state special treatment. To grant the UK even more exemptions now, after the Leave vote, is a disgrace to the process of the European integration and everything we have struggled to achieve since the Union was founded”

FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CHERRY PICKING CANNOT BE AN OPTION, NEITHER TO KEEP A STATE IN NOR TO SOFTEN THE WAY OUT.

Kvist calls for rational negotiations that respect the principles of the European Union: “While we believe it is important that the UK remains in the single market we believe this shouldn’t happen at all costs. We call for the negotiators to draft a fair deal, respecting the fundamental principles of the European Union.”

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/07/25/lymec-cherry-picking-cannot-be-an-option/>

*Published on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016*

## 11. Freedom, not fines

LYMEC opposes the ban on veils, burkinis or any other religious symbols. The prohibition of religious symbols or practice that are of no harm to other individuals or society in general cannot be justified in a free, liberal and democratic society. Freedom of religion is a fundamental human right and the right to carry religious symbols is an essential part of this freedom.

LYMEC welcomes the ruling by the highest French administrative court, the State Council (Conseil d’Etat), that overturns the discriminating burkini prohibitions and adheres to the fundamental principles of a modern, secularized and liberal society.

It can never be the business of governments or anyone else, to decide what an individual should or should not wear. While we understand the concern that not all women choose to wear the hijab or the burkini of free will, banning the garments or fining the women wearing them is not part of the solution, but part of the problem, as it will only cause further marginalization. Those who force a woman to remove her hijab or burkini are as wrong as those who force her to put the garment on. A ban will not advance the liberation of women in Europe or elsewhere.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/08/26/freedom-not-fines/>

*Published on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016*

## 12. LYMEC supports #LibertadParaVenezuela

The European Liberal Youth asks its members, as well as the ALDE Group Members of the European Parliament seating at the Delegation for relations with the countries of the Andean Community, at the

Delegation for relations with Mercosur and at the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly to support the opposition's protests in Venezuela.

Decades of Socialism have weakened the rule of law and annihilated the country's economy. What was once one of the richest nations of Latin America is now facing a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented levels.

In the past days hundreds of thousands took to the streets to protest against the de facto dictatorship. As Thursday 8 September marks 1 week since the protest, IFLRY, the worldwide federation of Liberal youth organizations is organizing a campaign between 8 and 15 September. This campaign serves as powerful message of unity and shows the Venezuelan government that not just their national opposition is criticizing their behaviour and demanding change.

For further information, IFLRY vice president Anders Rehnberg ([anders.rehnberg@iflry.org](mailto:anders.rehnberg@iflry.org)) is coordinating the campaign.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/09/07/lymec-supports-libertadparavenezuela/>

*Published on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016*

### **13. Free train tickets will not fix Europe**

Free Interrail trips will fix the mobility and social cohesion problems we face in Europe? If something sounds too good to be true, it usually is. The proposal by the European People's Party (EPP), initiated by German MEP Manfred Weber, to give every European who turns 18 a free Interrail ticket, is nothing more than a populist proposal. And it is worrying that the European Commission is not taking a clear stand against it.

If the EPP really wants to do something for mobility and social cohesion they should look at the roots of the problems. The bureaucracy for moving from one EU country to another is still huge, a language barrier is often present and last but not least the recognition of skills and education between countries is almost zero. These are just some of the real issues, making it difficult for Europeans of all ages to move across borders – not just for 18-year-olds. The solutions are not easy, and they require work from all levels of the European Union and its member states, there is no quick fix.

Moreover, the EPP seems to have forgotten that there already is a program within the European framework that aims to increase mobility and break down barriers for young people; the Erasmus+ Program. While the Erasmus+ Program is not perfect, it is often highlighted as one of the greatest success stories of the EU.

Instead of spending an estimated 1,5 billion Euros annually to give young Europeans free travel, this money should be kept in the taxpayers' pockets. However, if the EPP really wants to spend this money on strengthening mobility and social cohesion, the money would be better spent strengthening the Erasmus+ Program where mobility goes hand in hand with education and learning about different cultures. This would also limit the social inequality found in the proposal of the EPP; paying for the train ticket does not make the Interrail tour free, a place to stay for example usually does cost money. Those young Europeans affected by youth unemployment, coming from marginalised homes or from relatively poor countries will not have the same opportunity to utilize the free ticket as the youth from wealthier member states, the youth with jobs or the youth from middle and higher classes. Whereas

thankfully more and more people within Europe, whatever their background, have the possibility to get an education.

If the proposal by the EPP is adopted there will only be two winners, the resourceful 18-year-old who gets a free Interrail tour and the EU sceptics who get another example to showcase how EU is wasting taxpayers' money.

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/10/05/free-train-tickets-will-not-fix-europe/>

*Published on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016*

#### **14. LYMEC co-signs statement on the upcoming elections in Macedonia**

Statement on the Elections in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The elections on December 11th provide the people of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (F.Y.R.O. Macedonia)\* with the possibility of a new start, and the unification of all democratic forces. And foremost, it offers the people of F.Y.R.O. Macedonia the possibility to choose the direction for the future of their country.

FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS ARE THE CORNERSTONES OF ROBUST DEMOCRATIC STATES. THESE PRINCIPLES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE AND MUST BE RESPECTED BY ALL POLITICAL FORCES.

Ensuring clean electoral lists, and preventing manipulation of the electorate must have absolute priority in order to secure not only transparency and accountability, but most of all legitimacy. It is crucial that citizens are presented with a variety of meaningful options from which they can choose what kind of lives and systems they consider to be the most desirable for their very own community. This means, free and open competition between different parties.

Considering that the latest European Commission report on the F.Y.R.O. Macedonia mention the increasing risk of "state capture" and expresses serious concerns regarding civil liberties, it is crucial that these elections are conducted in a free and fair way so that the country can get back on democratic track and take action in order to give a more positive outlook for the next report.

Vivid discussions focusing on the political content and ideological differences do not only allow all people to enjoy their fundamental rights, such as the freedom of speech, freedom of association and assembly, and freedom of the press, it is also a tool which fosters deeper political participation and paves the way for the emancipation of both individuals and groups.

WE CALL ON ALL THE CANDIDATES TO USE THEIR OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC DEBATES, THUS PROVIDING ENOUGH INFORMATION, SO THAT THE PUBLIC CAN MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE.

The people of F.Y.R.O. Macedonia have lived in a polarized society for many years and they deserve to once and for all enjoy their fundamental rights and democracy. Everything else is not giving them the adequate respect they deserve.

As young people, who are not only living today, but who will also bear the consequences of today's decisions in the future, we call upon all parties and all other relevant institutions and organisations to collectively ensure that all citizens can practice the democracy they are entitled to through the constitution.

EFAy- European Free Alliance Youth  
FYEG- Federation of Young European Greens  
IFLRY- International Federation of Liberal Youth  
IUSY- International Union of Socialist Youth  
JEF- Young European Federalists  
LYMEC- European Liberal Youth  
YDE- Young Democrats for Europe  
YES- Young European Socialists

\*LYMEC and IFLRY recognise the country by its constitutional name "Republic of Macedonia"

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/12/06/lymec-co-signs-statement-on-the-upcoming-elections-in-macedonia/>

*Published on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016*

## **15. Democracy downfall in Poland**

LYMEC condemns the recent crackdown on transparency, democratic processes in decision-making and public access to independent news in Poland. On Friday, ruling party Law and Justice passed the annual budget, while excluding the opposition from the vote. The vote on the annual budget is considered illegal by the opposition as proper evidence of the quorum is yet to be presented.

The crisis started earlier this week when the ruling Law and Justice party pushed through rules to restrict journalists from access to the Parliament buildings. Opposition parties Nowoczesna and Civic Platform, opposing the rules, blocked access to the podium in the main debating chamber of Parliament on Friday. When the Speaker of the Parliament called for the session to reconvene in another meeting room, the opposition was entirely blocked from the session.

LYMEC strongly condemns the undemocratic behavior demonstrated by the governing party and calls upon Speaker Marek Kuchciński to declare the vote as illegitimate and correct the procedures in the Polish Parliament. LYMEC also calls on the European Commission and European leaders to demand adherence to democratic values and transparency from Law and Justice leader Jarosław Kaczyński and the Law and Justice party.

LYMEC stands with Nowoczesna and the opposition, demonstrating against the undemocratic vote and against the reduced transparency and media access in the Polish Parliament. LYMEC defends the freedom of speech and the citizens' right to access information on public affairs.

(Edit 18.12: changed title of Jarosław Kaczyński to party leader and removed unnecessary specification regarding the media)

<http://www.lymec.eu/2016/12/17/democracy-downfall-in-poland/>

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