

Alliance Youth

Michael Nicholl

**Alliance Youth
88 University Road
Belfast BT7 1HE
Northern Ireland**

Dear Congress,

I'm writing to you to request a reduced membership fee for our organisation, Alliance Youth. As I'm sure you'll be aware Northern Ireland is going through a politically turbulent time. Alliance Youth and our mother party have fought six elections in three years — two in the last six months alone. Indeed as I am writing this, we are campaigning for the snap General Election to be held on June 8th.

As a committed liberal party we have striven to make sure that the people of Northern Ireland have the option of a progressive and inclusive political future. Nevertheless, we are a party of limited resources. Alliance Youth as a group is allocated £100 a year (approx. 118 EUR) by our mother party. In September 2016 it had been discussed that we would receive further funding from our mother party. It was also expected that we would fundraise for any additional funds. The political crisis in January 2017 however seen those funds delayed by at least a year as they were redirected towards the election campaign. Furthermore, our plans to fundraise have been put on hold as a result of the electoral campaigns.

In light of this we are able to pay a reduced membership fee of 60 EUR (approx. 50 GBP). If this does not suffice, we would be happy to discuss some sort of rolling payment plan.

I must also apologise for the delay in submitting this application for consideration. Again the reason for this is due to the pressure we have been under recently. Alliance Youth is completely staffed by volunteers and many of us also are active within our mother party. Some of our volunteers were also candidates standing for election, which of course brings its own workload.

Thank you for considering our application. We look forward to working with you all in the future and hope to be in attendance at the next Congress. Furthermore, we wish any group facing upcoming elections the best of luck.

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**Michael Nicholl
Vice-Chair, Alliance Youth**