



## ***Bureau Report***

### ***Sissel Kvist – President***

***November'16-May'17***

Dear delegates and liberal friends,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the LYMEC Spring Congress of 2017 in Stockholm. The following pages will summarize my activities in the months that have passed, both for myself as well as for LYMEC as a whole. Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

In December we attended the ALDE Congress in Warsaw. The delegation was successfully led by Lena Hoglund, and with great result. Both resolutions, put forward by LYMEC, were adopted, and so were many of our amendments. I also had the pleasure of representing LYMEC in a panel debate organised by ELF on the topic of digitalisation and how this influences the job market in the future.

In December we also held our annual academy in the European Parliament together with the Young Democrats for Europe. More than 80 young people came together discussing how we achieve a connected continent.

In January we kicked off the working group on the statutes and the format of congresses, led by myself, with the aim of updating the current statutory documents and looking into options on how to make the congress run more smoothly. The working group met online numerous times from January to March. The result of our work can



be found in the proposal for new statutory documents as well as the report. I want to use the opportunity to express my thanks to the members of the working group for all their work in this regard.

January was also the month where we had to make a principle statement condemning the idea of welcoming the Italian 5 Star Movement into the liberal group in the European Parliament. While we share the desire to see the family grow and that liberals comes in many different sizes and shapes, we can never accept populists. It was with great happiness we saw many prominent liberals sharing our concern and that the group ultimately did not move forward with the idea.

In February we held a very successful seminar in Athens 'The New Europeans' where participants presented their ideas for better integration of our new citizens. Moreover we held a marathon Bureau meeting, where we assessed the first 10 months of our work as a Bureau and planned ahead. Moreover, we had the pleasure of meeting up with the Greek young liberals, having fruitful talks on Greek and European politics.

In March we had the great opportunity to join the March for Europe event, marking the 60 year anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. We attended under the slogan 'We March for Europe and Stand Up for Liberalism', making it clear that liberal reforms are needed to make our union stronger and better. Besides the action in Rome, LYMEC members also marched in Brussels.

Looking at our social media and list of statements made since we last saw each other, I am happy to conclude that we have made progress in terms of responding faster to current events as well as developing our long term communication strategy on all social



media platforms. This is thanks to an overall team effort, but in particular due to the hard work of Edgaras Mascinskas and the Office.

In January we launched the call for a new assistant in the office, and, after a long process with many high quality candidates, hired Paulina Gono. It is a great pleasure to see so many people being interested in working with us, and I believe it shows that we are known as a well-functioning and interesting organisation both in Brussels and among our members. With a background as a journalist Paulina has played a vital role in the success of boosting our communication. She has also taken part in the logistics and daily work in the office.

If you have any questions, ideas or inputs to the work we do in the Bureau please don't hesitate to contact me.

All the best

Sissel Kvist  
President

Events Attended

ALDE Bureau Meeting, LYMEC bureau meeting, ALDE Congress and ELF Panel on Digitalisation, Warsaw; ALDE Group Winter Academy, Brussels; ALDE Bureau Meeting, Brussels; ELF/LYMEC Seminar "The New Europeans" and LYMEC bureau meeting, Athens; March for Europe, Rome; Julis Congress, Oberhausen.