



# Bureau Report

## Marijn de Pagter – Treasurer

October 2016-April 2017

Dear delegates and liberal friends,

The past few months have been wild, since we had parliamentary elections in the Netherlands on 15 March. I was campaign coordinator in my home town of Utrecht, so I spent a lot of time on the campaign trail.

The work paid off, as VVD won the elections by a large margin. Despite falling from 41 to 33 seats, VVD is still by far the largest party in parliament. From a European perspective, the two member parties of ALDE combined (VVD and D66) only lost 1 seat, since D66 grew from 12 to 19 seats.

Another piece of good news from the Dutch elections is that Geert Wilders only got 20 seats, 4 seats below his all-time high from the 2010 elections. Wilders' party is now the second-largest, but all other parties have excluded Wilders as a coalition partner. At the time of writing this report, coalition talks are going on between VVD, D66, CDA (member of EPP) and GroenLinks (member of the Greens).

In the meantime, nearly one year has passed since you elected me as Treasurer of LYMEC. I continue to be very grateful to our Member Organisations for giving me the opportunity to work on the finances of LYMEC as Treasurer.

During my campaign, I distinguished three major goals for my mandate. In this Bureau report, I will update you on my work to realise those goals.

### Goal 1: start an alumni network

An Alumni Network is a great way to increase donations – and to re-involve and reunite former LYMEC bureau members, auditors and other activists. Despite that, we experience difficulty setting it up as a legal entity. First, we planned on setting it up in the Netherlands as the regulations are favourable for a non-profit “stichting”. But since we would need a physical address in the Netherlands, we decided it would be better to legally set it up in Belgium after all. We are currently finding notaries to formally set up the network, probably as a “vzw” (Dutch) or “asbl” (French).

### Goal 2: improve transparent reporting

My second goal was to improve the transparency of our finances, so that every congress attendee confidently understands and comprehends the financial reports. Having learned from experiences of my interim financial report last Autumn and from talks I had with our external auditor, I further improved the financial report. In that report, I've tried to clarify the state of our finances as much as

possible. I am very much looking forward to hearing your feedback, so that I can continue to improve our reporting in the year ahead.

### Goal 3: create crystal clear financial regulations

The financial protocols and regulations have not been reviewed since 2010. Several regulations are outdated or complicated. Furthermore, the two financial regulatory documents we now have should be merged into a single Financial Protocol. I had hoped to have it finished by this Congress, but unfortunately I do not have a final version. But as the financial protocol is an important document, I think it's more important to have it reviewed thoroughly rather than quickly.

Furthermore, the longer I am serving this mandate, the more financial topics I encounter that should be included or amended in our new protocol. For example:

- late-cancellation fees for our events;
- the charts and information that should be included in financial reports;
- the rights of internal auditors to call for an audit;
- a formal framework for the office to book flights for bureau members and other officials;
- etc.

If you wish, I can elaborate more on this topic during Spring Congress.

### Events and meetings attended

As you can see, I haven't attended many events over the past few months, because of the Dutch elections. I hope to attend many more events in the coming months, be it in my region (Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, Greece and Cyprus) or elsewhere! I look forward to receiving your invitation.

Dates	Place	Event / Purpose	Organisation(s)
<b>13 November 2016</b>	Tallinn <b>Estonia</b>	In-person Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
<b>1-3 December 2016</b>	Warsaw <b>Poland</b>	ALDE Congress	ALDE
<b>4 February 2017</b>	Brussels <b>Belgium</b>	Internal Audit 2016	LYMEC
<b>4 February 2017</b>	Brussels <b>Belgium</b>	Jong VLD New year's reception	Jong VLD
<b>23-26 February</b>	Athens <b>Greece</b>	ELF Seminar and in-person Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
<b>6 April 2017</b>	Brussels <b>Belgium</b>	External Audit 2016	LYMEC
<b>8-9 April 2017</b>	Tiel <b>the Netherlands</b>	JOVD Congress	JOVD

### More information

Should you have any questions about this report, feel free to contact me through Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter or email: [marijn@lymec.eu](mailto:marijn@lymec.eu). I look forward to hearing your feedback, especially on the new financial reports.

Kind regards,

Marijn de Pagter  
LYMEC Treasurer