

Pau Castellví Canet  
Capacity and Coordination Officer

Dear delegates,

As the Bureau Member in charge of capacity building, the Individual Member Section and improving the ways we organise as a political youth, my work often takes me to support and improve LYMEC's current structures and procedures with a view on effectiveness, efficiency, organisational memory and membership engagement. By means of this report, I would like to highlight some of the key issues I have been supporting.

### **IMS reform**

One of this Bureau's key objectives for the first part of our mandate relates to the unfinished reform of the LYMEC Individual Member Section. Last year's Sofia Congress led us to have to change our approach as an organisation to be able to present Congress with a second, more pragmatic attempt supported by and built through a greater consensus. For this purpose, a specific IMS Reform Working Group was created at the Bureau's initiative involving strategically selected representatives of the IMS, MOs, LYMEC veterans and the Bureau. All in all, I am happy to report that thanks to a commendable collaboration between all of these players, we have been able to come up with a reform proposal that has all the ingredients needed for success. You will find more information on the Congress Documentation Page.

I would like to dedicate a special thank-you to IMS delegate Benjamin Fievet who has worked hard on this issue, and to thank everyone involved at some point in this reform process.

### **Individual Member management software**

As LYMEC's Individual Membership base keeps growing, as well as our own standards for professional procedures, so does our need for more sophisticated software to safely and efficiently manage the data of our IMs. While most of the well-functioning software we would deem of a sufficient level is rather expensive, we are trying to come to an agreement with ALDE Party on sharing use of their Nation Builder software. Finding this remains a strategic objective for LYMEC in the short-term.

### **LYMEC's engagement capacity**

One of the projects with which I ran for Bureau Member back in our last Congress in Berlin introduced the idea of Policy Groups. Policy Groups, as initially intended, would involve individuals from all over LYMEC thereby offering them a platform on which to jointly develop policy proposals (resolutions especially) around specific policy areas; each policy area gathering sufficient members would constitute a Policy Group.

The Bureau has decided to focus our efforts of the first year of our mandate especially on issues surrounding the manifesto and the EP elections. In addition, we have decided it would be wise to further assess the viability of the Policy

Groups idea, as well as the real-life demand for it, by starting up a pilot. For these reasons, we have decided we will be using the opportunity of the 2019 Policy Summer School with FNF in Gummersbach (July 2019) to start a pilot with participants of the summer school. More information on this will become available in the months leading to this event.

### **Regional responsibilities**

As the Bureau Member responsible for the UK, the Republic of Ireland, Gibraltar, Andorra, Portugal and Italy, part of my efforts on regional matters are directed at supporting existing Member Organisations and the other part of my efforts on this front are directed at creating capacity for the liberal communities in regions where there are still no LYMEC Member Organisations. Of course, my responsibility towards existing MOs is much higher and thus a significantly higher priority is allocated to current MOs; nonetheless, as the single most important European liberal youth organisation and an organisation that is forward-looking we also have a duty towards the latter communities.

Relating to the former (existing MOs), it should be noted that the Bureau has supported the Young Liberals thereby deploying resources and devoting special attention to the challenges presented by Brexit. We are attempting to do the same with Gibraltar Liberal Youth and Youth Alliance (Northern Ireland), although contact with the latter two MOs is proving more challenging. For this reason, among others, the Bureau decided to accept the Young Liberal's application to host the 2019 Autumn Congress in the UK; an event that we believe can help strengthen the ties between the Young Liberals and the rest of LYMEC. We also intended this choice as a message to everyone that LYMEC stands with its MOs, even in those cases where citizenship of the EU might no longer be there and especially those in most need of solidarity from liberal peers from all over. The Bureau also accepted the Young Liberal's request for a training on recruitment and engagement of new members, a training I gave personally in the framework of the Young Liberal's Summer Conference in Swansea (10-11 August 2018). Contact is regularly maintained with all other MOs of my assigned regions.

Relating to the latter (regions where there are currently no MOs); notably, I have been following up and occasionally supporting two different initiatives in Portugal one of which is taking steps towards formal constitution as a liberal youth.

### **Milan IMS Event (July 2018)**

In coordination with the LYMEC Secretary General and with help of fellow Bureau Members, I assisted in the organisation of the Milan IMS Event in July 2018 thereby securing speakers and developing concept specifics.

At last, I have recently taken charge, together with LYMEC Vice-President Edgaras Masciskas, of the Bureau's role in the LYMEC Alumni Network. Another one of the projects with which I ran consists of a policy-maker database designed to grow LYMEC Bureau organisational memory of all contacts with stakeholders and to manage introductions for LYMEC members upon request. This idea will soon be explored further.

Please, do not hesitate to let me know should you have any questions.

With best wishes,  
Pau Castellví Canet

**Summary of all events attended on behalf of LYMEC:**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Event/purpose</b>	<b>Organisation(s)</b>
8 April 2018	Berlin, Germany	In-person Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
10 April 2018	Warsaw, Poland	Meeting with Nowoczesna Youth Vice-President, Arek Modzelewski	Nowoczesna Youth (Poland)
18-20 May 2018	Brussels, Belgium	Bureau Team-Building Weekend (prolonged Bureau Meeting)	LYMEC
22 June 2018	Barcelona, Catalonia	Meeting with JOVD Vice-President, Bram Roodhart	JOVD (Netherlands)
13-15 July 2018	Milan, Italy	IMS Event	LYMEC
15 July 2018	Milan, Italy	In-person Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
10-12 August 2018	Swansea, Wales, UK	Young Liberals Summer Conference 2018	Young Liberals (UK)
11 August 2018	Swansea, Wales, UK	LYMEC training on recruitment and engagement of new members	Young Liberals (UK)
25 August 2018	Barcelona, Catalonia	Meeting with LHG President, Johannes A. Dallheimer	LHG (Germany)