

BUREAU REPORT

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President

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Dear Delegates,

The first half a year of our two years mandate was dedicated to get going as a team, support all team members to find into their new roles and to lay out our concept for our mandate.

We had a full weekend bureau meeting in May to discuss our ideas and to create a concept for moving LYMEC forward in the next two years. The basis of our all our plans is to treat LYMEC not only as a youth organization but as professional as a brand. Not only in branding and communication but in the way we work. We wanted to have an overall framework all our work should contribute to. We believe this way of framing and planning our activities will an efficient balance to make the best use of our limited resources as a youth organization and to offer our members a great program of trainings, events and networking.

We identified six areas that will be in the focus of our work: First we want to become a more relevant political voice. Therefore we have set six political priorities which shall be the main focus of our political work both in campaigning and lobbying. We continued the work from the previous bureau for a relaunch of a modern visual identity and creating a new holistic communication concept. Third we laid out a concept of training and campaigning for the European elections which will be the mayor event happening in our mandate. As well we want to continue developing as an organization and continuously optimize our events and portfolio we can offer to our members. That is why we want to modernize the Individual Members Section, help it to grow and to connect former and current LYMEC actives through a strong Alumni Network. Furthermore we wanted to create a new concept for the traditional Program of Action. We wanted to create a clear overview for the framework for our work as a bureau, with ambitious objectives and measurable goals to ensure we have a decent guideline for our own work and a highly transparent overview of activities. This is of course only a framework, there will be many smaller projects and activities more to come but they all should support our overall focus and strategy.

For more detailed information on our plans, concrete goals and how we plan to measure our progress in named fields please read the "Program of Action". Here I will present what we have done so far in the respective areas.

Political priorities

The main focus of our mandate are the European Elections, our goal was to create a manifesto that shall work as the basis of our political mandate as an organization and shall be the basis of our cooperation with the new liberal group in the European Parliament. We have created an inclusive process to make sure our current policy book and our member organizations are both heard and taken into account. We have started it all with a survey among our member to set political priorities we as a youth organization should mainly work on. After that we have created working groups with representative of your member organizations who developed a draft that was presented at the Young Leaders Meeting in September. A great change to include the leaders of our organizations at an early stage and create a manifesto draft that takes the diversity of LYMECs member into account. Kudos to our policy officer Antoaneta, who put a lot of excellent work into this.

High on our priority was to establish good relations with the ALDE Group and create a network of MEPs we can work with on a regular base. We managed to have regular meetings with relevant stakeholders in the ALDE group and have a more steady exchange. These relations are the basis for LYMEC policy campaign into the ALDE group. The first

policy campaign we did was on the new copyright file. Though unfortunately the ALDE group was still divided on this issue, we managed to show our good work on the case and left a very professional impression with many MEPS with which we hadn't had much contact before and even managed that some MEPs took the youth opinion into account with their decision making. For us as an organization it has been an overall success on the way to become a more relevant political power.

Communication and Branding

Mainly our Vice President Edgaras has finalized the new visual identity of LYMEC which will be presented at the autumn congress in Vilnius and will be implemented step by step after it with every new piece of communication and campaign material. Our Communication Officer Dan-Aria has spent much effort for creating a new communication concept that shall boost our external communication. We have ambitious goals starting from overhauling our newsletter and the website to growing our social media accounts to creating more content and interesting formats for communication. We want to use more audio-visual material especially for light hearted reports about our events. Many thanks to Edgaras who works as our content producer.

European Elections and Campaigns

The preparations for the elections are already on quite an intense level. The whole team is involved but especially Deimante and Pau have taken over responsibility at the moment. Deimante is responsible for creating our campaign which has the clear goal to activate young people to go out and vote (liberal). Despite that we plan to create a digital platform for the youth organization's campaign managers to get together, to exchange idea and experience and to support each other. On top of that we are in the last bits of finalizing a three event training programme as a bootcamp for the elections. Especially for young candidates it would be highly interesting to participate in such a training.

Organisational development

We want to evaluate and if needed overhaul the activities and events we already do. We already started by reshaping our evaluation process to better implement the feedback we get from our participants. In the light of our preparations for the European Elections we are already exploring how we could offer digital trainings and make knowledge accessible online. Furthermore we have already started a process, which Pau is steering. How could we possibly make our working groups more attractive? In line with that we try a new event format of policy making and political workgroups we are currently developing with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

Individual Members Section

Edgaras and Pau are our IMS responsible persons and have together with the three IMS delegates created a new concept for the IMS structure and set up to have a section that is ready to grow and be an attractive part of LYMEC. To be ready to grow the section we are investigating new solution to manage the membership database and process payment and have started the process of creating a strategic communication and marketing concept for the IMS. Our goal is to use the EP elections to grow the Individual Members Section.

Alumni Network

We are exploring the solutions for handling membership base and payment plans together with possible option to handle these of the IMS. We have laid out a plan for the transition phase to a new Alumni Network Bureau and an initial concept how to create an initial membership base as well as another fundraising event after the first one at ALDE congress in Amsterdam.

Networking

This is not an official goal of our Program of Action but for sure an extremely important point for all our activities and one of the main duties as the president. Before the first bureau meeting I took three days to meet with our relevant partners in Brussels to name a few: ALDE Party representatives, ALDE Group representatives, EU40 network, Friedrich-

Naumann Foundation, European Liberal Forum, Youth Forum or representatives of the other party political youth organisations. As well as establishing personal relations with European media journalists, this has been a new case for LYMEC. Especially our good policy work on the copyright issue has been a good door opener to show that we do what we say, that we are here to make young liberal Europeans heard. I have travelled to Brussels several times and always made sure to use the fringes of events in the European capital for more meetings with stakeholders. I would especially like to thank the Brussels based team Danica, Antoaneta and Edgaras, who attend numerous events of our partners and potential new partners in Brussels and make sure LYMEC is well represented but as well to all our bureau member who use their own party network to shine some light on LYMEC. Unfortunately our budget for visits to member organisations was significantly shorter this year than previous years due to overall budgetary reasons. That is why we had to make a priority list of visiting Member Organisations that were in a difficult situation, needed a specific training or where we had the possibility to meet with more than one member organisation.

If you have any questions concerning my or the overall work of the bureau please feel free to contact me. I am looking forward to meeting you all in Vilnius.

Best regards,
Svenja

Events attended

Dates	Place	Event /Purpose	Organisation
27/28.04	Sofia, Bulgaria	ALDE Party Bureau and Council Meeting	ALDE Party
29.04	Gütersloh, Germany	JuLis Congress	Junge Liberale JuLis
16-18.05	Brussels, Belgium	Initial Meeting with Stakeholders	LYMEC
18.-20.05.	Brussels, Belgium	Bureau Meeting and Team Building	LYMEC
01.06.18	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting Manifesto Committee	ALDE Party
07.06	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with Stakeholders; Interview; Panelist at Euractiv conference	LYMEC
11.06	Potsdam, Germany	Meeting with FNF International	FNF
16.06	Gummersbach, Germany	Political Weekend of JuLis, speaker on EU relations	Junge Liberale JuLis
27.-29.06	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Summer Academy, Meetings with Stakeholders Book Launch with ELF	LYMEC; ALDE; ELF
13.-15.07	Milano, Italy	ELF Seminar, Grassroot Campaigning	LYMEC, ELF
01.09.	Gummersbach, Germany	Political Weekend of LHG, speaker on EU relations	LHG

07.09	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Party bureau meeting	ALDE Party
07.-09.09	Budapest, Hungary	ELF Young Leaders Meeting and Meeting with Momentum and Momentum Tizen X	LYMEC, ELF, Momentum