

Bureau Report – President – Svenja Hahn

October 2018 – March 2019

Dear Delegates,

The first year of our mandate is over and I am happy to give you a report of the second half of it. In the annual report you will find the report on our work as a team following the guideline of our Program of Action. We identified six areas that are the focus of our work: First we wanted to become a more relevant political voice. Therefore we have set six political priorities which are the main focus of our political work both in campaigning and lobbying. We implemented the visual identity and started the implementation of the new communication concept. Third we executed the training for young candidates to the European Parliament. We worked on modernizing the Individual Members Section, helped it to grow and to connect former and current LYMEC actives through a strong Alumni Network. For more detailed information on our plans, concrete goals and how we are progressing please read the Program of Action. Here I will give a written overview of the steps in the last half a year in the respective areas.

Political priorities

The main focus of our mandate are the European Elections, our goal was to communicate our manifesto we shaped together with the membership before and at the LYMEC Autumn Congress in Vilnius. With the work of our Political Officer Antoaneta Asenova, and an engaged LYMEC delegations we were able to bring young liberal additions to the ALDE manifesto. 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. The campaign is still going on as this report is being written. Though it does look like that the ALDE group is still divided on this issue, we managed to show our good work on the case and left a very professional impression with many MEPS and build a stable cooperation with MEPs starting from this topic and expanding to other topics and files they are working on. I personally try to always give extra time, when I have the opportunity to go to Brussels to especially meet with MEPs to foster the cooperation.

Communication and Branding

Mainly our Vice President Edgaras Mascinskas has finalized the new visual identity of LYMEC that was presented at the autumn congress in Vilnius. After the congress we have successfully implemented it step by step to all platforms and pieces of communication and campaign material. We are doing quite good on the quality of the implementation of our new communication concept, drafted by Communication Officer Dan-Aria. Unfortunately we are not yet at the amount of steady communication we want to achieve on Social Media. This will be a task for the whole team to support in the future, to make sure we will achieve this goal in the second year of our mandate.

European Elections and Campaigns

I am extremely proud that the LYMEC Young Changemakers Academy was such a success. Though I must ad, that I was personally disappointed by the lack of commitment by some participants, that didn't put enough dedication into ensuring their participation in all events. Nevertheless we picture the Academy to be a great success for the participants, as well for

LYMEC. We are currently exploring the options of turning the academy into a regular program as we believe it is high quality training and delivers on LYMEC goals of training and networking and is a responsible way to use our limited resources and to build up a network of European minded politicians.

Due to personal campaign occupation of Campaign Officer Deimante Rimkute we had to switch the responsibilities for the LYMEC election campaign to Vice President Edgaras Mascinskas, who took over midway and ensured that we will still be able to present the campaign at the LYMEC Spring Congress 2019.

Organisational development

We are constantly evaluating our activities and already draw the conclusion that for the application of events for 2020 we will reduce the quantity of events as LYMEC Bureau and Office is at the verge of what is possible. We will rather focus on ensuring a high quality of our events. We are still working on offering digital trainings and make knowledge accessible online. We have bought a digital platform and are working to offer the use of it to our members soon. Furthermore we have developed a new concept with Friedrich Naumann Foundation on shaping policies. We will facilitate a political hackathon together with FNF as a policy summer school. This aims to be an experiment on finding new ways of engaging members on political capacity building and drafting new policies for LYMEC.

Individual Members Section

Edgaras Mascinskas and Pau Castellvi Canet remain the responsible persons in the LYMEC Bureau to work with the IMS. We are happy that after the Autumn Congress we could finally implement the new IMS structure and kick it off with the elections of the new IMS Congress delegates and the newly put in place Steering Committee. Edgaras will represent the Bureau in the Committee. I am happy that the new Steering Committee will take over more responsibility and has taken over the task to plan and execute the 2019 IMS event and mostly independently plan the application for the 2020 IMS event.

Alumni Network

Under the leadership of treasurer Lena Höglund we have facilitated a second fundraising event at the fringes on the ALDE Congress in Madrid in 2019. The major task of finding and implementing a new membership management tool though has unfortunately not been finished yet.

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. 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 partners and stakeholders. To keep the costs low we have always tried to tie this journeys to other events or I extended private travels to work for LYMEC.

I would especially like to thank the Brussels based part of the team Danica, Antoaneta and Edgaras, who regularly attend events of our 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 still significantly shorter in 2018 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, must have had a visit due to statutory reasons 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 Brussels.

Best regards, Svenja

Events attended

Dates	Place	Event / Purpose	Organisation
11.-14. Oct. 2018	Vilnius, Lithuania	ELF Seminar; LYMEC Autumn Congress; Bureau Meeting	ELF; LYMEC
20. Oct. 2018	Osnabrück, Germany	Skillcamp FDP, trainer and speaker on the work of ALDE and LYMEC	FDP
31. Oct. – 02. Nov. 2018	Sofia, Bulgaria	Panel discussion by FNF and 20 th anniversary of YMRF	FNF, YMRF
02.-04. November 2018	Bingen, Germany	JuLis congress, guest speaker as LYMEC President and Lead Candidate	JuLis
08.- 10. Nov 2018	Madrid, Spain	ALDE Party Bureau Meeting, Council and Congress	ALDE
24. Nov 2018	Gummersbach, Germany	Speaker on EU enlargement at FNF conference	FNF
29. Nov – 02. Dec 2018	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; trainer at YCA I	ELF
09. Jan 2019	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; ALDE Party Bureau Meeting	LYMEC; ALDE
07.-08. Feb 2019	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; speaker at YCA II; Participant at a Politico Panel	LYMEC; ELF; Politico
09. Feb 2019	Berlin, Germany	ALDE Party Bureau Meeting and Council	ALDE Party
04.-05. March 2019	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; Women European Council	LYMEC
21. March 2019	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Party Council	ALDE Party