

Lena Höglund – Treasurer

BUREAU REPORT October 2019 – March 2020

Dear Liberal Friends,

I now present to you my final Bureau report as the LYMEC Treasurer.

Keeping an eye on the new year and my manuals as Treasurer, preparing for the coming Study session and finalizing the end of the massive year 2019 are the three work entities that have taken up my time the past months.

After the last LYMEC Congress in London, I commenced the final aspects of closing the year 2019. Unfortunately, our booking for an evening venue during the London Congress was cancelled last minute and that in combination with lower than expected staff costs in 2019 landed us on a considerable surplus. This meant the Bureau decided on a number of end-of-the-year investments to support an office consisting of three persons on a more regular basis. The new Secretary General, Balint Gyevai, did most of those arrangements while my focus lie on sorting uncleared issues from the bookkeeping during an exceptionally strenuous and massive year. The lag, from the election spring and the change of persons, required considerable working time throughout the end of 2019 and also gave insight on the need of much more manuals and support for the Secretary General and the Treasurer.

My next task during these months has been setting the timing for the coming Study session in July and its preparatory meeting in April or May. I will continue to lead the event even though it takes place far beyond my mandate. The change of persons in charge might have risked a hard-won application acceptance from the European Youth Foundation (EYF). The potential of additional structural funds has been the dream of several Bureaus and I feel the need to follow up on the opportunity, myself having received training as a trainer by EYF. Next, I will also do the application with the next Treasurer for the next EYF activity in April.

An organisation by all and for all is what I think is liberal and right. My work with not just writing an Equality and Diversity Plan but also implementing it through an updated working regulation and a study session really has felt fulfilling for me personally. Growing and adding to the organisation slow and steady, without implying long-term financial obligations that LYMEC has to live up to, also during periods of lesser political representation, has been a pleasure. During my mandate I have applied three times for a study session for LYMEC, with the aspiration of securing financing in the long run that is not contingent on political results. In fact, that thought and many examples of how to financially survive despite political defeat or hardships has also been one of the main things I have advised our member organisations on during this mandate. I also hope some of my good relations with our closest partners lead to even bigger cooperation in the future, one being interregional cooperation projects.

In the light of my own experiences, I can only make sure the next Treasurer has more documents to rely on as there are little real options for deep introduction on all the smallest details of the position. The change of person has implied too many uncertainties and miscommunications during this mandate and I will aspire to change that with my own contribution.

My total of four years in the LYMEC Bureau have at times been really laboursome, at times because of the lack of proper introduction, high ambition or passion for our organisation. The years in LYMEC has given and challenged me more than any other mandate I have ever held. I will truly miss the friendships and dynamic of LYMEC. Thank you!

Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues in the Bureau for hectic, fulfilling and memorable past two (or four) years! A special thank you goes to the former and present Secretary General, Danica and Balint, for the daily communication, the hours spent and the mass of things we have learnt together.

Please feel free to get in touch before, during or after the Skopje Congress if you have any questions or comments concerning my work as LYMEC Treasurer. I look forward to meeting you all in Skopje!

Liberally yours always,

Lena

Time	Place	Event / Purpose	Organisation(s)
24-26 October 2019	Athens Greece	ALDE Party Congress and Bureau Meeting	ALDE Party/LYMEC
7 November 2019	Berlin Germany	International Republican Institute, Celebration of the Fall of the Berlin Wall	International Republican Institute
8-10 November 2019	London United Kingdom	LYMEC Autumn Congress and Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
5-6 December 2019	Brussels Belgium	Internal Audit preparation and office days	LYMEC
17-19 January 2020	Brussels Belgium	Internal Audit	LYMEC
31 January-2 February 2020	Brussels Belgium	LYMEC Bureau Meeting	LYMEC
6-8 February 2020	Brussels Belgium	External Audit	LYMEC
6-8 March 2020	Luxembourg Luxembourg	ELF Event (LYMEC) and LYMEC Bureau Meeting	ELF/LYMEC
3 April 2020	Skopje North Macedonia	LYMEC Spring Congress and Bureau Meeting	ALDE Party/LYMEC
17-19 April 2020	Brussels/Strasbourg Belgium/France	Study session preparatory meeting	EYF/LYMEC
8-12 July 2020	Strasbourg France	Study session	EYF/LYMEC