

President Report – Svenja Hahn

Dear Delegates, dear friends,

Our two year mandate is coming towards its end and I am happy to give you a report of our teamwork and milestones achieved. In the Program of Action that was presented at the Autumn Congress 2018. We had set six areas as the guidelines for our work with the overarching goal of making LYMEC a stronger political force. The biggest task and much work of our mandate was centred around the elections to the European Parliament and our goals focussed on getting young people to the voting booths, getting them into the Parliament and getting young liberal ideas high on the agenda.

Political priorities

The focus of our mandate are the European Elections, our goal was to communicate our manifesto. High on our priority was always to establish good relations with the former ALDE Group now Renew Europe Group to create a network of MEPs we can work with on a regular base. My dual role as the President of LYMEC and a Member of the European Parliament allows me to work for young liberal policies from within the parliament.

Policy Officer Antoaneta Asenova, giving our policy book a much-needed brush up, executed the biggest political project of second year of the mandate. With a growing crew of volunteers from LYMEC member organisations she intensively worked to evaluate the content of the policy book, to combine resolutions and to archive resolutions that are older than most of our event attendees. The first success was the brushed up resolutions and fresh debates that took place at the Autumn Congress in London. The work on the policy book continued and a new bunch of updates resolutions will be presented to the Skopje Spring Congress. Big thank you for Antoaneta for leading this effort!

Communication and Branding & European Elections and Campaigns

The biggest communication work of this mandate was without a doubt the LYMEC campaign to the European Parliament elections. Planned and executed by Vice President Edgaras Mascinskas and Communication Officer Dan-Aria we managed to reach about 400.000 young Europeans.

Nevertheless, we did not only wanted to get young people to show up at the polls we wanted to support young candidates being elected. Indeed many young candidates from LYMEC member organisations ran for their national mother parties. I myself ran on the list of my party the FDP and got elected into the European Parliament and am thrilled to be one of the 11 out of 98 MEPs of the liberal Renew Europe Group that are below the age of 35. We have organised the Renew Under 40 MEP group that exchanges and works together for youth topics in the Parliament.

Organisational development

We implemented a constant and comparable evaluation process of our activities and started to implement learnings from events right for the planning of the next events. One of the biggest

learnings was to focus on quality over quantity, that is why we reduced the overall number of events for 2020 as well as in the event application process by 2021. We will rather focus on ensuring a high quality of our events. On the other hand, we are still working on offering digital trainings and making knowledge accessible online. Unfortunately, new event formats as if a Political Hackathon did not worked out due to lack of interest. It personally fills me with sadness that we did not manage to fully implement the project of Online Learning platform. We managed to identify a platform, to start some test cases and to start creating content for it. However, we have not yet managed to do a broad roll out beyond specific cases. A project I would highly recommend the next bureau to continue as the basic work has already been done.

Through increases in funding through our partner, as well as smaller sponsoring projects and granted applications for new funding options we were able to hire through most of the year and assistant and an intern next to the Secretary General and therefore increase the capacity of the LYMEC office.

Individual Members Section

Edgaras Mascinskas with the support of Pau Castellvi are the responsible persons in the LYMEC Bureau to work with the IMS. The first part of the mandate was spent to evaluate the need of IMS. After this as new IMS, organisational structure was set up and implemented gradually. The newly established Steering Committee started its work to get more IMS engaged. The IMS delegates were from organisational tasks to focus their work on the preparations and execution of IMS interests at the congresses. The IMS event in Lisbon in November 2019 was for the first time ever mainly organised by and for the IMS themselves. The planning for the next IMS event in May in Berlin has already started.

Alumni Network

Initially the work on the Network was put on hold due to bureaucratic issues with Belgian authorities but the necessary measures have been undertaken and the relaunch is planned to happen in March. The software NationBuilder for accepting applications is in the testing phase. The framework of the Alumni Network is solid for the next bureau to continue the work on it and to focus on getting members involved.

Networking

However, not an official goal of our Program of Action it still is an extremely important point for all our activities and one of the main duties I had as the president. Partially moving to Brussels and working in the European Parliament as an MEP made it much easier to attend events and speak at more occasions for LYMEC. Please be aware that in the event overview only public or party events are listed where I was explicitly invited as LYMEC president. Nevertheless, there were many more event occasions and numerous meetings held on a technical and political level with our partners in the group, the party and the liberal foundation.

Six years of an active mandate in the LYMEC board are now ending for me. Started as an activist then elected as Communications Officer, followed as Vice President and latest as

President, I had the privilege and honour to spend most of my years as a grown up so far in this amazing organisation.

So many people I have met, many places I have seen and so many stories I have heard. LYMEC has affected my life like nothing else so far, I am proud of what we have achieved as a team, and as an organisation in the last years and that, I could contribute to shape the organisation into what it is today.

I personally would like to thank the former Presidents Vedrana Gujic and Sissel Kvist for being passionate mentors, the Secretary Generals Danica Vihinen and Balint Gyevai for their support, Vice President Edgaras Mascinscas for the team work and “my” whole bureau for two intense years and all their work and commitment.

Best regards,
 Svenja Hahn
 President

Event and activities attended on behalf of LYMEC

Events and activities attended Dates 2018	Place	Event/ Purpose	Organisation
27/28. April	Sofia, Bulgaria	ALDE Party Bureau and Council Meeting	ALDE Party
29. April	Gütersloh, Germany	JuLis Congress	Junge Liberale JuLis
16-18.May	Brussels, Belgium	Initial Meeting with Stakeholders	LYMEC
18.-20. May	Brussels, Belgium	Bureau Meeting and Team Building	LYMEC
01. June	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting Manifesto Committee	ALDE Party
07. June	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with Stakeholders; Interview; Panelist at Euractiv conference	LYMEC
11. June	Potsdam, Germany	Meeting with FNF International	FNF
16. June	Gummersbach, Germany	Political Weekend of JuLis, speaker on EU relations	Junge Liberale JuLis
27.-29. June	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Summer Academy, Meetings with Stakeholders Book Launch with ELF LYMEC;	ALDE; ELF
13.-15. July	Milano, Italy	ELF Seminar, Grassroot Campaigning	LYMEC, ELF
01. Sept	Gummersbach, Germany	Political Weekend of LHG, speaker on EU relations	LHG
07. Sept	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Party bureau meeting	ALDE Party
07.-09. Sept	Budapest, Hungary	ELF Young Leaders Meeting and Meeting with Momentum and Momentum Tizen X	LYMEC, ELF, Momentum
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 20th 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
Events and activities attended Dates 2019	Place	Event/ Purpose	Organisation
09. Jan	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; ALDE Party Bureau Meeting	LYMEC; ALDE
07.-08. Feb	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; speaker at YCA II; Participant at a Politico Panel	LYMEC; ELF; Politico
09. Feb	Berlin, Germany	ALDE Party Bureau Meeting and Council	ALDE Party
04.-05. March	Brussels, Belgium	Meetings on behalf of LYMEC; Women European Council	LYMEC
21. March	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE Party Council	ALDE Party
5.-7. April	Brussels, Belgium	LYMEC Congress	LYMEC
7. April	Brussels, Belgium	LYMEC board meeting	LYMEC
28. June	Brussels, Belgium	ALDE board meeting	ALDE
19. July	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting youth Forum, role of youth in EP	Youth Forum
26. July	Berlin, Germany	Summer reception, speaker on youth in Europe	Junge Liberale
27. July	Berlin, Germany	Pride Parade	Junge Liberale
20. August	Potsdam, Germany	Event on youth in Europe, speaker	Junge Liberale
22.-25. August	Belgrade, Serbia	LYMEC board meeting	LYMEC
06. Sept	Brussels, Belgium	Jubel festival, speaker	Jubel Festival
07. Sept	Bergheim, Germany	FNF, speaker on youth in Europe	FNF
10. Sept	Brussels, Belgium	FNF event on shadow economy, speaker	FNF
13. Sept	London, UK	ALDE board meeting	ALDE
13. Sept	Bournemouth, UK	LibDem autumn conference, speaker at training for young candidates	Liberal Youth and Liberal Democrats
14. Sept	Bratislava, Slovakia	Young Leaders Meeting	LYMEC
15. Sept	Bratislava, Slovakia	LYMEC board meeting	LYMEC
16. Sept	Strasbourg, France	Meeting of young MEPs	MEPs
24. Sept	Brussels, Belgium	Speaker at debate Young Ideas for the Future of Europe	Tepsa

11.-13. Oct	Oldenburg, Germany	Junge Liberale Congress	Junge Liberale
24. Oct	Athens, Greece	ALDE Party Board Meeting	ALDE Party
24.-26. Oct	Athens, Greece	ALDE Congress, speaker at various occasions	ALDE Party
26. Oct	Athens, Greece	LYMEC board meeting	LYMEC
08.-10. Nov	London, UK	LYMEC Congress	LYMEC
10. Nov	London, UK	LYMEC Board Meeting	LYMEC
20. Nov	Brussels, Belgium	Speaker at FNF event on European Platform Revolution	FNF
21. Nov	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with young politicians from the Balkan countries	Boris Divkovich Foundation
30. Nov	Online	Speaker at Womens Forum	European Youth of Ukraine
12. Dec	Brussels, Belgium	Speaker at Debate on Conferenfe for the Future of Europe	Equinor
Events and activities attended Dates 2020	Place	Event/ Purpose	Organisation
22. Jan	Brussels, Belgium	Speaker on Future of Trade	JEF, Hanbury
23. Jan	Brussels, Belgium	Speaker at European Womens Academy	ALDE Party
01. Feb	Brussels, Belgium	LYMEC Board Meeting	LYMEC
12. Feb	Strasbourg, France	Meeting of young MEPs	MEPs
05. March	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with Mlade ANO	Mlade ANO
06.-07. March	Luxemburg, Luxemburg	ELF event on trade	LYMEC, ELF
07. March	Luxemburg, Luxemburg	LYMEC Board Meeting	LYMEC
20. March	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with JEF Germany group	JEF
20. March	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with Board of Junge Liberale	Junge Liberale
03.-05. April	Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia	LYMEC Congress	LYMEC
05. April	Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia	LYMEC Transition Board Meeting	LYMEC