

MINUTES

Bureau meeting

04/10/2020

This meeting was supposed to take place in an aftermath of an event we were planning to organize in person in the Hague, **Netherlands on Sunday 04 October**, but due to the travel restrictions of the Netherlands with regard to the ongoing COVID-19 in a number of countries of residence of Bureau members, as well as Belgium where our seat and office is located, the time and place of holding the meeting had to be adapted.

This meeting was held in a hybrid format - with President, Vice-president and Secretary-General convening in person in Brussels; Partnerships and outreach Bureau member and Treasurer - in the Hague and all of us joining the Bureau meeting online, to secure the participation on equal footing of all Bureau members.

Time: Sunday 04 October between 10 h 00 and 12:30 h;

Venue: Instead of the Hague, Netherlands, an online Zoom Bureau meeting is to take place.

Meeting starts at 10 h 10

Present: Antoaneta Asenova (AA), Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Ines Holzegger (IH), Marten Porte (MP), Laia Comerma (LC), Marina Sedlo (MS), Ida-Maria Skytte (IS) and Bălint Gyévai (BG).

1) Congress (MP,BG) - 40 minutes:

- Updates COVID in Paris:

°Paris is locking down a bit, hopefully it can flatten the curve and enable us to be there mid-November.

°Bars are closed and restaurants will be too now.

°Nothing else for the moment, no major travel restrictions on the French side (for some countries there is - Finland for example) and no gathering limitations that endangers our event (we will have around 50 people on spot).

- Starting and end time - revised programme:

°Working groups online one week ahead of the Congress so we need to reshuffle the programme a bit.

°IH stresses that we should wait for the decision depending on the amount of resolutions we receive by **16 October 2020**.

°MS emphasizes that all the processes will take more time because of the hybrid aspect of the event so we need to take that into account.

°LC adds that it will probably be a very long Congress with a lot of proposals.

*****The Bureau decides that MP and BG can decide on cutting the Sunday morning if need be, decision to be taken after 16 October when we see the amount of proposals submitted.**

- Updates hotel:

- °We kept the 65 rooms we initially booked.
- °The downgrade for food is confirmed.
- °Dinner is booked for Saturday at the hotel.
- °Third payment to be made 4 weeks before, not possible to do it later.

- Updates OpenSlides and resolutions:

- °1st Training session will be on Monday at 18 h. We will cover the guide + resolution submission + Q/A. No registrations are needed, they all receive the link with the reminder tomorrow morning.
- °2nd Training session will be later in October for amendments and an additional safety one also in case there are outstanding questions.

-Working groups online will be on the Saturday before:

- °MS to come back with a proposal on how to organise that session.
- °MS to submit all resolutions from the WG on policy book in the system with Ariane.
- °Archivals should be submitted all together in one motion.
- °The documents on the institutional reform of the EU will also be submitted as motions.

-Updates evening programmes:

Rémi to get back to us for Friday and on Saturday dinner will be at the hotel.

-MO applications updates:

DAS was in touch with the Latvians and the Russians for their applications. Latvians are active in ALDE and close to Attistibai too, partnering. Vesna from Russia participated in our event in Luxembourg and tried to get closer. LC working with the Greeks on their candidacy.

- Any other matters?

LC was in touch with André from Italy, requesting if their President could attend this Congress as a guest, they want to apply for LYMEC membership in the near future.

*****The Bureau accepts and we will see if we can accommodate in person depending on the restrictions. They should send an email to office@lymec.eu next week with all info for their representative.**

-Budget 2021 proposal

MP will spend time on it this week and send it to the Bureau ahead of the deadline, a written procedure will be then made. The same will go for the interim financial report and revised budget for 2020. MP asks the Bureau to check if they have additional inputs for next years' budget and communicate that to him next week the latest.

2) Cooperation projects call (MP, IH) - 15 minutes (draft was attached):

For decision

°Important to make it in line with ALDE political project rules and also in line with our political priorities.

AA reminds that it's one of the things showcasing what was done on the topics of the priorities. It's a way to measure it. The proposal is good, we need to leave out the note on applications twice a year from the open call since we first do it as a test. It is in line with the Bureau priority of bringing closer the MOs and MOs with the Bureau.

One addition is suggested by the Bureau - to add the word "exclusively for LYMEC MOs".

*****The Bureau decided that the deadline to submit applications would open on 16 November 2020 (day after our Congress) and the deadline for proposals is 31 December 2020. Option to extend till 10 January 2020 if need be. Call to announce at the Congress will be also explained by AA in the beginning of the Congress.**

3) Wish list new website for LYMEC (IH, IS) - 30 minutes (draft was attached)

For decision

°Document was sent prior to the meeting and displayed during. If any points to add, BM should send an email with additional information or changes.

°IH adding that ALDE NB person said that he will send us some cheaper companies options so hopefully we can get better pricing for this project. We need to be as concrete as possible and add all we need.

°Important to have a good level of accessibility for people with disabilities.

°It is important to have a detailed cost overview when we are in touch with the company to make better decisions on which features should be kept or not. The breakdown has to be requested on how much each component would cost. Then we can make a decision.

*****The Bureau decides that this is the approved wish list. If something needs to be added, it needs to be submitted by 9 October 2020 morning via email to Bălint. BG to send the wishlist on Friday 9 October to the companies we received from ALDE (still to be received).**

MP to put a higher range for this project in the budget. Hopefully, we can get offers before the deadline to submit a proper budget for next year.

4) Policy and training recruitment updated (AA, BG) - 5 minutes

°All the Bureau has seen the shortlisted 4 candidates. The candidates will be interviewed as follows: AA and BG will do 3 of them and DAS and BG to interview the last. For transparency reasons, DAS will do that because both AA and BG know that person.

°Interviews will be taking place on Friday 9 October in the afternoon.

°After the interviews, in the evening, we will text the Bureau about our feedback and send the transcripts.

°Taking the decision needs to happen on 12 October the latest - the person starting by the end of October.

°That person would have 2-3 weeks ahead of the Congress and could therefore support the work.

5) Events updates (IH, IS, MP and BG) - 20 minutes

- YCA I and II + online webinar:

°Very first hybrid event in The Hague and online. Feedback is very positive from in the room and online participants as well. IH wrote down a list of what we need to think about for a hybrid event. BG also has some comments, we will gather that in a document for our next events.

°Decision to relocate YCA II to Warsaw, we have hotel options and speakers, everything is on track. Form to participants on their travel options or willingness to travel was sent.

Poland doesn't have a lot of restrictions on entering the country: accessible and cheap option. Hope is to have most of the participants we can have in person.

°ECI Voters without borders online webinar for YCA will take place on 19 October 2020.

°LC is preparing with BG a learning journey on the ELF online platform for the YCA to test the blended learning on our 10 participants.

°IH adds that participants worked a lot on their projects so there would be great results in perspective.

°MP is also very positive and as a moderator felt as connected to the people online and in the room. We had a very good technician on-site, that's the key also for future events.

- YELL:

°Emphasize selection procedures next time and better briefing of the different actors.

°Some LYMEC participants didn't attend at the end so that's a missed opportunity.

°Bring this up with our MOs so they send more diverse participants. AA to bring this up at the Congress at the beginning stressing that gender representation and diversity are important in MO nominations.

- ELF Values first Book launch:

°Very nice event with IH and IS setting it up. Moderation went smoothly, preparations took place with speakers and moderators, everyone knew what would be expected. We had more interest because we teamed up with Liberal International. This one had over 3000 views. Feedback positive overall, form sent out to participants and authors to learn more about that.

6) CoE project proposal 2021 activity (MP, IS and LC) - 10 minutes

- Deadline is the 15 of October, we should have something for the 12 of October the latest.
- IS and LC are in charge of drafting the proposal. AT to be involved, a call will take place next week.

Another funding opportunity from the CoE youth funding was mentioned, MP to look into the next steps with BG. We are registered on the platform and will be able to apply in the future.

7) IMS updates (MS) - 5 minutes

- Delegates are preparing the Congress and resolutions to be submitted.
- Next hangout will be on Blockchain in October, set up by Eleni.

8) News from MOs - 5 minutes

- Ogra Fianna Fail is willing to get their members active, IS will participate in a small gathering with them, raise awareness and explain what we do. LYMEC getting to the grassroots level is important, go beyond the IO level.
- AA encourages Bureau members to reach out to their organisations to get them all active and participate in such a call.
- MP explains that Abel is getting a second mandate as an IO. JD will have the same IO for two years for the first time.
- Yaroslav in Ukraine, EYU asking if we are interested to apply for a D66 grant for a project in security and defence. MP adds that this opportunity exists for an international project.
AA proposes to put him in touch with Baltics, Balkans and Central European countries to share the proposals with more actors and ask for partners in the region, that would make more sense and we lack time for engaging in this.

9) Invitations (BG) - 5 minutes

- 14 October 2020, Online, Higher education panel from Zavod ELF member.

*****The Bureau decides that Ines Holzegger would go. She will channel what has been done on the Covid project with Jovenes Ciudadanos.**

- D66 Europe Congress invitation to Antoaneta Asenova

*****Invited to participate in person in Brussels. Hybrid event, physical part in the VLD HQ. 16 or 17 October.**

- Nova Stranka - invitation for a keynote speech AA + Marina

*****Statutory meeting, online conference with AA for the opening and MS to stay the whole Congress.** End of October, the invitation will follow to request both participation.

- Estonian invited us to talk at their ELF event.

Academy for future of liberalism with an event for young leaders. Public speaking and experiences in campaigning on October 17th with both IH and DAS joining. IH will attend in person and DAS online.

10) AOB - 10

Regarding the post COVID project, IS and IH had a call with Luis and Laia from JCS. It is delayed, next steps were discussed. We would have a **concentrated campaign in two weeks after the Congress**. They would send out a letter, information package to all MOs from the project. Opinion piece sent out to local media and parties in Member States that could be translated and adapted to the different languages. Event in Brussels with MEPs would take place at the end of November.

In the coming weeks regarding this: mapping of ALDE MEPs that we want to target with this event. We should have a few of them as speakers. We need to have a list and pick the COVID focused ones. Recovery package experts would be interesting to have for example. Venue and format for the event still needs to be defined.

Potentially two meetings, one informal with MEPs (online) and one formal with the broader public (hybrid).

End of the meeting at 12 h 30