

Memorandum of understanding between LYMEC and IFLRY

LYMEC (The European Liberal Youth) and IFLRY (The International Federation of Liberal Youth) are youth political organisations whose goal is to promote and strengthen liberal values. LYMEC and IFLRY believe that the individual is the basis of all politics and that all individuals should be free and equal in rights. LYMEC and IFLRY believe that human rights, the rule of law, democracy, a market-based economy accounting for social and environmental issues should be the core values of liberal movements all over the world.

Observing a backlash against liberalism and democracy in Europe and throughout the whole world, LYMEC and IFLRY are convinced that there is a need for the united voice of a globally connected liberal youth in order to stand against any attacks on liberal values.

As members of the global liberal family, LYMEC and IFLRY unite behind these ideals and goals and agree to work together for freer and more just societies. The two organisations having different scopes of work and geographical focus, this document further outlines how LYMEC and IFLRY intend to cooperate.

LYMEC and IFLRY

Noting

- that both organisations have their specific identities, purposes, and focuses, which are neither conflicting nor are in competition with each other.
- that many national liberal youth organisations in European countries are members of both LYMEC and IFLRY.

Acknowledging

- the respective geographical scopes of both organisations and understanding this as an opportunity rather than as a threat - with LYMEC focusing on the European Union and Europe more generally, whereas IFLRY operates on a global level including in Europe.

Believing

- that there is space for both organisations to add value to their member organisations with different yet complementary offers.
- that cooperation between LYMEC and IFLRY translates into a stronger young liberal voice on the international scene and is positive for both organisations.

Affirm

- their will to cooperate to achieve their goals and purposes to further liberalism.

Confirm

- that LYMEC is the official regional youth organisation of IFLRY in Europe while remaining independent in all decisions made and opinions held.

Resolve

- to be in constant contact with each other to evaluate fields of cooperation, to actively look for possibilities to join forces, and to prevent miscommunication.
- to especially look at opportunities to launch common, powerful communication campaigns, to organise and promote mutual events and to unite forces to present a stronger voice of the liberal youth towards other political actors and stakeholders.
- to share best-practices in order to become more efficient, more powerful, and more influential youth organisations.

- to keep their members informed about ongoing common projects between both organisations.

Decide

- that LYMEC will constantly keep a representative in the IFLRY Bureau, as provided by the IFLRY and LYMEC statutes, to facilitate day-to-day communication and cooperation.
- to organise regular meetings at least once a year between the boards of both organisations in order to keep each other informed about the different activities going on, discuss future plans, and share best practices.
- that the Bureaus and Secretariats of both organisations should define guidelines for day-to-day cooperation according to the realities of their respective processes.