

**MINUTES
BUREAU MEETING
ONLINE (YLM)
19/09/2020**

Meeting starts at 13 h 30

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).

This meeting was supposed to take place in person in **Riga, Latvia on Sunday 20 September**, but due to the severe travel restrictions of Latvia with regard to the ongoing COVID-19 in the countries of residence of the majority of the Bureau members, the time and place of holding the meeting had to be adapted. Hence, this Bureau meeting was held Online on Saturday 19 September between 13 h 30 and 16 h instead of Sunday 20 September.

1) Acknowledgement of the written procedure for approval (5 minutes - AA) of the disaffiliations, new Statutes, Congress rules changes, the Programme of action, and the end of contract for Ariane Takyi.

***** The Bureau accepts the procedure and approves all mentioned points and items.**

2) Finances (15 minutes - MP)

- Conclusions Internal Audit 2020-II

MP explains that it went well even if it was the first time we did it online. MP went to Brussels to prepare with BG. The auditors checked a random selection of documents, receipts.

Some requests and comments were made, some are easy to implement while others might be more challenging. The overview system suggested would be different than in the past.

BG reminds the importance of BM adding conversion rates to refund requests when their expenses are not in EUR and he reminds the importance of separate forms per item/events.

-The External Audit is set for 11 February 2020.

- Budget 2021

*We have to move some items to next year, the video project has to go to 2021 for example.

*12 000 EUR for a new website for next year - price depends on if we go with a big company or private person. The latest is cheaper but takes longer.

25 000 EUR looks more realistic but it depends on the wish list.

*Representation cost: Slightly higher than the actual expenses of last year is planned for next year to visit more MOs - 3000 EUR.

Next meeting to discuss the wish list for the new website and the Bureau would go through it. Distribute it at least two days before the meeting so that everyone can have a look at it and prepare comments.

***** The Bureau decides that the taskforce will prepare a list, MP in the meanwhile to put 15 000 EUR in the budget and we will contact the company of ALDE asking for a proposal to have a good idea of the prices. In parallel, we will set up a call with ALDE to understand what they needed and what they did with their website.**

3) Paris Congress (30 minutes - BG/IH/MS)

- Update on the situation:

It is now too early to call, France has a lot of cases currently, second bad after Spain. However, the situation is way too dynamic, the latest moment the decision can be taken has to be reassessed.

If we cancel too early, we might lose money with the hotel. But if it is too close then people might have already bought their tickets. MOs are really willing to join and sacrifice more resources this time. Nevertheless, we need to be careful that in many cases the representatives are paying for it. Paris won't close probably but entries in the country might be difficult. Limit to gatherings is changing everyday. France is not asking many conditions on entry so that's good but they might limit gatherings.

*****The Bureau decides that:**

- We will finalise a decision **2 weeks before Congress.**
- **Freedom Fund** will be open again: if individuals request it, a screenshot of what the price looked one month before and what it looks at the moment of the decision will be requested. If buying a ticket before, we advise to take a travel insurance or free cancellation but we will make a decision 2 weeks before the Congress on having it or not hybrid. For individuals paying from their own pocket, they can start applying 2 weeks before for 3 days.

- Approval of list of participants:

MP reminds the Bureau that we might have issues in adding more people because we might have to uninvite some people closer to the event if restrictions come up.

MS comments that we talk only about former Bureau members and auditors, we have to find a role for them and they pay for their travel of course.

LC doesn't think it would be restricted to 50 people, it's deserved for them to be there.

IH suggests that we should maybe invite them to a few points on the agenda, dinners and not in the rooms during the mayor part of the Congress.

DAS reminds the Bureau that we should respect formalities -we should invite them, it's only about a few people.

***** The Bureau suggests that former Bureau members and Internal Auditors will be invited, we will have to notify two weeks before the Congress if their attendance is confirmed, depending on the restrictions. They will have a role to play during the event. No participation fee will be due but they pay for their travel.**

***** The Bureau approves the list of participants including Eleni Vasileiou IMS and ERPY but no more entries will be accepted. We will invite the CDA members to join online.**

- Membership applications:

1) Full membership - we received two applications

a) Nova Stranka Youth

The Bureau needs to decide whether Digital statutory meeting by Nova Stranka Youth would count as that's one of the hard criteria to become a full member.

***** The Bureau decides that if Marina (the country responsible) participates online, there is an official programme and a whole day event with statutory aspects, it will be fine. They need to send an official invitation to the office email.**

Application was properly submitted otherwise with all necessary documents.

b) Young Liberals Greece

Application was properly submitted.

2) Associate membership - we received also two applications

a) Vesna Youth

b) Movement For! Youth Latvia

- Discussion and decision on reduced participation fees applications:

*****The Bureau decides on giving 75 EUR to each applicant instead of 130 EUR (full fee).**

- Discussion and decision on the Freedom Fund applications:

*****The Bureau decides on giving 100 EUR to JLA and 100 EUR to Nowoczesna as support for their travels to the Congress.**

- Resolutions tool opening and demo of OpenSlides:

Next week MS, IH and BG will prepare the guide together with Annemiek and plan several information sessions to explain how it works to the delegates.

The platform is set to be opened on **the week of 28 September for resolutions.**

- 4 weeks deadlines:

AA reminds that the deadlines to Congress are at the last page of Congress rules if someone would need a reminder. What needs to be submitted by the next one are the annual financial reports and the bureau reports for each Bureau member.

It will also be the resolution's deadline - MS to remind the delegates about that.

- Dinners and safety measures:

- 1st Dinner at the Party HQ - BG to check with Rémi.

- 2nd Dinner at the Hotel - BG to book that with the hotel.

BG will ask the hotel if the 3rd transaction can be paid 2 weeks before the event instead of one month.

- Deadline for taking the decision on format

Already mentioned earlier, it is 2 weeks in advance.

4) Upcoming events (30 minutes - BG/IH/IS)

- YELL (Young Elected Local liberal leaders summit):

° Taking place on 25 September 2020 from 14 h to 16 h

° The tool used will be Webex

° Half of the participants are from LYMEC and the other half from YDE

***** The Bureau proposes to ask for clarification about how the candidates were selected by the Renew CoR team and emphasize female involvement - criterias to reflect that for next edition.**

- Book launch Values first publication:

° Taking place on 30 September in the evening

° Fully Zoom online

° All speakers secured - 2 MEPS and LI WG expert but also authors (5 of them)

° We will send out the books via mail since no physical event can take place this time

- YCA 1 and 2:

A) YCA 1: Hybrid in The Hague

- All health precautions are taken, social distancing and mask wearing during the entire event will be guaranteed.

- 4 participants on-site planned to be present and 6 will be joining online.

- Trainers from D66 (2 of them) are ready and will take the setting into account.

- We have a venue and hotel now, all aspects are settled, we only need to look into the technical aspects of the hybrid format.
- Cooperation with D66 now instead of VVD International.

B) YCA 2: End of October

- It was supposed to be in Dublin but we can change location so we are looking into other countries where it might be more feasible to do it.
- Cooperation is with FNF, we will set up a call with them to discuss the different aspects and decide on trainers/locations.
- Location idea - Germany for accessibility reasons. Gummersbach is suggested by IS, alumni from YCA but maybe more for the last session.

C) YCA 3 will be in Brussels but not in the EP, no events there in 2020 anymore, we will look into an alternative place.

5) ALDE Updates (10 minutes - AA)

- 16/18 April 2021 for the Congress in Stockholm but still to be confirmed.
- 18 November 2020 for the Council meeting in Brussels. There will be resolutions and Working groups but voting will be at the next Congress. AA to represent us there.
- 2 resolutions prepared are now submitted (COVID and FoE) and we can still amend. A lot of our inputs were taken on board, we can be very happy about that.
- We will amend the following: rule of law and conditionality (resolution from Athens) but also our position on Spitzenkandidaten and transnational lists.
- Interest in liberals in Cyprus, might be good for us to check if there is a youth organisation connected to the party. LC to have a look at that.

6) FoE platform + submission to Congress (5 minutes - MS)

The final documents are to be submitted as a motion to Congress in the tool by MS but without amendments, as first motion before the resolutions. Goal is to be ready for the FoE Conferences. The topical document will be also submitted.

***** The Bureau decides that only deletion will be possible from the submitted proposal.**

7) Draft Calendar 2021 (15 minutes -AA/BG)

Bureau to discuss the final agenda for the next meeting. BG will prepare it better with all Bureau meetings highlighted.

8) Invitations (5 minutes)

- IH to join the Junos Congress in November probably online, this format of the event hasn't been decided yet.
- AA invited to a YMRF camp last weekend of September, she will connect through Zoom.
- DAS invited to the preparation of the meeting of the Eastern European Summit in two weeks, maybe moved online. The Summit will be taking place next year Autumn.
- LC to meet with Andre for his new organisation and will investigate more on the Liberal Party Youth of Italy too.

9) AOB (2 minutes)

- Next meeting will be on Sunday, **4 October 2020 at 10 h 00.**
- We will launch the call on the expert database - LC to send the text to the office for dissemination.
- Cooperation project call is ready and can be launched. It will be on the next Bureau meeting agenda.
- DAS: Highlighting the work of the Bureau is important, he reminds Bureau members to send their reports and there will be a bulletin to members to communicate more about the work of the Bureau. Launched at the end of September in the IOs group.
- AA: DAS, AA and BG to work on a proposal on how to invite high level speakers for the LYMEC Policy talks - lives on Facebook. We could have a talk with Renew MEPs on Next Generation EU, Conference on the Future of Europe, Reynders, Jourova and Vestager. The tech task force will look into options to make this happen.
- Council of Europe application submitted last time to be renewed and submitted again by mid-October by Ariane, Ida and Laia in contact with Marten.

End of the meeting 16 h 50