

Minutes Online Bureau meeting 1 June 2020

Attending: Antoaneta Asenova (AA), Dan-Aria Sucuri (DAS), Ines Holzegger (IH), Marten Porte (MP), Laia Comerma (LC), Marina Sedlo (MS) but also Bălint Gyévai (BG).

Not present: Ida-Maria Skytte (IS)

Meeting starts at 19 h 05

1) Finances (MP):

- *Missing refund requests Spring Congress 2020 (CUF,LUF,SU)*

MP explains that it is important to be tough but if it's not their responsibility but they outsourced this task, then it can be understood. It is important to clear things and close this item now (pending for more than 3 months). It would go for donation if not requested.

We will get back to them to ask for their invoice for refund once again.

***** Decision: Bureau decides that if they don't ask for the refund then we will consider their amount as donation within 2 weeks of the last reminder.**

- *Allocation 3000 EUR project funds*

**Purpose:*

AA explains that there is a small budget provided by the previous Bureau for ideas this Bureau could have and do something new that wasn't planned for. The idea was to have a twinning project or have the money put aside to create a recording (image video project).

**Conditions:*

It should be used for twinings and we would ask our MOs to apply for this fund and then the best application would get it. At least 3 organisations from 2 different countries should apply to give it a pan-European perspective. It would be the first step before doing something with the ALDE project funding.

***** Decision: Bureau decides that we would use this for twining and the specifics will be discussed during the in-person meeting in July. IH to present us a proposal on how to go about this at that moment.**

- *Alumni network: latest updates and objectives*

The leadership of the Alumni Network asked us inputs on what the Bureau wants the network to be. It would mainly serve as a networking and fundraising body.

***** Decision: Bureau decides that 50% of what will be gathered should be sent to us for the LYMEC savings account and the remaining 50% should be kept by the network**

to organise events for the alumni but also for the Freedom Fund of LYMEC enabling young liberals in difficult situations to join our Congress if need be.

- *45 years anniversary LYMEC + Alumni reception*

MP explains that one of the ideas was to have a reception in December at the same time as the winter academy in Brussels in order to take advantage of the LYMEC crowd and having MEPs at our anniversary reception. The other option is to do it on the right side of the year, in 2021 January or later linked to another event. Discussion to continue at the next meeting.

MP adds that the launch reception of the Alumni network could happen at the same time or rather at the ALDE Congress. He is going to ask the leadership of the Alumni to look into the possibility to set up this first reception at the ALDE Congress.

2) Paris Congress (MP/BG):

- *Venue package:*

BG explains that we are waiting to hear back from the hotel to secure the 3 rooms booking with catering. It is a rather slow process because they are closed. BG will send them a reminder later this week if no reply.

- *Evening programmes:*

We still plan to go to the JR HQ for a standing dinner on Friday. BG will send a reminder to Rémi regarding the offer to get a proper overview of the costs.

The Saturday option has yet to be defined, we would like to organise a formal dinner. The objective is to have options ahead of the in-person meeting in Brussels in July. The office will work on this if needed.

3) ELF concept notes 2021 (BG):

- *Background*

This is the first step for 2021 projects before the project proposals are due to be submitted in July. Bilateral calls took place between BG and the different Bureau members to answer relevant questions and explain the tasks.

- *Locations*

AA stresses that it is important to find relevant locations and keep balances of diplomacy:

- A) If we have not been there for a long-time
- B) Location where the organisation is about to start-up
- C) Organisation on the ground is struggling or in need for support

YCA 1: **Thessaloniki - Greece**

YCA 2: **Andorra - Andorra (if not accepted then Austria for YLM and YCA in Timisoara)**

IMS event: **Ljubljana - Slovenia**

YLM: **Timișoara - România**

Comms meeting: **Copenhagen - Denmark**

Book seminar: **Pula - Croatia**

- *Topics*

*YLM will depend on the feedback we gather from the Presidents

*YCA will focus on networking / grassroots activism and building your brand / communication of the message and networking/shadowing/advocacy with political decision-makers

*Book seminar would take on the EU and the world (5 different chapters to define further). It should be narrowed down a bit to be better focused.

*Comms meeting - learn from each other and best practice sharing - communicating liberalism - how to get the message viral.

*IMS event - to be defined with the delegates, capacity-building and training - universal basic income was suggested.

- *Deadlines*

The deadline is 8 June for internal purposes and then Bureau members look into each other's proposals before the afternoon of 12 June when submitted in the system by BG.

LC offers inputs and help in case brainstorming needed for all other projects too.

4) Clara contract renewal (AA/BG):

- *3 months extension proposal*

AA explains that CPT has been with us since the beginning of February doing a great job on social media and in supporting work on events. In addition, the situation is difficult to recruit and train someone because of Corona and the summer time.

***** Decision: Bureau decides on extending her contract by requesting the 3 months extension for non-Belgian citizens at the authorities. In addition, we will propose a 50 EUR addition to her monthly salary for the last 3 months.**

5) In person bureau meeting (AA/BG):

- *Dates*

***** Decision: Bureau decides to have it between 10-12 July 2020 in Brussels.**

- *Programme and agenda (including team building activities)*

- a. Update on what has been done so far will take place.
- b. Points on the agenda to be sent to the office in the coming weeks by all BM if they wish to add something.
- c. Social media strategy and communication will be discussed to make sure we are all on the same line and follow rules.
- d. Strategic planning of the mandate and priorities (**previous documents to be shared with the Bureau by BG**).

- e. Assess the first two reports from Bureau members - experience gathered and build on that.
- f. Discuss internal communication and organisation of the different platforms we use.

- *Timeline*

Flying in on Friday noon, starting at 13 h and Sunday until 13 h, flying out on Sunday afternoon. Saturday afternoon will be dedicated to an activity together.

Video of the weekend to show the work done during the first Bureau meeting. It will be prepared by DAS and IS. Camera for photos and to ensure quality inputs will be managed between DAS and MP.

BG will make sure to book an airbnb for 8 people.

Bureau members to reach out to BG giving their travel options to book their trips to Brussels. They should also send in preferred options for the team building activity.

6) IMS (MS):

- *Internal Rules for approval and ratification*

It was the last work done by Benjamin as part of the Steering Committee. The document was sent to the Bureau with the agenda ahead of the meeting.

MP highlights that the use of the wording thematic Working Groups should be clarified. It is referred to regular Working Groups as well in the text, we need to adapt that and use one single wording.

***** Decision: Bureau decides to approve the new IMS Internal Rules**

- *Steering Committee elections - results*

MS explains that Alistair and Eleni were elected. The first meeting took place already for handover. It was decided that a thematic hangout on July 13 on the CAP will be organised. Kialo was arranged by Pau, they will see how it works in the next month, the subscription is free until September. SC to become sponsor of IMS - to have closer contact and also introductory meetings when people join. Work will be split in the IMS to make sure we can trigger engagement. Upgrade the existing welcome pack for new members will also be done.

7) ELF 2020:

a) *Cybersecurity online event (LC,BG)*

The feedback was overall positive, participants were very dynamic even if in front of computers. They liked the level of the speakers. The team is going through the political essays and grading them in order to pick the 4 best for the video project.

The evaluation survey was not completed yet by many, it will give us better feedback when we get more inputs. We noticed that we could next time leave more time for some sessions (the simulation for example).

b) *Energising Europe online event (DAS,BG)*

We need to decide on an offer we got for social media help. Fores and development of the liberal thermometer needs to be confirmed still, DAS is in touch. Few speakers are yet to be confirmed. Danish partners offered to moderate an event since we don't go to Copenhagen anymore but still keep them in the project.

c) *Publication (BG,MS,IS)*

*Editing - we need to find someone to take care of this, it's a budgeted item.

*Printing - timeline is the following:

By the end of June AA and MS have to deliver their parts and we need to add the writer's bios.

*Book launch - new date

24 September 2020 in the evening

We will ask for the availability of the FNF room in Brussels.

d) *ELF ideas accelerator (LC)*

- Our session is taking place on 24 June in the morning at 11 h 40
- About the climate emergency
- Exact time to be confirmed with the speakers
- Online as part of a broader ELF event

8) European Youth Forum online GA (IH):

Topics on the agenda:

- Approve finances
- New Secretary General to be approved
- IH looked at all documents and asked questions on relevant matters regarding the finances.
- No content this time, only statutory matters this time.
- In-person GA will be in November one week after our Congress in Lithuania, Danica to chair that one if accepted at this online GA. IH will let us know.

9) AOB:

* *Consumers' protection calls for projects (BG)*

Not necessarily in our targets, quality over quantity should be privileged thus we won't enter in this time-consuming project. Furthermore, consumer's protection is not in our priorities.

* *Call for session Copenhagen 2021 LGBTQ summit (BG)*

Might be good but doesn't profile us. There are more efficient ways to work on this topic: CoE or own event with MOs participating. There is no clear added-value for us and 2021 is already busy.

** JCS post COVID-19 project (IH)*

- We will send out to MOs a request to send a representative for an online meeting.
- Timeline as follows: 22 June the call. 28 June as the deadline. To be promoted at digital assembly and then after.
- Result: 10 proposals for the post COVID Europe. 5 categories and 2 per category.
- Template for proposals out from 29 June until 10 July. Once we receive that, MS and IH will go through them to make sure it matches with the policy book.
- 13 July everything will be sent out to participants and then a digital event will take place on 18 July on Zoom. In case there are many MOs participating, there would be a split of the digital discussion in 2 sessions (possibly also then on the 19th).
- 1 vote per MO and google form will be sent out to select and vote on the proposals (2 days to do it).
- 24/25 July first online presentation - 10 results presented.
- Over summer, communication package will be prepared and letter to MOs and MEPs
- 24 September - presentation in Brussels - handover of the 10 points to the MEPs

AA comments that it is good work and an impactful project, they took our comments on board well so we can be happy.

** Invitation AA Statutory Meeting Young Liberals Greece in Athens 31 July to 2 August 2002 (AA)*

- Greece has a policy to avoid people from Belgium to get in the country so might be hard for AA to attend.
- We need to go there because they need a statutory meeting to apply for full membership.
- A Bureau member present is needed so LC will be sent as the person responsible.

**Any other invitations?*

- All Bureau members should remind their MOs for the 3 open calls for events we currently have.
- Digital assembly is compulsory for Bureau members during the whole event - recommended even for the afternoon.
- Nova Stranka Youth and Nasa Stranka Youth need to invite us for a statutory event to be able to join as full members. We need a Bureau member present.

End of the meeting at 22 h 30