

## MINUTES

### Online Bureau meeting

### 1 March 2021

**Time:** Monday 01 March between 19 h 00 and 21:30 h CET;

**Venue:** Zoom Bureau meeting.

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

**Starts at 19 h 00**

#### 1) Finances - MP - 20 minutes

- External Audit
  - MP is in general more positive about the overall situation now. We had the external audit, we solved almost all issues and there is only one last outstanding item left. The issues to be solved were smaller amounts so they were not under the radar of the external auditors over the years. We start now with a clean page for the next few years. MP adds that considering external advice is still a good idea at the closing of the year;
  - 27 000 EUR is the final end result of profit for 2020. This means that if a project has more money needed, there is space. We could consider hiring someone extra if we expect a busy period in the second part of the year for example and the podcast becomes a realistic option as well.

#### Comments:

- DAS reminds to bear in mind that flight tickets will go up in the Autumn when we will be back travelling;
- BG would suggest to also think about the anniversary event we want to have;
- LC would like to request funds for a Libertas Editorial team meeting in Brussels or an extra event next year for the Women's event;
- DAS reminds that we aren't there yet to make Libertas bigger - maybe we could link that meeting to a bigger event;
- LC agrees that it is a good idea to have a side meeting for Libertas and an in-person Women's summit would be more relevant probably for next year.

- Updates MO fees payments

- 19 MO fee payments are still outstanding. The list will be circulated to the Bureau members to **remind the missing ones to pay or reach out in case of issues.**

- MO fee reductions

- The request from Mladi HLS was received but they need to clarify a point to make the request compliant to the statutes;
- Nowoczesna Youth and Youth Progressive Slovakia will probably follow in the coming weeks.

- EC 2020 report
  - The report for the 2020 EC grant was submitted by BG after sorting out some technical issues. We will hopefully get the entire remaining 10 000 EUR in the coming weeks.
  - The grant agreement for the 2021 EC grant was signed. We will receive the 40 000 EUR prepayment in the Spring.
  
- Upcoming deadline for the European Youth Foundation Project Application
  - We wish to apply again and the deadline is the 1st of April;
  - This would be for the Spring 2022 study session;
  - Lucasta is going to follow a workshop on how to apply for these activities tomorrow (2nd March 2021) and MP is set to follow a workshop on Wednesday on how to apply for Annual Work Plans - more for the future;
  - **LC and IS will be working on this application together with Lucasta;**
  - LC reminds that it is important to make it different from the last ones so that we have more chances to be selected.
  
- Zoom account
  - IS explains that the Civil and Minority rights working group already has the confirmation from one MEP for a WG event in March, it would be nice to have it livestreamed;
  - That brings up the question of the subscriptions and whether an upgrade is possible. It seems to be very pricey to go for a Business account. In the meantime, we will **ask for the ELF account for this event. We will also check the prices in parallel for a potential one month upgrade.**

## 2) Congress - AA/BG - 20 minutes

- Validation Congress registrations

The list was shared with the Bureau before the meeting.

- DAS comments that we should be tough on deadlines and therefore not accept more people;
- MP emphasizes that delegates can still be replaced if justified and needed, but the office must be informed asap (the latest two weeks before the event).

**The list is approved by the Bureau and further additions won't be accepted.**

- Openslides (updates)

MS, IH and BG explain:

- The platform is working already and Daniel set up the server (we bought it - the one with the appropriate capacity), we set up an openslides email account also and he signed a GDPR confidentiality document;
- We added Openslides to the domain and asked Produweb to do so, hopefully it will not be too expensive at the end (no invoice received yet);
- In terms of overall cost, we are following the expected budget;
- Importing all the participants is the next step in the coming days. BG will also make an update of both online Congress and OpenSlides guides;
- We identified some new features (point of order button) and BG has set up most of the tool (Agenda, documents ...).

- 8 weeks deadline inputs
- Calendar invite was sent to the Bureau for the 4 weeks deadline as reminder, reports will be expected
- Regarding the 8 weeks deadline that just passed, Nasa Stranka Youth applied for membership - they will be sending translated documents soon and an online statutory event will happen and the agenda is ready for that. The Bureau will be invited to join. It will take place before our Congress.

- Chairs

The Bureau discussed proposing the chairs for the Congress, we will reach out to them in the coming days. Multiple people will be contacted to see if they are willing to become one of the chairs.

- Potential guests opening on Friday - speeches
- AA opens the Congress
- Hans Van Baalen for ALDE
- Dacian Ciolos for Renew Europe Group
- Cecilia Malmström as former Commissioner and OECD leadership candidate
- Hilde Vautmans for ELF
  
- Potential guests opening on Saturday - greeting
- Simon from the YFJ Board
- YDE President
- IFLRY President

**The official invitations are to be sent out soon, BG will prepare them this week.**

- Working Groups (MS and LC)
- 17 April on Saturday before the Congress - from 10 h 30 till 12 h 30 then lunch break 13 h till 14 h 30
- 2 groups in parallel breakout rooms
- Chairs should join them - 1 BM and 1 Chair in each

Regarding the protocol on voting, we have several options:

- Apply the Digital Assembly system? - Chat voting would be used then
- Ask for 2 representatives to join only for voting?
- Open a page on OpenSlides?

**BH, IH and MS will look into the details in the coming weeks.**

- Policy book
- Amendments from the Digital Assembly have to be submitted again - BG added the outcomes on the documentation page and on OpenSlides so that the delegates can use that;
- MS will table the outcomes of the Policy book renewal before the deadline;
- Only one rotation of the policy book clean-up will be submitted finally. No additional work on the clean-up foreseen, there is a lack of time till the 4 weeks deadline.

- Newbies session
  - 16 April on Friday, the week before the Congress at 16 h
  - We need to make it more engaging, it's necessary to have it but we need to rethink it;
  - LC to prepare a quiz on the different points and we will use a tool like 'Slido' to make the session interactive;
  - DAS and BG to help her with this.
- LYMEC surprise
  - It is in preparation - we will be able to deliver only for those giving a valid and full address when registering.
- Live talk with Renew
  - After the Congress would be better because we know which resolution passed and we can build on that;
  - We would fit an MEP to the topic and have the delegates engaging with them;
  - MEP can give advice to go further with the proposal and build on its adoption at the LYMEC Congress;
  - The goal should be to convey the main message in a resolution - 1 delegate/resolution to speak and it would be livestreamed.

**We will discuss this further with Renew.**

### 3) Upcoming events - LC/BG - 20 minutes

- Young Liberal Women Summit

- Speakers

We have 2 speakers per session -

°Svenja Hahn and Karen Melchior moderated by LC for the first

°Samira Rafaela and Emma Wiesner moderated by IS for the second

- Registrations

44 participants were selected (maximum 2 per MOs and we aimed at keeping good geographical balances).

- Logistics

Saturday at 10 h - we will extend the networking session a bit so we will end a bit later the event.

- ELF book event

- Speakers

°They were all contacted but many still to be confirmed;

°We are working on the final programme at the moment;

°On Wednesday we will start contacting B options and speed up the process.

- Registrations

°15 people confirmed and started working on their chapters. Final results are to be presented on 22 March (before the event so that we can review them);

°In general, no proposals overlap and it has great potential for the final publication.

- Logistics

The Bureau wishes to use the remaining money from the budget surplus on other events in the year and the book launch instead of spending on facilities now.

- Policy side

°No compliance check will be done but whether it makes sense will have to be checked. MS and LC will go through them and exchange views. The quality looks promising.

°The work will be done together with Antonios from the Policy and Research Unit.

- **ELF Ideas Accelerator**

- Concept and application

Digitalisation and innovation are the topics - we could use the cybersecurity event but also YLM on digitalisation we had last year.

LC proposes to look into how digitalisation is affecting the ways we socialise, the way we become politically engaged - are we more isolated or find new ways to communicate? We could invite Karen Melchior but we need to bear in mind that we need a non-traditional format for the event. It is planned to take place on 16 April in Brussels in hybrid format if possible otherwise online.

**Comments:**

IH adds that new trends on social media and youth movements/politics active online are increasing - young MEPs and use of digital tools are very interesting topics;

DAS suggests someone not necessarily a politician but for the head of policy of Facebook for example;

MP comments that also someone else who would be more critical about it would be interesting.

AA adds that Sophie In't Veld could be good on privacy and data protection.

**LC will put a proposal together and send it to BG before the deadline.**

#### **4) AC elections - European Youth Forum - IH - 5 minutes**

- **Updates**

- Nickolas Pagonakis is the joint nominee - Lucasta made the visuals for him;

- Video editing on-going with IFLRY;

- BG helped with French translation of his video and he also delivered the nomination letter.

- **Nomination**

- The Deadline is tomorrow, we have the signed letter and all documents. LC helped to write down a few things we have already done with the Council of Europe;

- The elections are 1 week before the Spring Congress;

MS comments that a candidate, member of JULIS reached out for support from the German Youth Council. He will talk to Ines before taking a stance, it shouldn't be in the same category as Nickolas Pagonakis. Requests from candidates for support/talks should go to IH.

## 5) Projects update - 20 minutes

### Cooperation Project - IH/BG/MP - 10 minutes

- Updates and implementation

IH explains that there are issues with all MOs being involved - Nasa Stranka Youth and Nova Stranka Youth should be more active. MS will talk to them. We booked the hotel and signed the contract and the survey is being put in place, it's moving forward.

### COVID19 project with Ciudadanos - 5 minutes

- IH explains that the ideas/proposals will be proposed to MEPs in an event organised with Renew;
- We would need a date for this event online - sometime in May. The draft proposal would be 25 or 26 May in the evening.

### JAM project - 5 minutes

- IH explains that the international phase is over now with an online event that took place with Dacian Ciolos and another Renew MEP;
- The survey's results are now out there.

## 6) New website - IH/IS/BG - 10 minutes

- Latest updates and timeline
- The designs are now ready, waiting for final confirmation, the Bureau therefore takes a last look with final comments to be implemented;
- First payment was made as per contract;
- They started producing now with a 5 weeks timeline ahead of us.

## 7) Future of Europe platform - MS - 5 minutes

- Deadline of 12/13 March was fixed to enable comments on the proposed political document;
- Meeting on 15 March to go through the content;
- If one organisation has a red line then its automatically taken out;
- Only deletion allowed for Congress, we will make it clear.

## 8) News from MOs and IMS - 10 minutes

No comments

## 9) Invitations - 5 minutes

No comments

## 10) AOB

### - Intern shadowing in the liberal family

BG explains that the concept is in place with ELF and soon ALDE, online for the moment but moving forward in person when it's possible. First test was very insightful with the ELF Policy and Research Team.

### - From our MOs

We will share the YLG input since it's the latest received - we already shared the other two from LHG and YMRF.

- IFLRY proposal

Some inputs from JULIS came in so far but we need more - BG will send a reminder to the membership. Regarding one of the JULIS comments, we should keep separation between IFLRY and LYMEC scopes. **A clear majority in the Bureau** is against the first comment of JULIS on mixing the focuses between the two organisations. There is an agreement to cooperate with IFLRY on this stance.

**Meeting ends at 22 h 15**