

## Digital Assembly

**13 June 2020**

### MINUTES

1. **Part A was dedicated to the Bureau presenting what has been done so far in the mandate and what the plans for the coming months are. This was an opportunity for delegations to ask questions and share their concerns with the current leadership.**

**Balint GYEVAI**, Secretary General, takes the floor to welcome the delegates and explain the following rules and procedures to participate:

- Stay muted at all times except when given the floor.
- If you want to take the floor please ask for it in the chat and wait until a member of the Bureau or of the Secretariat indicates you to do so.
- Please indicate the initials of your organisation at the beginning of your name.
- All delegates are allowed to ask for the floor, even the ones that are not IOs.
- Once in the call please do not leave it. If you need a break please stay muted and switch off your camera.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA**, LYMEC's President, welcomes everyone, explains the reasoning behind the introduction of the Digital Assembly (meeting more often, being more transparent and giving members more chances to talk about policy) and goes over the agenda. She gives an overview of the new bureau's functions and actions since their election in April.

#### Events carried out since the Bureau was elected:

- Capacity building seminar on cybersecurity, blockchain and big data (ELF event).

#### Events about to take place in the near future:

- "Energising Europe": raising climate ambition and boosting energy solutions for growth (ELF event). This will take place at the end of June.
- "Help me out, take me in" (In collaboration with the Council of Europe). Dedicated to the topic of inclusion and diversity.
- ELF ideas accelerator online event. Our President will moderate a session on sustainability with two MEPs giving a Pecha Kucha.

#### Contacts have been made for closer cooperation with partners:

- JEF
- FYEG

- IFLRY
- Jeunes avec Macron (JAM)
- YDE
- AA will have a meeting with the youth organisations of S&D and EPP to introduce ourselves and see if we can work together.

ALDE Party Bureau: President represented LYMEC as well as in ELF's GA.

AA attended Multiple online events and podcasts:

- Young Liberals in Greece
- LHG on the current crisis in Germany
- Boris Divkovic Foundation of the Western Balkans
- Different European Youth organisations debate on discrimination.

The Bureau will hold a meeting in July in which they will talk about KPIs among other things. The event for the IOs in the European Parliament will not take place as planned. We will postpone until the situation with the health crisis becomes more stable. She explains that they will be working on the Future of Europe platform and another event for Communication Officers.

Once the President finished she gives the floor to **Dan-Aria SUCURI**, LYMEC's Vice-President, who gives a report on the Bureau's performance:

Bureau members names and functions:

- **Antoaneta ASENOVA:** LYMEC's President. Territorial Responsibilities: Bulgaria.
- **Dan-Aria SUCURI:** LYMEC's Vice-President. Territorial Responsibilities: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Sweden, Ukraine.
- **Marten PORTE:** Treasurer. Territorial responsibilities: Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg.
- **Marina SEDLO:** Policy Officer. Territorial Responsibilities: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia.
- **Ida-Maria SKYTTE:** Communications Officer. Territorial Responsibilities: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway.
- **Laia COMERMA:** Events and Trainings Officer. Territorial Responsibilities: Andorra, Catalonia, Cyprus, France, Gibraltar, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Turkey, United Kingdom.
- **Ines HOLZEGGER:** Outreach and Cooperation Officer. Territorial Responsibilities: Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland.

He explains that his work as Vice-President consists basically in assuring that the team works efficiently and achieves their goals, meeting the expectations set by the Congress.

It was a challenge to adapt to the situation with the health crisis. Nevertheless, we can assess our work through the success of our event on cybersecurity (interesting speakers, good number of attendees and positive feedback). Special shout out to Laia who had been very involved in the organisation of the event. Our event on sustainability is ready to go too even when, as we are working with different partners, it poses some challenges that we faced successfully.

**Laia COMERMA** takes the floor to explain LYMECs participation on ELFs ideas accelerator holding a session about climate change with the participation of two MEPs, our former president Svenja HAHN being part of it. Tune in!

One of the keys of the success of our events is the great communications work by the Bureau member in charge of Communications, Ida-Maria SKYTTE, assisted by our administrative assistant, Clara PUIG. Ida-Maria is doing a great job and, at the moment she is working on a new communications strategy.

**Ida-Maria SKYTTE** takes the floor to highlight the success of the video made with the MOs for Europe Day and expresses her will to do more things involving our MOs and members.

**Dan-Aria SUCURI** takes the floor again to explain the work of Ines HOLZEGGER assessing and choosing between different platforms to use for the different tasks LYMEC does (trainings, membership management, communication, etc.). She has also been very involved representing LYMEC in different events (including the online GA of the European Youth Forum).

**Ines HOLZEGGER** takes the floor to mention the work done with NationBuilder and recognize the Secretariat for their role in it. She introduces the project she is working on with Jóvenes Ciudadanos. She gives the floor to Laia GARRIDO from JCs to explain that the motivation behind the project is to gather young liberals' response for the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis. 10 measures to push forward to defend the interest of young people will be elaborated. They hope to have a big political impact. She thanks LYMEC and Ines for their support and encourages everyone to participate. Ines takes the floor again to say that in two weeks the invitation to participate will be open and that in July they will be discussing the ideas presented and have a meeting to select the ones to be presented to the MEPs in September.

**Dan-Aria SUCURI** takes the floor again to talk about the work of Marina SEDLO as Policy Officer. He explains how she has had a lot of work finding a new tool to work on resolutions during Congresses. Today we are here to focus especially on her work with

the Policy Book. She has also done a great job with the IMS Section as part of the Steering Committee acting as a bridge between the Bureau and the IMS Section.

**Marina SEDLO** takes the floor to add that she is also working on the Future of Europe platform and that she is excited about this project and the chance to improve the EU institutions. About the Policy Book clean up she explains that they noticed there are some topics missing. She explains that she will create a sheet with those topics and invite members to submit resolution proposals to be reviewed by the next Congress. She also explains that her work also consists in checking the Policy Book to use it efficiently in all our activities and make sure everything is in line.

**Dan-Aria SUCURI** takes the floor to show appreciation of the work of Marten PORTE as a Treasurer, especially when it comes to preparing the Congress in Paris in November and in setting up the Alumni Network.

**Marten PORTE** takes the floor recognising that these two things are the most important he has been working on. He recognizes the Secretariat for their work on the Paris Congress locations hunt. He encourages people to promote and get involved in the Alumni Network.

**Dan-Aria SUCURI** closes his section by talking about his work as Vice-President/ team manager. He explains that he is also organising many events. One of which is "Energising Europe" where he has been involved by searching speakers, designing social media strategies and planning. He recognizes the work of the administrative assistant and the policy intern.

**The President** takes the floor again to praise the Bureau and the Secretariat for their amazing job. She then gives the floor to **Balint GYEVAI** who talks about the transition with the new Bureau. He says that even with the present challenges everyone has done a great job and it has been easy to work with the new Bureau. He explains that from the Secretariat they have tried to be everywhere making sure not only to deliver quantity but quality to all LYMEC projects. He explains that the dynamic with the Bureau has been very good because all members are available to give their input and expertise on the different events and activities. He gives the floor to Clara and Ariane thanking them for their work.

Introduction of Secretariat members: (They Introduce themselves and their main fields of work).

- **Clara PUIG**, Administrative Assistant focused mainly on communication and the organisation of the ELF events.
- **Ariane TAKYI**, Policy and Training Intern focused on the policy book but also the future of Europe platform and the online activity.

The floor opens for questions from the audience:

**Ioana ABASEACA (UST Tineret) asks Dan-Aria SUCURI about the event in Riga.**

He explains that it will be the young leaders' event in which Presidents of our member organisations get to meet LYMECs President and talk about digitalisation and innovation.

**Alice SCHMIDT (Junge Liberale) praises the Bureau for their transparency and great communication with IOs and the involvement of MOs. She also admires the communications effort, especially on promoting our policies. She suggests that, even though minority rights are very important, our communications are very centered on it and proposes that we do some publications on more general topics such as the economy. She also pushes for having more people attending and participating in Congresses (not only delegation members but other liberals maybe through digital means).**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** explains that this last suggestion could be difficult logistically and for GDPR reasons but says that they will take them into consideration.

**Laia COMERMA and Ida-Maria SKYTTE** take the floor to explain that they take into account the comment to do more events and communications on economic issues.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** also addresses the issue and explains that communications are a bit focused on trending topics but says they take her comment into account. She also introduces LYMEC to the #NextGenerationEU program and encourages members to come up with resolutions and ideas on this topic.

**Kasper LANGELUND (RU) asks if the Bureau has discussed when will the next event happen in person? And which criteria needs to be fulfilled before you're comfortable to start making events where travel is needed?**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** explains that we still do not know even though we are contemplating having events in person from September on (the event in Latvia at the end of September and the Congress in Paris in November). She talks about her meeting with ALDEs Secretary General and how both organisations are facing similar challenges.

**Balint GYEVAI** takes the floor to explain how they are taking into account social distancing and hygiene parameters for the Paris Congress in November. Regarding the YLM, we also depend on ELF.

**Nemir Ali (Junge Liberale) asks about creating more opportunities for the members to participate in LYMEC. He explains that, whilst it is great that we might come back to in person meetings soon, he exposes the advantage that online events present participation-wise and encourages LYMEC to keep having online events and to hold more discussion meetings. He then goes on to talk**

**about how Zoom has censored Chinese and people from Hong Kong users living in the US for the anniversary of the Tiananmen Massacre. Would LYMEC therefore stop using this tool?**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** responds by insisting on the many events we already have and presenting the working groups. She introduces the idea under work to have more twinings between organisations but she exposes that it is difficult because it is necessary to have more than one organisation participating. She points out that there is a very clear distinction between LYMEC and IFRLY because we only address European topics. We will only touch international topics if they affect Europe.

**Dan-Aria SUCURI** takes the floor to address the issue of priorities. He manifested agreement with Antoaneta. He also exposes that, even though it would be great to have more online activity, but defends the current activities carried out.

**Laia COMERMA** takes the floor, recognizes the importance of online events and encourages the members to send her inputs about what can interest them.

**Balint GYEVAI** takes the floor to explain that we chose Zoom due to its adaptability of our needs. He promises that this will be talked about in the next Bureau meeting and exposes the difficulty of changing immediately on the platform without an alternative. Many partners use Zoom so a transition can be complicated. For example, with ELF events they use Zoom and we have to stick with it.

**Laia BARBERA (JNC)** asks how is the creation of an expert database going.

**Laia COMERMA** answers that a call to participate in it will be launched shortly. They will also try to relaunch the LIBERTAS blog and she hopes that many of you will take part in it.

**Peter WILSON (AY)** asks if, when in person events take place in the autumn, would an online option be available for people that will not be able to attend due to restrictions?

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** explains that they are working on it but that it poses some challenges GDPR-wise since all people present will have to agree to be streamed live. As an alternative there could also be a Zoom retransmission not open to everyone. They are still checking how that can work.

**Marten PORTE** takes the floor to present the options they are contemplating for the Congress. He explains that they are already working on having two different rooms connected but he does not know how people can be connected from home.

**Balint GYEVAI** takes the floor to say that Congress-wise it is difficult and regarding other events it depends on the event and our partners. He brings up the example of the Young Changemakers Academy.

**Roland FALTEJSEK (JUNOS)** asks how do working groups work since he is interested in participating in the Security and Defense one but he is worried about not having enough time.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** gives the floor to **Ines HOLZEGGER** explaining that each Working Group has a Bureau member who is responsible for it.

She talks about how she will create a WhatsApp group to discuss and that the ultimate objective is to create resolutions for the Congress on the topic. Nevertheless, she stresses the fact that the group is also aimed to discuss the state of the issue in different countries. Her aim is to have at least one resolution to be submitted to the Congress in November.

**Ida-Maria SKYTTE** presents the Working Group on Minority Rights and how the deadline to register for all Working Groups is the 19 of June.

**Laia COMERMA** takes the floor introducing the Working Group on Climate Change and invites the members to sign up since it is an issue that touches many topics (energy, economy, etc.).

**Ines HOLZEGGER** presents the European Liberal Students Network and explains how she is relaunching it, opening it to everyone interested in the topic of education.

**Iryna AKHMEDOVA (EYU)** asks a question on working groups: **Is it possible for a working group to propose the idea of an event? or plan the event? at least online?**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** responds that yes of course. It is in the hands of the members of the Group how to meet and when so they can do it as much as they want.

**Ellinor JUTH (SU)** asks a question on the **ALDE Congress and the work of the delegation.**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** explains that in her meeting with the Secretary General of the ALDE Party, they are assessing how to do it. Playing with the number of delegates and the idea of a hybrid congress that will allow the delegates that are part of a risk group to participate from home and downsizing delegations.

**Marina SEDLO** takes the floor that, since the Congress is in Sweden, it will probably not be a problem to go, since they are one of the countries that implemented the least restrictions with COVID-19. It might be to come back.

**Lucas CYPRES (JR) informs that President Macron will deliver a national address on Sunday for those curious ones who are wondering how social distancing and stuff measures are going to evolve in France.**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** thanks everyone for their participation and closes the first part of the Digital Assembly giving participants a 10 minutes break.



2. Part B dealt with the proposals for resolutions of the working group on the renewal of our policy book. The [outcomes of the last process are available](#) and delegates were able to send their comments and proposals for discussion. This discussion aimed at finding compromises, creating alliances, exchanging views and preparing the work for Congress. In no way the discussions has a binding effect, resolutions will be debated and adopted at our next Congress. Amendments to resolutions should still be tabled for the Congress. However, the opinion of the assembly will be transmitted as an announcement during the working groups on resolutions taking place before the next Congress.

Congress is the decision-making body so amendments will have to be submitted again. This is a space to discuss the topics and identify points of cooperation between organisations.

Resolutions that have been revised or proposed by the Working Group:

- **2.09. Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression as grounds for International Protection.**

No one asks for the floor.

#### Amendment 1 from JONG VLD

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** takes the floor to defend their amendment on terminology from LGBTQI to SGD.

#### **Q&A**

**David LILJEDAL (CUF)** speaks against the proposal since the terminology is not well known.

**Ellinor JUTH (SU)** also speaks against the proposal and criticizes the argument against the eurocentricity of the current term.

**Emil DJAZIC (RU)** also speaks against

**Peter WILSON (Alliance Youth)** speaks against even though he appreciates the arguments set forth.

**Ryan O'MEARA (Ogra Fianna Fail)** proposes postponing this decision.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** addresses criticism.

**Lucas CYPRES (JR)** defends the term LGBTQI.

**Ciara CAMPBEL (AY)** defends there are three issues to balance: communication, inclusiveness and popularity. She defends SGD as it is inclusive and clear.

### **VOTE**

8 in favour. Amendment does not pass.

### **Amendment 2 - Jong VLD**

### **VOTE**

11/70 in favour. It does not pass.

### **Amendment 3 - LHG**

**Felix HARING (LHG)** takes the floor to defend changing abbreviations for the full names of organisations and to specify the guidelines talked about.

### **Q&A**

**Ioana ABASCEA (USR Tineret)** proposes to have the references as a footnote.

**Felix HARING (LHG)** states he will be in favour of that.

### **VOTE**

All in favour of a reference to be added in footnote.

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

### **VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress..

- **2.10. Recognise Same-Sex Marriages in the EU;**

**Amendment 1 - Jong VLD**

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** takes the floor to defend their amendment

**Q&A**

**Peter WILSON (AY)** manifests agreement with the amendment.

**Ellinor JUTH (SU)** also manifests in favour.

**VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

**Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

**VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress..

- **2.11. On Ending the Discrimination of Young Gays and Lesbians in the Accession Countries- To be archived.**

**Q&A**

No one takes the floor.

**VOTE**

No one against.

**Resolution recommended to be archived.**

- **2.12 - on Freedom of expression as a core to a liberal society - To be archived**

**Q&A**

No one takes the floor.

## **VOTE**

***No one against. Resolution recommended to be archived.***

- **2.13. Freedom of Gender Identity as a Fundamental European Right**

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** takes the floor to explain the changes proposed.

**Pau CASTELLVÍ (JNC)** talks in favour of the resolution and only criticizes that it is too focused on public health.

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

## **Q&A**

**Peter WILSON (AY)** makes a general comment on the resolution.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** takes the floor to propose a separate resolution on children and gender identity.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong-VLD)** raises a point about gender dysmorphia but approves of Peter's comment.

**Ellinor JUTH (SU)** also stresses the importance of having a new resolution.

**Marina SEDLO** proposes to write a new resolution on the topic.

## **VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress and a **new resolution is to be written on children and gender identity.**

### **Amendment 1 - JNC**

**Laia BARBERÀ (JNC)** takes the floor to defend JNCs amendment proposal.

## **VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

### **Amendment 2 - JNC**

**Laia BARBERÀ (JNC)** takes the floor to defend JNCs amendment proposal.

## **VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

### **Amendment 3 - JNC**

**Laia BARBERÀ (JNC)** takes the floor to defend JNCs amendment proposal.

## **VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be submitted to the Congress.

### **Amendment 4 - LHG**

**Felix HARING (LHG)** takes the floor to defend the amendment.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** takes the floor to speak against the amendment saying it is sufficient with the original text.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** takes the floor.

**Felix HARING (LHG)** takes the floor to propose options.

**Amendment to be prepared for the next Congress (this one was just an idea proposed)**

## **VOTE on the resolution**

Resolution carried with positive recommendation to Congress

- **2.14 No Naked Scanners! - To be archived**

## VOTE

No one against.

### Recommendation to be archived

- **2.15. Urgent Resolution on harmful content online**

#### Amendment 1 - Jong VLD

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** takes the floor to defend the amendment on defining what a child is.

## Q&A

**Peter WILSON (AY)** takes the floor to appreciate the point made by Eduardo but stresses the fact that European countries have different views on the matter and thinks that would have to be addressed. We need a clear definition.

**Marina SEDLO** gives her opinion saying that a child is understood the same in every country and doubts the necessity to include a definition.

**Kristine MILLING (VU)** proposes to include the definition as a footnote.

**Emil DJAZIC (RU)** intervenes to agree to the footnote format.

**Margaux CARREAUX (Green Liberals CH)** intervenes to clarify the official definition of the terms.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** accepts the footnote format but suggests that in view of Margaux's comment there should be a **broader conversation about it**.

**Huw JAMES (IMS)** expresses that the term is well defined in the context of child abuse by international treaties.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** intervenes against the amendment and agrees with Huw that the term is already well defined.

## VOTE

Some votes against but majority in favour.

Amendment to have a definition as a footnote be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

### **Amendment 2 - LHG**

**Felix HARING (LHG)** takes the floor to defend the amendment on the formulation of the resolution and proposes the division of it in two: one about child abuse and another one on harmful content online.

**Ani DISPAYAN (LUF)** thinks these are contemplated better on the present broader resolution.

**Peter WILSON (AY)** also gives his opinion and agrees with Ani.

### **VOTE**

6/70 against.

**Amendment is not recommended.**

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

### **VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress.

- ***2.16 Stop Discriminatory Measures Towards Roma People***

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

### **VOTE**

No one against.

All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress.

### **Amendment 1 - JNC**

**Pau CASTELLVÍ (JNC)** presents their amendment to correct the text of the resolution.

**Marina SEDLO** stresses the fact that LYMEC can release statements in social media that do not necessarily have to go in the policy book as well as long as they respect it.

### **VOTE**

No one against.

The amendment is approved.

- **2.17 Situation in Belarus**

#### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

### **VOTE**

No one against.

All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.18 The situation of Human Rights in Russia - to be archived**

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** explains why they propose to archive the resolution because they are focused on Sochi and open the debate for a new one.

### **Q&A**

**Alice SCHMIDT (JuLis)** defends the relevance of the resolution and defends it should not be archived.

**Felix HARING (LHG)** agrees with Alice on the importance of having an active resolution on human rights in Russia. He manifests his will to work in a new resolution.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** encourages members to come up with a new resolution.

**Alice SCHMIDT (JuLis)** insists on the importance of the content of the resolution and defends not archiving it until we have a new resolution.



**Antoaneta ASENOVA** clarifies that nothing will be archived now. It will be recommended to be archived in the Congress at the same time that the new resolution is proposed to the Congress.

**Franziska BRANDMANN (Julis)** supports the argument about the importance of the resolution. She suggests that the new resolution comes with a proposal to archive this one and not doing it now.

**Nemir ALI (Julis)** supports the argument presented by Franziska.

**Alexandre SERVAIS (JeunesMR)** intervenes to say that a recommendation is a recommendation and not an obligation and is a good way to initiate a conversation on what should be proposed to the Congress.

**Peter BANKS (Young Liberals)** defends the archiving due to the dated information the resolution contains. He manifests his will to work in a new resolution.

**Franziska BRANDMANN (Julis)** intervenes to insist on the importance of having a resolution on Russia and manifest confusion about the reaction of the rest of the delegates.

**Gertjan ROELS (Jong VLD)** agrees with JuLis on the importance of not getting rid of the resolution until there is something there for sure.

**Marina SEDLO** proposes to vote on not archiving it until there is something to substitute it.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** suggests not to vote on it and wait on having a resolution proposal for the Congress.

**Franziska BRANDMANN (Julis)** manifests agreement with this solution.

**Ioana ABASEACA (USR Tineret)** proposes to **work on a resolution on fake news coming from the Russian Federation.**

**Marina SEDLO** notes this last point.

### **No recommendation for Congress**

- **2.19 Resolution on Belgrade Pride - to be archived**

**Johan BROWET (FEL)** defends that it is outdated and needs to be archived.

**Felix HARING (LHG)** suggest to work on a new resolution on the general topic of Gay Pride demonstrations.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** points out not to call it Gay Pride but Pride since everyone is welcome.

### **VOTE**

No one against. Archival will be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.20 Resolution on Turkish Interference in Fosterage - to be archived**

**Marina SEDLO** explains why they want to archive it.

**Alice SCHMIDT (JuLis)** retires their opposition to archive.

### **VOTE**

No one against. Archival will be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.21 Ending Female Genital Mutilation**

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

### **Q&A**

**Johan BROWET (FEL)** asks a question.

**Emil DJAZIC (RU)** answers that there is no official evidence but he is sure that it is happening.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** goes further to explain Emil's argument.

### **VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress.

### **VOTE**

Resolution approved for recommendation.

- **2.22 Freedom from Rape- to be archived**

#### Q&A

**Alice SCHMIDT (JuLis)** defends the relevance of the resolution point by point and urges LYMEC to take action on it.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** argues that the resolution reeks of white saviour complex and that we have to work on our territories before taking action abroad. She defends **creating a resolution on the issue in Europe.**

**Peter WILSON (AY)** defends not archiving it until there is one to replace it and defends that having a stance on what happens in other countries is a good thing.

**Felix HARING (LHG)** defends keeping it.

**Kristien WILLING (VU)** supports Stefania's claim for a new resolution more focused on the issue in Europe.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** proposes to do the same as in the Sochi debate.

**Laia COMERMA Bureau** explains how they have been working on a resolution on the right to abortion and proposes that they prepare a resolution on rape to compliment that one.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** President recommends to leave it without recommendation.

**Nemir ALI (JuLis)** adds that he does not agree with the argument of the white saviour and highlights the role of the EU in defending human rights internationally.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** explains what she means with the "white savior" complex.

**Pau CASTELLVÍ (JNC)** proposes that rather than archiving we should improve the resolution to address human rights violations in the world and the EU's role in preventing them.

**Marina SEDLO** concludes to keep it with no recommendation.

### **No recommendation for Congress**

- **2.23 Freedom of Belief**

**Ines HOLZEGGER** explains that the decision to compile all those resolutions in one about religions in general is more liberal than addressing each religion independently.

### **Resolution additions and reforms made by the Working Group on Policy Book reforms.**

#### **VOTE**

No one against. All additions and reforms are approved to be recommended to the Congress.

#### **Amendment 1 - JuLis**

**Nemir ALI (JuLis)** proposes to add anti-semitism next to islamophobia.

**Peter WILSON (AY)** supports the suggestion of Nemir and explains the situation of anti-semitism in the UK.

**Gertjan ROELS (Jong VLD)** agrees with the previous speakers.

**Lucas CYPRIEN (JR)** asks what do we mean by deliberately displaying religious symbols. He asks for a clarification.

**Marina SEDLO** proposes to come back to that topic later

**Felix HARING (LHG)** **retires his proposal because they agree with the amendment from JuLis.**

#### **VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

#### **Amendment 2 - JuLis**

**Nemir ALI (JuLis)** asks that examples of anti-semitism and evidence should be included

### **VOTE**

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

### **Amendment 3 - JNC**

**Pau CASTELLVÍ (JNC)** defends his proposal to defend the freedom to express their opinions about religion in a way that does no harm to the physical or moral integrity of people.

**Peter WILSON (AY)** takes the floor to agree with the amendment as long as it encourages respect.

### **Amendment 4 - Jong VLD**

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** explains the proposal they have based on new information.

**Marina SEDLO** explains the issue and proposes a change to a church tax.

**Eduardo FIALHO (Jong VLD)** proposes a better definition in a footnote or change the name.

**Emil DZAJIC (RU)** agrees on the need for a better definition.

**Marina SEDLO** proposes to **find and propose a better definition for religious taxes.**

### **Amendment 5 - JR**

**Lucas CYPRIEN (JR)** asks to define what we mean by deliberately displaying religious symbols. He asks for a clarification.

**Peter WILSON (AY)** agrees with Lucas that this needs to be better defined not to go against the freedom of religion either.

**Marina SEDLO** explains that people are not subject by this resolution but institutions. **She proposes that they come up with a definition to propose as an amendment.**

**Ines HOLZEGGER** agrees with the amendment proposal and explains the text comes from the current resolution.

**Lucas CYPRIEN (JR)** agrees with this solution.

## VOTE

No one against. Amendment to be added to the recommendation to the Congress.

- **2.24 A Call for a Change in Vatican Policy - to be archived**

## Q&A

**Franziska BRANDMANN (JuLis)** intervenes to defend the relevance of the resolution.

**Laia COMERMA** explains how her working group has been working on a resolution on freedom of abortion that is very comprehensive and goes beyond the religious aspect.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** affirms what has been said by Laia.

**Alice SCHMIDT (JuLis)** suggests keeping both resolutions.

**Stefania REYNISDOTTIR (Uppreisn)** intervenes to explain how the new resolution will contemplate the reality talked about in this one.

**Felix HÄRING (LHG)** emphasizes we should have something on the Vatican, its not only about abortion but also gay marriage.

**Laia COMERMA** expresses empathy for what Alice is saying but recognizes that the new resolution will be enough on that topic. Nevertheless, she agrees with Felix on making a resolution on the Vatican.

**Franziska BRANDMANN (JuLis)** expresses her doubts that all these new proposals will be able to be discussed at the Congress. This is why she suggests not to vote it out until there is a new proposal.

**Marina SEDLO** suggests then not to have a recommendation until the Congress.

### No recommendation for Congress

- **2.25 Stop the Islamophobia and Respect Religious Diversity - to be archived**
- **2.26 True Religious Freedom in the EU - to be archived**

### VOTE

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.43 – Blasphemy is a right, freedom is not a crime - to be archived**

### VOTE

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.27 Resolution on Democracy in the Italian Republic - to be archived**

### VOTE

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.28 On the new Hungarian Constitution Democracy - to be archived**

**Barna BIRO (Tizen X)** suggests keeping it until a new resolution is submitted in the next congress.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** agrees and **encourages Tizen X to submit a resolution for the next Congress.**

### VOTE

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.29 Urgent Resolution on Bulgaria - to be archived**

### VOTE

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.30 Resolution on Present Situation in the Russian Federation - to be archived**

**VOTE**

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.31 *The Political Situation in the Russian Federation - to be archived***

**VOTE**

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

- **2.32, 2.33, 2.34, 2.35 - A merger text with the title “Situation in Belarus” has been proposed, merging Resolutions 2.17, 2. 32, 2.33, 2.34, 2.25, so all of these will be automatically archived by virtue of adopting the new text.**

**VOTE**

No one against. Archival to be recommended to the Congress.

**Marina SEDLO** closes the session thanking participants for their participation and reminding them to submit their proposals.

**Antoaneta ASENOVA** thanks Marina for her work. Reminds participants of the elaboration of a list of topics to be worked on and to follow Marina's direction. She praises the MOs for their work.

**Digital Assembly closed.**