

## NICKOLAS PAGONAKIS

3 May 2017

*Dear colleagues, fellow cosmopolites – liberal friends,*

Humbly and honored I am very glad to announce to you, that I will run for re-election as your IFLRY Vice-President at the General Assembly in Thessaloniki!

In these past few months as part of the amazing group, that the IFLRY Bureau and Office is, I have taken the first steps to some exciting projects in the near future. With your support I hope to have the mandate to continue the work in the upcoming months.

### Online communication

As a global organization, **IFLRY's** biggest force is having members from all around the world who can share best practices, experiences and ideas for new projects. In the years of increased globalization, we have tremendous opportunities in terms of communication of online advocacy, best-practice-sharing and not least meeting our co-IFLRY members online. That's why I'm very proud to have established the *IFLRY Online* concept.

Being a global organization, as our biggest force, naturally also brings difficulties with the big distance between our member and member-organizations – both mentally and physically. But with the *online communication forum* we have a fine tool to bring members closer to each other where they can connect with each other online to discuss, share best practices and to get insight of all regions of the world. If I am given the chance of re-election I will promise to work hard to continue and further improve the IFLRY Online concept.

### Global focus

Our liberal values know no borders. We work for human rights, with climate change and young peoples' rights everywhere. IFLRY is a federation of our member organizations – and together we are stronger. In our online communication, we have duty to advocate for liberal values globally. Whether it is in Beirut, Caracas or Paris. IFLRY has truly a global vision and in the coming period we want to continue exactly that.

With the start-up of a network of entrepreneurs in Africa, we hope the project will help to engage young people of the European and MENA regions to share their experiences with their common young people in Africa in order to lift the creativity and entrepreneurship together. With my experiences in development policies and projects I am very happy to be a part of this work and with a renewed mandate (fingers crossed) I hope to continue the work on this project.

### Partnerships

Being based in Brussels, Belgium, in an internship at the European Parliament I have had the big pleasure of being in the very heart of Europe – and more specifically our partners in LYMEC (the umbrella organization of the young liberals of Europe) and European Youth Forum (co-operation of the European Youth Organizations). Sharing the same values of young peoples' rights, gender equality and climate change I see a great future for IFLRY to partner up with these in terms of future grant applications and projects. Also if re-elected I will take a close look in to the opportunity of some of the Nordic and European Union funds for future IFLRY projects.

Dear friends. I have more than enough energy left in the tank and I hope to continue these works. I hope either with this motivational letter or through a friendly talk at the General Assembly to be given your trust and vote to be re-elected as Vice-President. See you in Thessaloniki!

Yours sincerely,

Nickolas Pagonakis,

*Vice-President of The International Federation of Liberal Youth*