



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF LIBERAL YOUTH

***Dear young liberals of the world,***

It's been 9 months since we stood together in Accra – and when you are reading this, we are soon gathering in Barcelona for the General Assembly. These past 9 months have been some of the most instructive and joyous I times I have had in IFLRY meanwhile working with this bureau – and I am filled with excitement and that special IFLRY-glow that keeps me going to always to do more and do better for globalising freedom. I look forward to reflect on the work that I have done in these past months, meanwhile thanking the people that have made those project possible.

**Communications**

***Social Media***

For IFLRY to be an advocate of liberalism we need to be regularly present on our Social Media Platforms. Together with my dear co-vice president, Elin, and with the inputs of the bureau we set up a communication strategy for this bureau, that has the vision of making our communication *inclusive, clear and encouraging*.

These three visions are the main framework of our communications. On inclusion, Elin & I have been available for Member Organizations to reach out to us when they wish us for IFLRY to make statements on topics. For statements such as the one on the Swedish election we used our contact persons in the member organization to draft the statement we used on social media. To make our presence relevant it has been necessary to be on top of agendas world-wide and finding the positive visionary angle of any topic. IFLRY has to be an encouraging idealistic agenda-setter in our advocacy. Lastly it has for long been discussed to create a team that could help IFLRY getting a clearer visual profile – that we have now with the visuals team whose results I will talk about later.





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### ***Rethinking IFLRY's visual brand***

Together with Elin, we made a call for a Visual Team that had the task to redesign IFLRY's visual profile in our communications to make it look more clear and professional. The team was formed in June and since then they have given our visual sides a great lift as maybe have been noticed in the graphics for this General Assembly.

For these past months I have had the lead on another big project has been to develop a 'IFLRY Folder/One-pager' that will be distributed to the membership and potential partners. With inputs from Sven, visual help from Julianne from our Visual team and experience from past ideas from Daniel George, the folder is now ready to be printed and distributed to our membership (and of this date the 8<sup>th</sup> of November I am still hopeful to bring them for the General Assembly).



### ***Delivered objectives:***

- ✓ Developing professional promotional materials that can be disseminated in its membership as well as been used for approaching external partners and potential donors.
- ✓ Develop a comprehensive '*Communication Strategy 2020*' that aligns all communication efforts of the federation on its website, Social Media, newsletter, and other channels.
- ✓ Start a Communications & Campaign Team to use the resources of the membership.

### **European Youth Forum**

As the international voice of young liberal across the world we – the bureau - have the obligation to stand up and advocate for our values. So I have in our European partner, European Youth Forum. For this past year I have been representing IFLRY in the European Working Group that are consulting the European Union's Commission on the development of their new Youth strategy.





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On the same week as we are gathering in Barcelona for our General Assembly, European Youth Forum is gathering in Novi Sad in Serbia where they will have their GA. Together with our former Executive Director, Andrea, and our former president, Christian Scharling (who attends as IFLRY's representative), we are coordinating our approach and votes for the General Assembly.

**Delivered objectives:**

- ✓ Actively participating in and contributing to the activities of the European Youth Forum (YFJ)

**IFLRY Online**



In almost two years now we have had the IFLRY Online platform and the Online Skype-meetings running and gathering more and more members. At the meetings we have had great success of activating IFLRY alumnis and program managers to do a presentation for these online learning activities – and for all kinds of members to learn about various regional topics and discussions at these meetings.

*Here is an overview of the meetings from March until now:*

- Meeting on the Russian Elections, March 2018
- Meeting on the situation in Ukraine, April 2018
- Meeting on the situation in US politics, June 2018
- 'Ask Me Anything' session with Sven Gers, August 2018

**Human Rights Programme**

The Human Rights program was very active in the spring and co-organized the study session in Strasbourg in May. Since then Liz Radtke stepped down in the summer, so Bram and I made interviews for a new co-program leader. The bureau decided in August to appoint Raghida as the next co-programme manager together with Bram. The program managers are currently working on an action plan and in a short while they will also be busy organizing the annual IFLRY participation in the Geneva summit in February 2019.

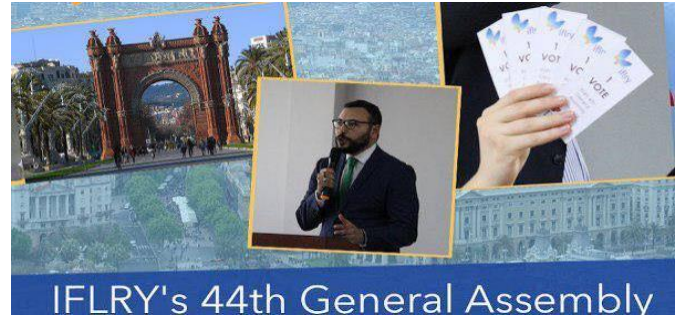




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## General Assembly in Barcelona

Last but not least: this General Assembly in Barcelona. What feels like many years ago my dear friend Victor Solé (JNC) asked me one spring day of 2017 what it would take for IFLRY have a General Assembly in Barcelona. “Well a little work, but it could be fun” I remember my answer was. 1,5 Years later – and many evenings with meetings, looking at budgets and reaching out to MOs, hotel staff etc. - here we are. These past months I have



worked closely with Victor and Alistair from JNC, our dear treasurer Olha and the IFLRY Office, to prepare all the practical surroundings for what I hope will be an amazing General Assembly.

### Events covered:

- General Assembly, Accra Ghana, March 2018
- European Working Group, Sofia Bulgaria, April 2018,
- RU Aalborg (Local Branch) speaking on IFLRY, Aalborg Denmark, April 2018
- Bureau meeting, Budapest Hungary, May 2018
- RU Congress, Vejle Denmark, August 2018
- RU Odense (Local Branch), Odense Denmark, 5th of September
- Facilitator on Workshop on Campaigns for IFMSA Scandinavia, Copenhagen Denmark, November 2018
- General Assembly, Barcelona Catalonia, November 2018

There are so many more people that if space and time allowed it should be thanked in this bureau report as well. My closes partners, the bureau and office, especially need a big thanks for some amazing 9 months in IFLRY. Also there is plenty of hard work on a daily basis or other thoughts that could be mentioned. I am very happy to have a chat to elaborate on these thoughts and to talk about future IFLRY projects at the GA.

Looking forward to see you all in Barcelona !

***All the best,***

*Nickolas Pagonakis, IFLRY Vice President.*