

# Minutes of the 45th IFLRY General Assembly Sofia, Bulgaria 22-24 March 2019

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Appendix A: Agenda of the 45th General Assembly

### 1. Opening

The General assembly was opened at 18.07 Friday 22 March, 2019 by the president of IFLRY.

### 2. Roll Call & Voting Rights

The Roll Call was performed by the Secretary General.

Country	Organisation	Votes	Present
Austria	JUNOS	3	present
Belarus	Civil Forum	3	present
Belgium	Fédération des Étudiants Libéraux	1	present
Belgium	Jong VLD	1	not present
Bulgaria	Youth Movement for Rights and Freedoms	8	present
Catalunya	Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya	5	present
Croatia	Istrian Democratic Youth	3	present
Denmark	Radikal Ungdom	4	present
Denmark	Venstres Ungdom	5	present
Finland	Svensk Ungdom	5	present
Germany	Junge Liberale, JuLis	8	present
Ghana	Progressive Youth Movement	0	no delegation present
Jordan	Free Thought Forum	3	present
Lebanon	Future Youth (Mustakbal)	8	present
Lithuania	Lithuanian Liberal Youth	5	present
Montenegro	Young Liberals of Montenegro	3	present

Netherlands	Jonge Democraten (JD)	7	present
Netherlands	Jongerenorganisatie Vrijheid en Democratie (JOVD)	6	present
North Macedonia	Liberal Democratic Youth of Macedonia	3	present
Norway	Young Liberals of Norway	5	present
Romania	Youth Alliance of Liberals and Democrats	8	present
Russia	Youth Movement Vesna	1	Present, no votes issued till the settlement
Russia	Youth Movement Vrejma	0	Present, no votes issued till the settlement
Sweden	Center Party Youth	6	present
Sweden	Liberala Ungdomsförbundet	6	present
Turkey	3H Movement	3	present
Ukraine	European Youth of Ukraine	3	present
Ukraine	Liberal Democratic League of Ukraine	3	present
United State of America	Young Democrats of America	8	present

The Secretary General informs the GA that there are 97 votes present and that therefore the quorum of 52 votes present is reached.

### 3. Election of the Chairs & Returning Officers

The Secretary General proposes as chairs for the GA: Benedikte Kloth, David De La Fuente, Katharina Schreiner and Abdallah Abdoh. The proposal is accepted by acclamation.

The Secretary General informs the GA that although there is a minimum of three returning officers, the GA can decide to appoint more than three. The Secretary General therefore proposes the following returning officers:

- Tanzer Yuseinov
- Anne-Sofie Sjøe Se Skov Larsen
- Omar Oweini
- Nicholas Kujala
- Johan Browet

- Michel Nentwig

The proposal is accepted by acclamation.

The Chairs take over from the Secretary General. The chair asks everyone to be on time and constructive in order to make the GA faster.

#### **4. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda is adopted by acclamation.

#### **5. Decision on Urgency Resolutions**

There were no urgency resolutions submitted.

#### **6. Prioritization of Resolutions**

The chair informs the GA that there were only 10 resolutions submitted and that there are 4 hours for discussing resolutions in the standing committee. Consequently, the chair proposes to not prioritize the resolutions as there is enough time to discuss all. The proposal is adopted by acclamation.

#### **7. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of IFLRY in Barcelona are adopted by acclamation.

#### **8. Appointment Officers of the Standing Committee(s)**

The proposals of the bureau for officers of the standing committees are the following:

##### **Finance**

Chair: Benedikte Kloth

Vice Chair: Ines Holzegger

Minute Taker: Baris Erturk

##### **Membership**

Chair: David de La Fuente

Vice Chair: Teresė Škutaitė

Minute Taker: Nicolai Løvgret

##### **Resolutions**

Chair: Katharina Schreiner

Vice Chair: May El Masri

Minute Taker: Ulla Lovcalic

The proposals are accepted by acclamation.

## **9. Presentation and Adoption of the Bureau Reports**

The Secretary General gives an introduction for the Bureau Report.

The chair gives the member organizations the opportunity to ask questions. JuLis asks what the plans regarding the improvement of the website and social media are. The Secretary General states that the website remains difficult to improve and that the social media strategy can be found in the two year bureau action plan. Vice President Nickolas Pagonakis adds that the graphics are improved with the visual team.

The JD asks how it has happened that the Council of Europe Grant was lost. The secretary general first wants to stress that the Grant application was under the responsibility of the previous office. He states that it will be difficult to get back, but that is not a problem, because the Grant was an exception in the history of IFLRY. In addition, the bureau will receive for the first time the SIDA Grant that is considerably larger than the Council of Europe grant. Furthermore the quality of future grant application will be ensured by the new executive director.

The bureau reports are adopted by acclamation.

The general assembly was adjourned at 18.32 Friday 22 March, 2019 by the chair.

## **10. Membership Issues**

The chair re-opens the General assembly at 14:05 Saturday 23 March, 2019. The chair informs the participants of the conference to sign in for today. In addition, everyone that does not want it's pictures to be shared on social media, should inform the bureau.

It is observed that Jong VLD is now present at the General Assembly and that Jong VLD has one vote. The total number of votes issued is now 116.

The application for associate membership of Youngspiration from Hong Kong is discussed. The chair informs the GA that the standing committee has given a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 110

Against: 0

Abstention: 0.

The simple majority necessary for the acceptance of the application is reached.

The application for associate membership of the African Children and Youth Development Network from Liberia is discussed now. The chair informs the GA that the standing committee has given a negative advice. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 38

Against: 43

Abstentions: 27

The simple majority necessary for the acceptance of the application is not reached.

The application for associate membership of Nowoczesna Youth from Poland is discussed now. The chair informs the GA that the standing committee has given a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds with voting:

In favor: 111

Against: 0

Abstention: 0

The simple majority necessary for the acceptance of the application is reached.

The application for full membership of Tineretul Aliantei Liberalilor Si Democratilor (TLDE) from Romania is now discussed. The chair informs the GA that standing committee gave a positive advice. The chair emphasizes that for the acceptance of the application there is a 2/3 majority including abstentions necessary, what means that abstentions are in effect votes against. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 94

Against: 0

Abstentions: 21

The 2/3 majority necessary for the acceptance of the application is reached.

The application for associate membership of Vesna from Russia is discussed now. The chair informs the GA that the standing committee has given a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds with voting:

In favor: 78

Against: 23

Abstention: 16

There are more votes cast than issued, consequently the vote is invalid. The general assembly proceeds re-voting:

In favor: 78

Against: 23

Abstentions: 16

The simple majority necessary for the acceptance of the application is reached.

The proposal to accept the name change of the legal entity named Vesna, that is a full member of IFLRY, to Vremja is now discussed. The chair informs the GA that the standing committee has given a negative advice. The GA proceeds to voting:

In favor: 23

Against: 57

Abstentions: 33

The simple majority for acceptance of the name change is not reached.

## **11. Election of Vice Presidents**

There is a new roll call, because of the change in voting rights of organizations present during the last agenda point:

TLDE has become full member and has therefore now 8 votes instead of 1.  
Vesna has become associate member and has now 1 vote.

As a result, the total number of votes issued has increased to 124.

The chair states that the Vice President candidates first get the chance to speech. To determine the order of the speeches of the candidates, all candidates will all take a number. After speeches the member organizations get the chance to ask questions. After this the secretary general explains the procedure of voting.

The order of the speeches is the following:

- 1: Syuleyman Syuleyman
- 2: Nazlican Kanmaz
- 3: Amanda Kanange
- 4: Bram Roodhart
- 5: Nickolas Pagonakis
- 6: Laura Fagerlund

Now the speeches and questions are finished the secretary general explains the voting procedure. For every vote that an organization has it gets one ballot. Per ballot an organization can give one vote to a maximum of four different persons. It is impossible to cast more than one vote per person per ballot.

There is a break of 10 minutes, during which organizations can vote. After this break voting is closed and the scrutineers count the votes.

During the counting of the votes, member organizations started to give updates on their organization. However, there was no proposal to the GA to proceed with the agenda point on the updates of member organizations, what is required by the statutes. After this was mentioned by the auditors, the secretary general proposed to change the agenda in order to proceed with the agenda point on the updates of member organizations. This proposal was accepted by acclamation. Of the first updates there are no minutes taken, because before the proposal of the secretary general it was not yet clear that the idea was to proceed already with this agenda point.

## **12. News from Member Organizations**

The updates of member organizations:

Radikale Ungdom: RU has a new international officer. In the school elections RU got 11.4% of the votes and four members of their organization are running for the European parliament.

Future Youth: Future Youth had a conference in collaboration with FNF. The conference was joined by 300 high school students. Future Youth had many victories

in student elections. Future Youth has the first female secretary in the university council.

Jonge Democraten: There were difficult elections in the Netherlands in which D66 lost seats and populist had a large victory. The membership of JD is falling, but their own funding decreased, as a result of the loss of seats in the senate of D66.

JuLis: The current international officer is not rerunning. JuLis Europeans woman forum was a great success. JuLis is preparing for the European elections.

Lithuanian Liberal Youth: LLY had regional elections and a member of them was elected in the city council of Vilnius. LLY has a summer festival from 12 to 14 July, everyone is invited.

Liberal Democratic League of Ukraine: LDLU has a new Instagram page. LDLU has a concert, because they cannot participate in the Eurovision song festival.

Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya: JNC has a summer school everyone is welcome to go.

Tineretul Aliantei Liberalilor Si Democratilor: TLDE has 23 member as candidate on the list of their mother party for the European parliament elections. The list of their mother party is the only list with a woman on number one and number three.

Liberal Youth of Sweden: LUF's had a change in officers. Liberals in Sweden only got a bit more than 5% of the votes.

fédération étudiants libéraux: FEL has a new international officers. FEL is hosting the LYMEC conference in Brussels. There are Regional, European and federal elections in Belgium.

Center Party Youth: CUF is celebrating their 100 year existence. CUF has 3 members as a candidate in the top 10 of the list of their mother party for the European elections.

Young Democrats of America: YDA has their National Convention in Indianapolis. They offer to help people that visit the United States. YDA's international officer is stepping down.

The agenda point on the News from Member Organizations is closed.

### **13. Election of Vice Presidents (continuation)**

The general assembly goes back to the agenda point on the election of Vice Presidents. The scrutineers have counted the votes and read out the following result:

Name	Votes	
Syuleyman Syuleyman	96	ELECTED
Amanda Kanange	83	ELECTED
Nickolas Pagonakis	70	ELECTED
Laura Fagerlund	64	ELECTED
Bram Roodhart	60	
Nazlican Kanmaz	39	

The general assembly was adjourned at 16:24 Saturday 23 March, 2019 by the chair.

#### **14. Resolutions and Amendments to the Manifesto**

The chair re-opens the General assembly around 12:00 Sunday 24 March, 2019. In this agenda point all the submitted resolutions are discussed:

Resolution 1: Foreign development aid changes  
Submitted by: Centre Party Youth  
The submitter decided to withdraw the resolution.

Resolution 2: The Coral reefs future health  
Submitted by: Centre Party Youth  
The chair informs the general assembly that the resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:  
In favor: 89  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 3  
As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 3: Cutting Development aid  
Submitted by: Venstres Ungdom, Liberal Youth Sweden, Jongerenorganisatie voor Vrijheid en Democratie and Center Party Youth.  
The chair informs the general assembly that the resolution has received a negative recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:  
In favor: 29  
Against: 55  
Abstentions: 11  
As a result, the resolution did not acquire the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 4: For peace in the Kashmir region

Submitted by: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya, Svensk Ungdom and Radikal Ungdom.

There are four amendments of Junge Liberale and one amendment by Youth Movement for Rights and Freedoms that are adopted. The chair informs the general assembly that the amended version of the Resolution has received a positive advise of the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 86

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 5: For protection and conservation of the Arctic

Submitted by: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya and Radikal Ungdom.

The chair informs the general assembly that the resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 89

Against: 0

Abstentions: 6

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 6: FridaysforFuture – Let's tackle climate change through parties and parliaments

Submitted by: Junge Liberale

The chair informs the general assembly that the resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 64

Against: 14

Abstentions: 17

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 7: On the immunity of the United Nations Peacekeeping forces

Submitted by: Radikal Ungdom and Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya

There is one amendment of Junge Liberale that is adopted. The chair informs the general assembly that the amended resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 95

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 8: On the ability of the International Whaling Commission's ability to sanction

Submitted by: Radikal Ungdom

There are two amendments of Junge Liberale that are adopted. The chair informs the general assembly that the amended resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 80

Against: 0

Abstentions: 15

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 9: On the ability of the International Whaling Commission's ability to sanction

Submitted by: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya

The chair informs the general assembly that the amended resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. However, JuLis and JNC agreed last evening to withdraw the resolution and present together a new resolution on this issue next general assembly. As a result, JNC withdraws the resolution.

Resolution 10: Legal Protection for Whistleblowers

Submitted by: Junge Liberale

There is one amendment of Svensk Ungdom and one amendment by Young Democrats of America, these are adopted. The chair informs the general assembly that the amended resolution has received a positive recommendation from the standing committee. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 95

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

As a result, the resolution acquired the necessary simple majority for adoption.

Resolution 11: Legalize pepper spray

Submitted by: Venstres Ungdom and Jongeren Organisatie voor Vrijheid en Democratie. The chair informs the general assembly that the resolution the standing committee was indecisive about its recommendation. There is a discussion about this resolution:

JuLis: JuLis is against this resolution, because IFLRY should not support legalizing weapons.

Pelsar: Pelsar thinks that a lot of violence can be avoided if woman had pepper spray as protection.

YMRF: YMRF thinks that if the text of the resolution are improved more organization would be willing to support the resolution. YMRF thinks that only woman should have access to pepper spray.

LDLU: LDLU thinks everyone should have the right to defend themselves, not only woman.

JOVD: JOVD thinks that this resolution aims to improve the rights of minorities like the LGBT community. JOVD urges therefore everyone to vote in favour of the resolution.

JuLis: JuLis emphasizes the danger of pepper spray and that many people in the United States have lost their lives because of it. JuLis states that we need more police in the streets instead.

VU: VU states in reaction to JuLis that only one dead may have occurred as the result of pepperspray.

RU: RU thinks that this is too specific position for an IFLRY resolution.

After the discussion, the general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 26

Against: 42

Abstentions: 27

As a result, the resolution did not acquire the necessary simple majority for adoption.

## **15. Adoption of the Financial Report and Audit Report**

First the financial report is discussed. The chair informs the general assembly that the advice of the standing committee was to approve the financial report:

In favor: 94

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

As a result, the financial report is approved.

Second the audit report is discussed. The chair informs the general assembly that the recommendation of the standing committee is to acknowledge the audit report. In addition, the standing committee advises not to share the audit report with third parties and treat it as internal audit report written for the member organizations. YDA wants to add that the standing committee advised that the bureau proposes next GA financial protocols and guidelines to the general assembly. The general assembly proceeds to vote on the adoption of the audit report and the recommendations of the standing committee:

In favor: 92

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

As a result, the audit report is adopted together with the recommendations of the standing committee.

Third, the reduced membership fee applications are discussed:

European Youth of Ukraine's application for reduced membership fees is now discussed.

The standing committee gave a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 74

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

As a result, the simple majority for the acceptance for the application is reached.

Civil Youth Forum's application for reduced membership fees is now discussed. The standing committee gave a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 64

Against: 7

Abstain: 21

As a result, the simple majority for the acceptance for the application is reached.

Nowoczesna Youth's application for reduced membership fees is now discussed. The standing committee gave a positive advice. The general assembly proceeds to voting:

In favor: 84

Against: 0

Abstain: 8

As a result, the simple majority for the acceptance for the application is reached.

#### **16. Amendments to Statutes and Rules of Procedure**

There are no proposals for amendments to the statutes or rules of procedure submitted.

#### **17. Any other business**

JuLis: JuLis wants to thank YMRF and bureau for this amazing general assembly.

The president of IFLRY wants to thank YMRF for hosting this general assembly. In addition, he wants to thank FNF and VVD for sponsoring this event. Furthermore he wants to give special thanks to the previous vice-presidents with their work for IFLRY and want the congratulate the newly elected vice-presidents.

#### **18. Date and place of the next meeting**

The bureau wants to inform the general assembly that they are planning to hold the next general assembly in Cape Town, South Africa in November 2019.

#### **19. Closing**

The general assembly is closed around 14:00 Sunday 24 March, 2019 by the chair.

## Appendix A: Agenda

# International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) 45th General Assembly

## Agenda

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17. Date and place of the next meeting
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