**Minutes of IFLRY’s 38th General Assembly in Vienna on 3/4 April 2015**
Minutes made by Marijn de Pagter & Robert Landheer.

1. **Opening of Meeting / Speech by President**
President Christian opens the 38th General Assembly of IFLRY on the 3rd of April at 16.40 hours.

**Roll Call & Voting Right**
The Roll Call is performed by Treasurer Daniel George.

1 ANC Youth (Armenia) Clear 1 Vote

2 JUNOS (Austria) Clear 1 Vote

3 Dalga Youth Movement (Azerbaijan) Not payed 1 Vote

4 Estudantes Pela Liberdade (Brazil) Candidate, No Voting Rights

5 Youth MRF (Bulgaria) Clear 6 Votes

6 Young Liberals of Canada Not payed 6 Votes

7 Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya Clear 4 Votes

8 Radikal Ungdom (Denmark) Clear 2 Votes

9 Venstres Ungdom (Denmark) Clear 6 Votes

10 Svensk Ungdom (Finland) Clear 4 Votes

11 Finnish Centre Youth (Finland) Clear 6 Votes

12 Jeunes Radicaux de Gauche (France) Clear 3 Votes

13 Young Republicans (Georgia) Clear 1 Vote

14 Junge Liberale (JuLis) (Germany) Clear 6 Votes

15 LIFE - Liberal Youth Organization (Hungary) Candidate, No Voting Rights

16 Arab Youth Union for Freedom and Democracy (MENA region)- Appl Reg Member

17 Free Thought Forum (Jordan) Applicant Observer (no vote)

18 Association de la Jeunesse et l’Avenir (Morocco) Applicant Full M. (1 Vote)

19 Youth Initiative Nepal Clear 1 Vote

20 Young Liberals of Norway Clear 3 Votes

21 Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats Youth Regional Member, no votes

22 Projekt:Polska (Poland) Clear 1 Vote

23 YDM Vesna (Russian Federation) Observer, No Voting Rights

24 Yabloko Youth (Russian Federation) Candidate No Voting Rights

25 Centerpartiets Ungdomförbund (Sweden) Clear 3 Votes

26 Liberala Ungdomsförbundet (Sweden) Clear 4 Votes

27 Jongerenorganisatie voor Vrijheid en Democratie (Netherlands) – Clear - 3 Votes

28 Jonge Democraten (Netherlands) Clear 5 Votes

29 Afek Tounes No Member

30 3H Movement (Turkey) Clear 1 Vote

31 European Youth of Ukraine Clear 1 Vote

32 Liberal Youth UK Clear 4 Votes

33 Future Movement Youth Clear 5 Votes

1. **Election of the Chairs and Returning Officers**Elected by acclamation as Congress Chairs are Tanya Lyubimova (Belarus), Pauline Kastermans (Netherlands), Patrick Müllner (Austria)

Elected as returning officers (scrutineers) are Daan Eijwoudt (JD), Victor Ruis (JNC), Christa Blomberg (SU).

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**With a 5 minute reading break, the agenda is adopted with the following remarks. The Bureau reports of Frerik Kampman and Danylo Korbabicz under agenda point 8 will be discussed on the 4th. Decision: The GA decides by voting that the Standing Committees on Resolutions (first part) and SC on Membership are not swapped (proposal by JuLis Germany).
2. **Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting**The minutes of the 37th GA in Kyiv are adopted by acclamation by the GA.
3. **Appointment of Officers to the Standing Committee(s)**By acclamation, the following persons are appointed by the GA as officers to the standing committees:
SC on Finance: Victor Boysen (RU, chair), Arvid Plugge (JD, minutes).
SC on Rules, Procedures and Statutes: Ralph Aerts (JOVD, chair), Lucinda Chamberlain (minutes).
SC on Resolutions: Katharina (Julis, chair), Harriet Needham (LY, minutes).

SC on Membership: Sven Gerst (Julis, chair), Nickolas Pagonakis (RU, minutes).

1. **Rules**Chair Ralph Aerts explains the outcome of the SC on Rules session to the GA. The GA adopts the recommendations made by the SC on Rules.
	1. A call will be opened for a working group on statutes and procedures. A member from the bureau will chair this group.
2. **Adoption of Annual Report, Office Report and Bureau Reports (1st part)**President Christian explains to the GA that in October 2014 an interim Bureau Reports has been made. Then he highlights the important events since that time. A Programma Managers meeting has taken place in December 2014. Also IFLRY has been awarded a new CoE grant for the next 3 years for a large amount of money. Ties with Liberal Democrats in the UK have been tightened and a project to promote liberalism in Africa has been started in cooperation.

Jelle van Nuland (JOVD) notes that the annual report doesn’t say anything about the website not being developed yet. Samira (JD): Gender Equality Tunisia: most important outcomes, what will you do to foster gender equality in general? Christa: annual report has errors, not updated. Robin: compliments and thanks mister Scharling for the way of communicating with JOVD. Junior: what are the portfolios of each vp, not clear at the moment.

President: website, too busy with other points. Treasurer: last year, when we decided to have new website, we didn’t have the money to pay a company for it. So decided to create it ourselves. Old website fully outdated, so we needed to fully review it. Takes a lot of time. I could show the work up till this date to prove that it is nearly finished.

President: regional responsibility of VPs is clear.

Second round Jelle: why did IFLRY decide to put it in Plan of Action so clearly when there was no money for it? Ralph: there is a communications VP, is he involved?

Treasurer: during GA of Krakow, decided that there would be an interim website as quickly as possible. Communications VP built the interim website with some technical help from my side. When the plan of action was adopted it was already clear that money would become available for the new full website, from Erasmus+.

The GA accepts by acclamation the Bureau Report of 2014.

Exective Director Mane Manukyan elaborates on the Office Report. Many financial reports have to be written due to the large amount of activities. Many successful activities have been taken place since October 2014. Unfortunately in 2014, the internship programme sponsored by the Swedish speaking Finnish association has been stopped. Since January 2015 however, intern Jockum has agreed to continue working for IFLRY as assistance. He is involved in news letters, financial reporting for events, and contact person for events. Mane (and the GA) thanks him for his good work. In June there will be a study session in Budapest. Mane thanks Daniel George as treasurer, she thanks JUNOS for organizing the GA, Mane also thanks the auditors Marijn and Robert, as audits are now actually funny and stress less, due to a good preparation by the Office and Bureau.

**--- GA Adjourned for the day at 3-4 19:30 hours --

-- GA opened at 4-4 16:50 hours --**
A Roll call is performed, 70 votes are present.

Agenda point 3 is reopened with the appointment of Stephan Korte as Congress chair.
Agenda point 12 is discussed first, in order to appoint new Mos
Nickolas from JUNOS holds a speech, and is thanked for organizing the GA by President Christian.

**8. Adoption of Annual Report, Office Report and Bureau Reports (2nd part)**Bureau members President Christian Scharling, Secretary General Frerik Kampman, Treasurer Daniel George, Vice-President Stanislav Anastassov, President Christian on behalf of VP Bobby Dean, VP Danylo Korbabicz, VP Ahmad al Rachwani present their bureau report. After this questions can be asked.
Ralph Aerts, JD: Democratic Alliance, how is that proceeding?
Milan Assies, JD: Q: Bureau overstretched? Answer: Christian is having talks about partnerships, due to the sensitive nature of this, he cannot answer in public, but will in private if MOs ask. Frerik answers that due to his new job he will take on a more coordinating role, in stead of executive role in the coming time. Ahmad answers that soon a call for a new team about Gender Equality will start. Daniel George answers that in this year 6 events for roughly €45,000 will be organized. New sources of funding are being sought, to strengthen IFLRY. Q: How to improve the new projects? Answer: Christian says that a lot of communication is performed, on news letters, twitter, facebook, the new website. Q: Are you reflecting on criticism received by MOs? Answer: Christian answers that in his eyes so much things have improved compared to before.
Robin van de Wal, JOVD: What is the added value to the VP title? Answer: Christian answers that it opens more doors when a VP is present. Also it has been this way since the founding of IFLRY, so it provides recognizability.

Second round:

* Nikolas, RU. Vicepresidents: are VP in for the idea to have areas to focus on?
* Sara (VU): is there a strategy to improve the communication, also in between events to imform MO’s. What are thoughts on engaging more people in your work?
* Robin (JOVD): there’s not a lot of times when we can hold the bureau accountable. I see and understand that Bobby cannot be here, but GA is the place for that. What date will the website be launched?
* Milan (JD): why are the Regional Bureau Members not here and hand in a bureau report?
* Junior (RU): to Christian, how will your campaign affect your iflry planning?

Round of answers:

* Christian: we had a bureau meeting on this, focus is now on the parliamentary elections in Denmark. Now that the campaign is up and running, actually more time.
* Frerik: we have the Issue and newsletter for MO’s. Comment is valid, will commit myself to sending out a newsletter every month and an internal newsletter (for MO’s) montly too. Indeed wish to engage more MO members, unique experience for MO members. Will commit to improve the communication of vacant position.
* Daniel: not asked by JOVD now, but in the future will have better communication through the website by posting the financial reports on an internal part of the website. Not giving date of publishing website now, have to wait for content and several technical sides. Think end of this month.
* Danylo: I don’t think either of us have a problem with changing or clarifying the role of VP, up to the GA.

Last round:

* Robin: we really want a date for the website, how will we know that the website will actually be launched at the end of this month.
* Jelle: Lot of questions on communications, not only by JOVD but also others. How will this be communicated to Bobby, the person responsible for communications?

Answers:

* Christian: Bobby ran in the elections on the topic of communications, but the Bureau is responsible as a whole for everything. Communications is something we have to be better at. Ofcourse we will forward all the points raised to Bobby so that he is aware. Thank you for all reminderd, really appreciate that everyone is holding the bureau accountable.
* Frerik: comment is taken, but wish to emphasise that Bobby improved communications. Last 2 months the communication was less, but let’s not forget that communications have greatly been improved.

Jeroen Diepemaat, LYMEC Regional Bureau Member, proposes to comment. He explains in two minutes that he did not hand in a bureau report, because he sees his role especially towards LYMEC and improving the relations between IFLRY and LYMEC.

1. **Adoption of Financial Report**Chair of Standing Committee on Finance Victor Boysen gives a summary of the discussed items in the SC.

The Financial Report 2014 is approved by the GA by acclamation.

1. **Adoption of Budget and Membership Fee Statute**The Budget for 2015 is approved unanimously by the GA.

Reduced membership fees:

Civil Forum (Belarus): approved unanimously

Youth Initiative (Nepal): approved by the GA with 65 votes in favour, 0 against, 6 abstentions

Vesna (Russian Federation): approved unanimously

Solidarity fund:

Liberal Youth of Montenegro (Montenegro): approved with 66 votes in favour, 6 votes against, 0 abstentions

Youth Initiative (Nepal): not voted on Because the debt concerns 2012, and the debts from 2013 and 2014 are paid, the debt is waived by the debts memorandum, as approved by the GA in Kiev in 2014.

1. **Resolutions and Amendments to the Manifesto**Chair of the Standing Committee on Resolutions Katharina Schreiner summarizes the standing committee on Resolutions. All resolutions have a positive recommendation from the standing committee.

Urgency Resolution on Promoting Liberalism in Central Asia (JuLis): carried unanimously.

Urgency Resolution considering the Armenian Genocide (ANC): The resolution as amended is carried by the GA. Vote on resolution as amended: 66 in favour, 6 abstentions.

Urgency Resolution on the assassination of Boris Nemtsov (YMRF): the resolution as amended is unanimously carried by the GA.

Urgency Resolution on Support for Tunisia (JD): carried by the GA with 69 votes in favour, 3 abstentions.

Regular resolutions on:

* Upcoming Presidential Elections in Belarus (VESNA): unanimously adopted by the GA.
* Russian troops in the Ukrainian Military (VESNA): unanimously adopted.
* Boko Haram (JD): unanimously adopted
* Growth in Africa (JD): unanimously adopted
* Resolution on the United Nations (JD): withdrawn;
* Dublin-system Asylum (JD): with 69 votes in favour, 3 abstentions the amended resolution is carried.
* Women, Peace and Security (JD): unanimously adopted
* The Arctic Ocean (Radikal Ungdom): unanimously adopted
* Sustainable Future (Radikal Ungdom):
	+ first amendment: carried, 61 in favour, 11 abstentions
	+ second amendment: 61 in favour, 2 against, 9 abstentions
	+ third amendment carried: (point of order to vote on amendment immediately instead of allowing of : 43, 4 abstentions, 26 against) 33 in favour, 31 against, 2 abstentions.
	+ Fourth amendment carried: 51 in favour, 10 against, 4 abstentions
	+ Resolution as a whole: 6 abstentions,
* Micro-Plastics (SU): 52 in favour, 13 abstentions, carried.
* Free Trade (VU): carried 53 in favour, 12 abstentions.
	+ Standing committee recommends the Bureau to establish a working group on free trade.
* Student Movements (VU): unanimously adopted by the GA.
* The Current Situation in Russia (Yabloko Youth): carried as amended by the GA.
* Net Neutrality (NUV) option A: is carried by the GA with 1 abstention, 64 votes in favour.
1. **Membership issues**Chair of the Standing Committee on Membership Applications, Sven Gerst, explains that 5 MO requests were discussed. For a successfull applicant member to become full member, 47 votes (2/3 majority) are required.

Association de la Jeunesse et l’Avenir (Marocco) applies for full membership: SC advises positively. Vote results in 61 votes pro, 0 against, and 9 abstentions, the organization has been elected full member of IFLRY. Immediately the 1 vote is given to this organization.

Botswana Movement for Democracy Youth League (BMD Youth): not discussed as nobody is present from this organization.

Youth Democratic Movement ‘VESNA’ (YDM VESNA) (Russian Federation) applies for candidate membership: SC advises positively. A vote is perfomed: 70 pro, 0 against, 1 abstention.

Free Thought Forum (Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) applies for observer membership: SC advises a positive vote. GA votes, unanimously voted as observer member in IFLRY.

Regional Membership of the Arab Youth Union for Freedom and Democracy (Middle East and North Africa region): SC advises a positive vote. GA votes (with 65 votes present due to MOs belonging to this region leaving). With 56 votes pro, 0 against, 9 abstentions, AYUFD is welcomed as regional member of IFLRY.
2. **News from Member Organizations**The following Member Organizations take the floor to inform the GA op recent important events.
	1. JD-Netherlands, Milan
	2. YMRF-Bulgaria, Alex
	3. FCY-Finland, Thomas.
	4. SU-Sweden, Laura
	5. LY-UK, Alex
	6. RU-Denmark, Nickolas
	7. JNC-Catalonia, Victor
	8. JuLis-Germany, Sven Hilgers
	9. CALD Youth-region Asia, Paul
	10. JOVD-Netherlands, Robin
3. **Any other Business**
Congress chair Pauline calls forward the Program Managers.
JOVD asks when the working group on Statutes is formed. Christian reports that the Bureau will open the call for members of this working group on Statutes probably on the 5th of April 2015, or soon afterwards.
4. **Date and place of next meeting**President Christian explains that there are multiple options for the next GA in October/November 2015
	1. in Mexico, adjacent to the Liberal International Congress.
	2. In Costa Rica
	3. In Lebanon
5. **Closing**The GA is closed on 4/4/2015 at 19.40 hours, by President Christian thanking the Congress Chairs, Auditors, Office, hosting organization JUNOS.