

Dear liberal friends,

As the International Officer for your British sister organisation, Liberal Youth, since 2013 I have had the huge pleasure of working with many of you and with IFLRY. Those of you who have known me in this time will know that I have barely slept, ruined my degree and made it my mission to involve as many of LY's members as possible in international activities.

Through working with IFLRY as International Officer so closely however, I also know where we need to improve it so that it better serves all of us and delivers on its liberal mission. This is why I am running for Vice-President - to bring these ideas and experience to the new Bureau.

I am incredibly hardworking, an energetic and constructive team member, and have been active at all levels politically. You can trust in me to be a fantastic Bureau member for IFLRY. But as well as my personal qualities and experiences, these are the practical real plans I will work to implement:

- **Tackling diversity with digital inclusivity:** in IFLRY we know we have a diversity problem - holding so many events offline excludes those members who cannot afford the time or the flights to join us. This affects not only those who live far from Europe (where events typically take place), but also those on low incomes whose organisation's cannot pay; which is most young people. Yet the technology now exists to remove these barriers to participation - with live event streaming and online voting, which we use in LY. I will ensure IFLRY has these in place.
- **Sharing best-practice:** one of the greatest things IFLRY can do is allow us to learn from each other's work and of other political or NGO partners, and take the knowledge back to our home organisations. But there needs to be real time and space for it - I will organise sessions at the GA to allow this, as I have done at LYMEC's Congresses, and online hangouts over specific topics to discuss, and with experts from mother parties/NGOs we can learn from too.
- **Creating a culture of transparency:** the Bureau members and Programme Managers do some incredible work, but in order for us to have a truly democratic organisation I would ensure we were much more accountable to our members - providing regular individual work updates and explaining how decisions (such as selecting a Programme Manager) were made openly.
- **Serious issues, fun campaigns:** I love being a trainer for IFLRY seminars - however, at the end of every seminar there are so many inspiring campaign projects for tough topics that get forgotten about. AS an experienced trainer I will work with seminar participants afterwards to adapt plans and make sure their innovative campaigns can actually happen. I will

also support MOs with any other campaigns, and ensure we support each other through our youth advocacy work.

- **Winning elections and making connections through internal communication:** I love hearing how sister parties are changing their countries - our MOs and regional members have so much news to share of their achievements, and invitations to join them at their Congresses or campaign in their elections. IFLRY also has many opportunities to represent us at events, which need to be openly advertised. As my professional background is in communications I will utilise the mailing list, facebook group and our social media accounts I will share news stories along with all these incredible event and election invitations - making these connections and fighting each other's elections is a small step towards a more liberal world.
- **Supporting our fight for young people:** young people's rights and needs are under threat in every one of our countries. We are also often discriminated against inside our own 'liberal' mother parties. I am an outspoken advocate for young people and Liberal Youth, both nationally and internationally, and will enable IFLRY and MOs to support each other in these crucial struggles.
- **A community solving each other's needs:** we have the answers to each other's problems. As individuals we have many small skills or practical pieces of knowledge that other MOs may want to use - I will pilot a microvolunteering project for IFLRY that allows these to be put into action for change. For example, MOs will easily find someone in another MO to give them a translation in French, help them to set up a mailing list, or to write an Erasmus+ application.

But the most important reason - **I will always ask you what you want to see from IFLRY.** [This is the link to a survey where you can tell me what you think needs to change.](#) If I am elected I will use all your feedback to ensure IFLRY is what you want it to be - and I will always be open to hearing your suggestions, making them happen, and getting your input on our plans.

If you want this to be the future of IFLRY - let's make it happen! Elect me your Vice-President and I'll get to work building this practical vision for all of us.

Cheers,

Ab Brightman

If you want this letter translated into your own language, please just ask!

Si vous voulez que cette lettre traduite dans votre langue, s'il vous plaît demander.

Si desea que esta carta traducida a su idioma, por favor pregunte.

إذا كنت تريد هذه الرسالة مترجمة إلى اللغة الخاص بك، يرجى أن تطلب