

Candidacy for the Vice Presidency of the International Federation of Liberal Youth Nickolas Pagonakis, Radikal Ungdom (Denmark)

Dear liberals, social liberals, friends

Three years ago I was introduced to the International Federation of Liberal Youth for the very first time. In the years I've been active internationally I have gathered many experiences and met fantastic people from all around the globe. In IFLRY I met a great community for young liberals and social-liberals that share the same visions for the world. I knew that it was something special and that I one day would want to be engaged in the work of IFLRY. That time has come now. I am truly honoured and happy to announce my candidacy for the Vice Presidency of IFLRY. I wish to invest my time and effort to the wonderful organization that IFLRY is – to work for development and make it progress.

A bright future awaits

Financially and structurally IFLRY are stronger than it has been for a long time. We are heading for the best of our years. Now there's the basis for us to lay the foundation for IFLRY to progress sustainably. My vision is to engage more members to become active in our organization's mission to advocate for globalizing freedom. One of the most important phrases I've learned in my time with IFLRY is "*Sharing is caring*". All of us, liberals and social liberals, gain by sharing the wonderful community and opportunities one gets from becoming active in IFLRY. If elected I hope to be able to work in a bureau that works on engaging more members to be an active part of our organisation.

An IFLRY for development and in progress

My aims that I wish to achieve, as a Vice President, are to work for development and an IFLRY in progress. I wish specifically to establish an Africa program and create a platform for sharing best practices between or member organizations.

One mayor target for IFLRY is to let our messages reach all parts of the globe. Therefore I will work on establishing an Africa Programme in IFLRY. There are great possibilities in establishing such a program. For one there is the need to empower young liberals in the region. If elected I will personally work for laying the groundwork for an increased cooperation with relevant partners to create a strong programme. Second, there is an increasing focus on the continent in light of the United Nations' Sustainable Development

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Goals (SDGs). There is great room for us to come with liberal visions on how to achieve the goal's ambition for global freedom and prosperity.

We need a foundation that secures an IFLRY in continuous progress. Our organisation has a big potential to spread best practices on how to be a youth leader, to campaign or to solve conflicts. If we succeed in creating such platform our members will actively use each other's experiences and have the capacity to advocate for the liberal message domestically and regionally. In the work I will have a close dialogue with International Officers and/or International Secretaries on how such platform should be formed to the benefit all of our member organisations.

In order to progress sustainably we need to have a good and serious dialogue on the future we wish to see our organization. I wish to see us move in a direction where we share IFLRYs message of globalizing freedom internally as well as externally. If we do I'm certain that we'll have a positive future with an IFLRY that works for development and progresses sustainably.

It would be my outmost honour to serve as your Vice President and I hope that you'll support my candidacy.

Looking forward seeing you all in Istanbul!

Kindest regards

Nickolas Pagonakis