

Minutes of IFLRY General Assembly Istanbul 14-17 April 2016

Minutes taken by Auditors Marijn de Pagter and Robert Landheer.

1. Opening

Secretary General Frerik Kampman opens the GA on 15 April 2016 at 16:45h.

2. Roll Call & Voting Rights

Country	Organisation	Votes
Armenia	ANC Youth	1
Bulgaria	YMRF	6
Canada	Young Liberals of Canada	5
Catalunya	JNC	5
Denmark	RU	2
Denmark	Liberal Alliance (applying)	0
Denmark	VU	3
Finland	Swedish Youth of Finland	3
Finland	FCY	5
France	JRG	2
Georgia	Young Republicans	1
Germany	JuLis	6
Hungary	LiFe	0
Mena Region	AYUFD	0
Moldova	YLM	3 (not present yet)
Morocco	AJA	1 (not present yet)
The Netherlands	JOVD	4
The Netherlands	JD	5
Norway	Young Liberals	3
Poland	PP	1

Russian Federation	Vesna (applying)	0
Senegal	CEEP	0
Sweden	CUF	3
Sweden	LUV	4
Turkey	3H Movement	1
Ukraine	EYU	1 (not present yet)
UK	LY	4
Lebanon	Future Youth	5

3. Election of the Chairs and Returning Officers

As chairs are appointed: Tanya Lyubimova (Civil Forum, Belarus), Victor Boysen (RU, DK), Justin Kaiser (YLC, CA)

As returning officers are appointed by the GA: Harro Boven (JD, NL), Luis Perez Fernandez (LY, UK), James Bowles (LY, UK).

4. Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting

GA adopts the minutes of the previous GA.

5. Adoption of the agenda

Discussion with the auditors about the audit report is being added by the GA as first point at point 7.

6 abstentions, rest in favour.

Agenda is adopted by acclamations

6. Appointment of Officers to the Standing Committee(s)

Rules: Najva (YLC, chair) Kevin (YLC, minutes)

Resolutions: Alex (LY, chair), Elizabeth (YLC, minutes)

Membership applications: Nathan (YLC, chair), Alfie (LY, minutes)

7. Adoption of Auditors Report, Annual Report and Bureau Reports

The auditors report is being discussed: the auditors mention that the bureau has been taking 2 years to finish the new IFLRY website. Also there was the impression that the Statutory Working Group has not been functioning well.

Annual report: SG Frerik Kampman adds that the annual report of 2015 is also about the last few months of the current bureau in 2016. He elaborates about the Annual Report that can be found in the provided documents on line.

Question from Ab (LY, UK) about how the Bureau has promoted regional diversity in bureau member candidates, by IFLRY being historically euro centered.

Question from Jim (JOVD, NL) about how the Bureau looks into the website process

Question from Arvid (JD, NL) about the promotion of seminars and the unclear process of trainer selection.

Answers:

- Frerik: we were very happy to have statutory event in Latin America, however it is a logistically difficult process to get people from other areas to be present at many IFLRY events. Few years back we didn't have bureau members from Arab region, now we have bureau members.
- Bobby: within a month of office we launched an interim website. Indeed was too long. Given the context: we have not outsourced this so building was own work. New website was sent to membership around Christmas 2015. No feedback given by MO's, now launched to iflry.com. Project is 90% complete, so I don't agree that we transfer a large project to the next bureau.
- Stanislav: Policy Book is ready at the moment, it is only not uploaded yet. It contains the resolutions of the past 5 years.
- Frerik: communication in general between the Bureau and the MOs has lowered in the past time. So that is the reason that seminars were not always announced timely.
- Bobby: the non-formal education Programme demanded too much energy from the Bureau members, so there was too little capacity spent on trainers selection.
- Daniel: the new Bureau should think about how much work IFLRY can take upon itself.

Second question round:

- Jim, JOVD: thank you for the explanation on the website. Why were the deadlines postponed?
 - Answer: other task consumed lots more energy.
- Julis: was enough support given to programmes and working groups on special topics?
 - Answer: Frerik says that also MOs should support programmes, because the Bureau has limited capacity. The Bureau did introduce Programme Managers-Bureau meetings. However the execution is responsibility of the programme manager. Daniel mentions that programmes have been more active in the past two years, than before that time, so he is not sure if he agrees on the question.
- Daphnie, JD: why did it take so long to finish the policy book, and can the policy book be uploaded?
 - Answer: Stanislav mentions that the issue with the website being updated caused an issue not to upload the policy book.
- Ab, LY: quick, 4.4: manuals says they will be ready in 2016. Are they ready and if so when will they be uploaded?
 - These are office documents, which are being worked out and uploaded after that.
- Christian, CUF: how is gender diversity promoted?

- Frerik answers that gender equality is important for IFLRY, but indeed not if you take a look at the bureau. In other ways, we have been active on the topic. No positive discrimination for iflry positions, however. Also, happy to see that there are many female candidates for the next iflry bureau.

Bureau reports:

- President Christian: no comments or questions
- Secretary General Frerik: apologies that his report was late.
- Treasurer Daniel George: outlook for IFLRY will be to have a balance sheet without debts.
 - Arvid: thank you for grundlichkeit. First question: how can the treasurer tasks be separated more to the office executing the administrative tasks and the treasurers writing grant applications, second question: what is the best advice you'd give to our successor?
 - Daniel: it's always team work to write grants, so not necessarily the treasurer is doing this solely. The office and bureau also needs to work on dividing tasks between Treasurer, Secretary General and office tasks. Advice to his successor has already been given. Finishing the budget control system is a good idea. And don't spend money IFLRY does not have.
 - Jim: thank you. Hope the next treasurer takes you as an example.
- Vice-President Ahmad: no questions or comments
- Vice-President Stanislav:
 - Daphnie Ploegstra, JD: how do you reflect on your electoral promises on the participation of Balkan MO's and the fact that there's only 2 present?
 - Many organisations in the Balkans unfortunately perished. One good example is Romania, who switched to EPP. Now created a new party that couldn't come because of safety concerns. Also, LYM is attending.
 - Arvid Plugge, JD: Isn't one paragraph a little bit short to reflect on 2 years of being a board member?
 - Stan apologises for this, but didn't have the time over the last month to actually write it extensively.
- Vice-President Bobby: no questions or comments
- Vice-President Danylo: no questions or comments

As conclusion, Executive Director Mane Manukyan presents the Office report.

- Katharina, JULI's: thank you for always replying your email fastly and doing a good job. The GA applauds for Mane.

The GA adopts the reports that have been discussed by acclamation.

--GA adjourned at 15 April 20:00h--

--GA resumed at 16 April 17:30h--

Ivo Thijssen (D66, NL) holds a speech about freedom.

President Christian holds a speech by reflecting on the past years.

The agenda is amended by adding the valuation of decisions of the EC in Santo Domingo, adding membership issues, and changing ' Bureau elections' to ' Bureau & Auditor elections'

Secretary General Frerik performs a roll call as follows below. A quorum is present.

Country	Organisation	Votes
Armenia	ANC Youth	1
Bulgaria	YMRF	6
Canada	Young Liberals of Canada	5
Catalunya	JNC	5 (not present at moment of Roll Call)
Denmark	RU	2
Denmark	Liberal Alliance (applying)	0
Denmark	VU	3
Finland	Swedish Youth of Finland	3
Finland	FCY	5
France	JRG	2
Georgia	Young Republicans	1
Germany	JuLis	6
Hungary	LiFe	0
Mena Region	AYUFD	0
Moldova	YLM	3 (not present at moment of Roll Call)
Morocco	AJA	1 (not present at moment of Roll Call)

The Netherlands	JOVD	4
The Netherlands	JD	5
Norway	Young Liberals	3
Poland	PP	1
Russian Federation	Vesna (applying)	0 (1 vote after approval of membership)
Senegal	CEEP	0
Sweden	CUF	3
Sweden	LUV	4
Turkey	3H Movement	1
Ukraine	EYU	1
UK	LY	4
Lebanon	Future Youth	5

8. Valuation of decision of EC in Santo Domingo

The GA adopts the decision of the EC in Santo Domingo by 55 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

9. Membership issues

Chair Nathan and minute taker Alfie address the GA by the results of the standing committee on membership issues:

- Vesna (Russian Federation) is granted full membership status by the GA by 69 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.
- Liberal Alliance Ungdom (DK) is granted observer membership status by the GA by 61 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 5 abstentions.
- Estudantes Pela Liberdade (Brazil) has decided to leave IFLRY due to a merger with a student organisation which is not allowed to be politically active.
- Tineretul Liberalilor și Democraților - Youth Liberals and Democrats of Romania are not present so the application is not discussed by the GA.

10. Adoption of Financial Reports

Chair Nikolay addresses the GA by the results of the standing committee on finances.

Reports of treasurer Daniel George and auditors Marijn de Pagter and Robert Landheer are adopted.

Financial report of 2015 is adopted by the GA by 81 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

Solidarity fund:

- Liberal Democratic Youth of Macedonia: €520 granted by GA (50% of original application)

11. Adoption of Budget and Membership Fee Statute

Reduced Membership Fee for 2017:

The fees below are applicable to 2017, as reduced membership fee requests can only be made for a next year, not the current year.

- Cairo Liberal Forum, Egypt: €50 fee
- Liberal Democratic Youth of Macedonia: €150 fee

The amended budget 2016 and Membership Fee Statute and reduced fees are adopted by the GA by 62 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

12. Resolutions and Amendments to the Manifesto

Resolution 1

Human Rights Before Immunity - Submitted by the Young Liberals of Norway: adopted by 66 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 4 abstentions.

Resolution 2

Resolution on development aid level - Resolution is proposed by RU Denmark: adopted by 36 votes in favour, 7 votes against, 15 abstentions. JuLis amendment not carried.

Resolution 3

Resolution on the issue of illegal felling of the rainforest - Submitted by Radikal Ungdom (RU): adopted by 60 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Resolution 4

Promoting mental health awareness -Submitted by Jonge Democraten (JD): adopted by 65 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Resolution 5

Sexual and reproductive health rights: Liberalizing Women's Sexual Rights: adopted by 66 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

Resolution 6

Assisting LGBTQ2+ Refugees - Submitted by Young Liberals of Canada: adopted by 62 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

Resolution 7

Pledge to accelerate the closing of coal-fired plants around the world - Submitted by Young Liberals of Canada: Adopted by 57 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 5 abstentions

Urgent resolution on the Nagorno-Karabakh border incidents - Submitted by IFLRY Caucasus Programme, JOVD: passed by 59 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

Urgent resolution Free Böhmi - Submitted by JuLiS: passed by 46 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 10 abstentions.

13. Changes to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Statutes:

Amendment 1: adopted by 66 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 2: adopted by 64 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 5 abstentions

Amendment 3: adopted by 48 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 12 abstentions

Amendment 4: adopted as amended by 54 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 8 abstentions

Amendment 5: **declined** by 1 votes in favour, 50 votes against, 11 abstentions

Rules of Procedure:

Amendment 1: adopted by 58 votes in favour, 2 votes against, 4 abstentions

Amendment 2: adopted by 64 votes in favour, 3 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 3: **withdrawn** by submitters.

Amendment 4: adopted by 54 votes in favour, 1 votes against, 1 abstention

Amendment 5: adopted by 60 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 6: adopted by 58 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 7: **declined** by votes 0 in favour, 59 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 8: adopted by 63 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 9: adopted by 54 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 10: accepted by 59 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 11 is non-existent due to a numbering error.

Amendment 12: adopted by 59 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 7 abstentions

Amendment 13: adopted by 71 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 1 abstention

Amendment 14: adopted by 54 votes in favour, 1 votes against, 0 abstentions

Amendment 15: adopted by 53 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 19 abstentions

Amendment 16: **declined** by 0 votes in favour, 51 votes against, 16 abstentions

Amendment 17: adopted by 65 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

Motion on working group on membership: adopted by 48 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 10 abstentions

Working group on responsibilities of Vice-Presidents: adopted by 55 votes in favour, 0 votes against, 19 abstentions

14. News from Member Organizations

The following MOs present themselves to the GA:

- JD, NL
- LUF, SE
- JuLiS, DE

- JUNOS, AT
- LY, UK will change their name to Young Liberals
- CUF, SE
- NUV, NO
- YLC, CA
- FCY, FI
- SYF, FI
- YMRF, Bulgaria
- JOVD, NL
- TL, Moldova
- RU, DK
- LIFE, HU
- Vesna, RU

--GA adjourned at 19:45h on 16 April 2016--

--GA resumed at 10:25 on 17 April 2016--

Secretary General of Liberal International Emil Kirjas holds a speech.

For the elections part and counting of votes, Lasse Roth (JuLis, DE), Alexander Nestorov (YMRF, Bulgaria), James Bowles (LY, UK), Harro Boven (JD, NL) are appointed returning officers.

15. Bureau & Auditor elections

Candidate for President Pauline Kastermans holds a speech.

Candidate for Secretary General Tone Bjorndal holds a speech.

Candidate for Treasurer Danylo Korbabicz holds a speech.

The following candidates for Vice President hold a 3 minute speech and answer questions of the GA in a common round:

- Ab Brightman
- Ahmad Al Rachwani
- Anders Rehnberg
- Gyulfie Arnaudova
- Nickolas Pagonakis
- Sven Gerst

The following candidates for Auditor hold a 2 minutes speech and answer questions of the GA in a common round:

- Christian Holm
- Rafal Szkudlarek
- Robert Landheer
- Yassine El Bahlouli

A roll call is performed to hand out votes at 12:10h after which voting commences. 75 votes in total are present.

Country	Organisation	Votes
Armenia	ANC Youth	1
Bulgaria	YMRF	6
Canada	Young Liberals of Canada	5
Catalunya	JNC	5
Denmark	RU	2
Denmark	Liberal Alliance (applying)	0
Denmark	VU	3
Finland	Swedish Youth of Finland	3
Finland	FCY	5
France	JRG	2
Georgia	Young Republicans	1
Germany	JuLis	6
Hungary	LiFe	0
Mena Region	AYUFD	0
Moldova	YLM	3
Morocco	AJA	1
The Netherlands	JOVD	4
The Netherlands	JD	5
Norway	Young Liberals	3
Poland	PP	1
Russian Federation	Vesna	1
Senegal	CEEP	0
Sweden	CUF	3
Sweden	LUV	4

Turkey	3H Movement	1
Ukraine	EYU	1
UK	LY	4
Lebanon	Future Youth	5

Bureau elections results:

President:

- Pauline Kastermans, elected with 74 votes.

Secretary General:

- Tone Bjorndal, elected with 72 votes.

Treasurer:

- Danylo Korbabicz, elected with 75 votes.

The candidates for Vice President:

For Vice-President the candidates for position 4 and 5 with only 4 positions got both 36 votes. So a second round was held between the two of them, to determine the person elected with the most votes.

- Ab Brightman 36 (first round), 38 (second round)
- Ahmad Al Rachwani 68
- Anders Rehnberg 51
- Gyulfie Arnaudova 16
- Nickolas Pagonakis 36 (first round), 31 (second round)
- Sven Gerst 63

Thus, elected as Vice President are Ab Brightman, Ahmad Al Rachwani, Anders Rehnberg and Sven Gerst.

Auditor elections:

After a voting round, the candidates have received the following number of votes in favour:

- Rafal Szkudlarek 14
- Robert Landheer 58
- Yassine El Bahlouli 25
- Christian Holm 31

Thus, elected as auditors are Robert Landheer and Christian Holm.

16. Any other business

Outgoing President Christian addresses the GA and thanks 3H for the organisation. Furthermore he thanks the Congress Chairs and all officers for their good job and smoothly run GA.

17. Date and place of next meeting

Newly elect President Pauline announces that date and location of the next GA will be decided on by the new Bureau soon and communicated.

18. Closing

The 39th GA of IFLRY is closed at 14:50 on 17 April 2016.