



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LIBERAL YOUTH

IFLRY Annual Report 2017

Vision

From the IFLRY [Action Plan 2016-2018](#)

IFLRY is a globally active, highly engaged, and fully inclusive organization that dedicates itself to promoting all aspects of human freedom. We see ourselves as a political player, provider of political education, facilitator of dialogue, and a platform for our member organizations to network and exchange ideas.

At the core of [our work] is the belief that IFLRY functions as a *federation* - therefore, input from, and cooperation between, member organizations (MO's), programmes and regional networks is vital. Beyond creating a network of liberal youth organizations, we wish to create a platform where those organizations can share their ideas and best-practices, whilst trying to remove existing barriers as much as possible.

Again it's been 6 months since we last saw each other and time for the second annual update from the bureau! Over the past months we have committed ourselves to globalising freedom through advocacy, grant applications, organising of the Training of Trainers 2.0 and local seminars around the globe, including the Regional Bureau Members more actively, and with general improvement of our federation's day-to-day activities. In this report you can read an overview of our activities in line with the plans laid out in the Action Plan 2016 - 2017.

Communication

In the current bureau, communication is a key priority, as without constant and quality updates, interaction with and among IFLRY and its members would be impossible. This includes keeping the website up-to-date with relevant documents, managing the calendar, social media and newsletters, as well as consolidating the IFLRY Online initiative.

a. Website

As mentioned last year, the Bureau decided to continue working on the latest design of the IFLRY website. Although we have established a visuals team to aid in the aesthetic appeal of our (online) communication, the website team has not been launched yet. Therefore, for the near future we still hope to find talents within our MOs that are able and willing to share some of their spare time to work on our website to improve it even more.



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Deliverables in year 1:

- Update the website so that it is fully functional and accessible.
- Update relevant information pertaining to MOs, the Bureau, and our Programmes
- Create a calendar for IFLRY and MO events
- Create a team that can work specifically on the website and its content

Deliverables in year 2:

- Proactive updating of all relevant documents and engagement of stakeholders to deliver input
- Posting resolutions online to showcase accessibility and highlighting IFLRY's vast subject matter and scope
- Providing an overview of best-practices and appropriate implementation structures

b. Social Media

Especially Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram updates have been continuous over the past months. We continue to welcome any inputs by MOs, so we can keep our membership informed of the activities taking place within the federation. We have explored other channels, such as publishing a video of the Thessaloniki GA. As these social media platforms are most prominently used by our membership, we decided to prioritize them and have other channels feed into these core platforms.

Deliverables in year 1:

- Reestablish our Facebook Page and Twitter accounts as authoritative sources of information, a motivational force for our MOs, and advocacy of our common views.
- Ensure regular quality updates on Social Media, including more frequent MO-updates.
- Creation of an Instagram account

Deliverables in year 2:

- Investigate and develop a presence for relevant new social media channels, such as YouTube, & with external support, involve individual members more in the social media sphere. Initiate advocacy/social media that can assist the bureau to stay up-to-date with advocating our views in this medium and further effectively use social media



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c. Newsletter

Welcoming your feedback on our continuous updates via the newsletters.

- Monthly updates via ISSUE, including IFLRY, MOs, regional networks and Programmes Updates (deadline for contributions is 1st of every month)
- Every 6-8 weeks an internal mailing with relevant bureau updates

d. Style Guide

The Style Guide was created by Ahmad and is available upon request. The visuals team is in the process of being formalized and is expected contribute regularly to IFLRY's aesthetics soon.

Deliverables in year 1:

- Create a Style Guide Book for IFLRY, that should include comprehensive guidelines on e.g. fonts, colours, logos & graphic design styles & integrate it with our daily activities

Office

The IFLRY Secretariat functions as the backbone of the federation as it takes care of the daily execution of its activities, most vitally overseeing financial administration, communications support and event organisation. The adjustment from general assistants to dedicated coordinators on the portfolios of project/event management and finances turns out to be very helpful. With the upcoming changes regarding the secretariat and the possible move, the stability at the office will remain a top priority, especially for the President, Treasurer and Secretary General.

Deliverables in year 1:

- Ensure a smooth handover from outgoing to incoming Executive Director

Deliverables over 2 years:

- Continue the work of the previous bureau on securing financial stability, this includes creation of a reserve fund to cover IFLRY's operations if strategic grant funding was dissolved
- Explore non-EU funding more concretely, including several submissions if possible.



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Events

Organising events is up for continuous improvement in terms of early announcement, financial support, and having a diverse group of participants. The General Assembly in Thessaloniki was already an improvement compared to our previous General Assembly and we hope to continue improving it for the upcoming months. A thorough review of the statutory meeting programme turned around deliverable one, to having more relevant meetings overall. Online options for attendance are still underdeveloped, although live-viewing are expected to be available in Beirut.

Deliverables over 2 years:

- During the next statutory meeting a well-coordinated IO+President's meeting takes place, as well as 3 thematic best-practice sharing meetings beyond the regular standing committees
- Significantly increase the diversity of participation in statutory events. It is our goal to have at least one representative from each continent (where IFLRY has member organizations) present at each statutory event. More specifically this implies helping to secure funds for such delegations in order to cover travel costs.

Present options to the 2017 congress for better financial accessibility of statutory meetings.

- Look into ways of making the events more accessible for those who do not have the possibility to attend in-person

Council

There were two Council Meetings in 2017 - next to the General Assembly in Thessaloniki, as well as during the ALDE Party congress in Amsterdam, early December. This platform serves to connect different activists within IFLRY and align them to deliver results successfully.

Deliverables over 2 years:

- Organize at least one in-person Council Meeting (CM) and encourage at least two additional Online meetings per year

a. Programmes

With the two Council Meetings, Programme Managers and Regional Bureau members have been more involved with IFLRY's day-to-day activities over the past months. This needs further improvement, especially when it comes to the availability of Programmes' Action Plans and their results.

Deliverables over 2 years:

- Develop a comprehensive evaluation mechanism for Programme Managers that will not only help the assessment of the volunteer work within IFLRY but also gives our managers feedback about their strengths and weakness and thus ways to grow.



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b. Regional networks

Including the Regional Bureau Members in the daily activities of the Bureau is very successful and we hope to continue this practice until, and beyond, the end of our term. Inter-MO cooperation needs continuous attention from all stakeholders within IFLRY, as great relationships need active engagement to be built and maintained successfully.

Deliverables in year 1:

- Establish contact with all Regional Member Organizations (RMOs) and increase the inclusion of all Regional Bureau Members, through the Council and other events

Deliverables in year 2:

- Promote better inter-MO cooperation between regions

c. Membership

The reform of the membership system, including the statutes on membership fees is expected to be presented and finalised in Beirut. Also here, the continuous outreach to the membership requires continuous efforts by the (Regional) Bureau Members and other active members of the federation. With the official registration of the Liberal Youth Foundation, we hope to step up the alumni tracking and fundraising game in the months ahead.

Deliverables over 2 years:

- Consistently reach out to those MOs that were not present at the last (statutory) meetings and seek feedback on barriers to attendance, if any.
- Review and revise the membership system to encourage a higher amount and more diverse membership.
- Deliver a 10% increase and a 25% improvement in membership fee payment.
- Keep a continued dialogue with the MOs to make sure that the membership matches their expectations and needs
- Develop better Alumni tracking and outreach mechanism for future fundraising.

Education

With the successful completion of the Training of Trainers 2.0, thereby expanding and improving the current Pool of Trainers, non formal education was at the forefront of our activities in the Fall of this year. This will serve as a great start for the events we wish to organise in 2018, as well as providing us with tools to improve the engagement level at the statutory meetings.



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Deliverables in year 1:

- Grant application for a Training of Trainers 2.0.

Deliverables in 2 years:

- Develop a comprehensive evaluation mechanism for Trainers that will not only help the assessment of the volunteer work within IFLRY but also gives our Trainers feedback about their strengths and weakness and thus ways to grow

Advocacy

With the great help of Victor Sole (JNC), we now have an updated IFLRY Policy Book. Also, the bureau has been working on follow-up on resolutions after the General Assembly. Here, further engagement from the membership is needed to make our advocacy efforts more effective. The bureau will explore options to make the presentation of our core positions more physically appealing, as well as ways to more convincingly conveyed at (inter)national platforms. The aim to establish an advocacy team will be up for discussing in Beirut.

Deliverables in year 1:

- Design and publish an overview over IFLRY's core positions and resolutions

Deliverables in year 2:

- Establish an advocacy team to streamline all of our advocacy work in UN-bodies, ALDE - PACE, Liberal International and other relevant platforms, as well as strengthen IFLRY's social media presence.