

For those who may not yet know me, I am a passionate pro-European who works in the Higher Education sector as a member of professional services staff. My background is in the performing arts and community volunteering, particularly through my long involvement with Girlguiding UK. I am proud to bring a blend of professional experience, grassroots activism, and lived experience that I believe makes me a strong and understanding candidate for Vice Chair.

Within the European Movement UK, I have been privileged to serve in a number of roles — as Chair of Bedfordshire for Europe early in my EMUK journey, as a member of the National Council since November 2023, and as Convenor approximately six months later. Earlier this year, I was elected in a by-election to serve on the Board as a National Council representative. In each of these positions, I have always strived to contribute wherever I can — showing up, putting in the work, and supporting the collective effort that drives our movement forward. Alongside this, I am currently completing my MA in Higher Education Administration, Management and Leadership, which continues to strengthen my ability to lead effectively and thoughtfully.

My personal background has shaped my values and my approach to leadership. Growing up in a small town in Greater Manchester, I often felt different — as a mixed-race woman, and as someone whose disability was hidden for much of my early life but has become visible as I've grown older. These experiences taught me the importance of resilience, inclusion, and understanding. They also deepened my belief that diverse perspectives are vital if we are to build a fairer and stronger society. In my union work as a Disabled Members Officer, steward, and Co-Vice Chair for my Regional Disabled Members Committee, I have seen first-hand how much can be achieved when people are empowered to have their voices heard.

Representation and diversity are at the heart of what I hope to bring to this role. For EMUK to remain relevant, energetic, and connected to communities across the UK, it must reflect the full diversity of the country it represents — not only in demographics but in thought, background, and lived experience. My goal is to ensure that every member, from local activists to new supporters, feels their contribution matters.

Engaging with and inspiring young people is also a key priority for me. They are the future of our movement, and it is vital that we actively connect with them — not leaving this solely to the Young European Movement. Through my career in Higher Education and over 30 years with Girlguiding UK — ten of those as a young member and twenty as a volunteer — I've had the privilege of working with young people from all walks of life. These experiences have shown me how to listen, to guide, and to build confidence — qualities I believe are essential for nurturing the next generation of pro-Europeans.

If elected as Vice Chair, I will bring energy, understanding, and dedication to the role. I will continue to advocate for greater inclusion and representation, for stronger grassroots networks, and for meaningful engagement with young people. Together, we can build a European Movement UK that truly represents the diversity, strength, and spirit of our nation.