

To my fellow colleagues from LYMEC,

For the last two years, we have been working shoulder to shoulder to promote a more liberal Europe, one where young people have a real and meaningful voice, one that does not shy away to call out undemocratic and illiberal practices at home and abroad, one that finds its voice to lead at the global stage while bringing welfare and prosperity to its citizens.

Also, we have been gathering all around – or, for most of the mandate, in Zoom – to discuss and learn about topics ranging from cybersecurity to diplomacy, to train ourselves, to network, to become the leaders of tomorrow. In this regard, I am proud that we managed to organise the first young liberal women's academy, increased the collaboration with our liberal partners, and this was rewarded by increased participation and interest from your side in our events and seminars. As I promised two years ago, what LYMEC makes must be relevant for you, our members, or else it's pointless. My job here is done and I could not be happier for all I leave behind. I hope you recognize that and agree.

With my baggage fuller of experience and knowledge, I have decided to stand for the role of policy office as a member of the next bureau, if I earn your trust. There is so much potential to untap in this area thanks to your job at a national and European level discussing resolutions and coming up with new ideas to fix our stricken but dazzling world. I want to increase our relevance in the EU policy-making sphere. With this, LYMEC should have a louder voice in Brussels as a key policy stakeholder, influencer, in the liberal field. We need to be more political and don't draw back from reacting to what happens around us, for the good as for worse. We have the substance, lets harness it.

I envision a more cohesive and proactive LYMEC, that is able to lobby for all the policy ideas that come out of every congress; that accepts and leverages the diversity that its MOs represent and that sparks debate on all the hot topics in the political agenda nowadays: war in Europe, strategic autonomy, Europe's role as a global power, gender equality, climate change, migration, free market, etc. This is why, if elected, I commit myself to increase the cooperation with our liberal partners and other EU stakeholders, to increase our lobbying capacity and make actual change according to our policies; to react quicker to everything that happens around us; to increase accountability at our congresses; and to work closer with our MOs so as to leverage each other strengths and act in a unified, stronger voice to be the voice of reference for all young liberals in Europe.

I hope that if you share my vision, you will support my candidacy in the upcoming spring congress in Prague. Dreams don't work unless you do; let's get to it, together!

Liberal regards,

Laia Comerma i Calatayud

