

Elsie Gisslegård

For ALDE Congress Delegate

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Dear member organisations and individual members,

My name is Elsie Gisslegård and I am running for a spot on LYMEC's delegation to the ALDE congress. I am sure I will be a valuable member of the team with my considerable experience, expertise in policy and deep passion for the European liberal movement. All I need is your support.

My journey into European politics was started by Brexit. Growing up in Stockholm to a British mother, I took my European identity and citizenship for granted. After the referendum, I understood that my freedoms needed to be defended, and if you want a job well done, you better do it yourself. I joined the board of the European Youth Parliament and the Centre Party Youth of Sweden (CUF).

Since joining the liberal movement, I have gained immense party politics experience. Domestically, I am an Executive Board Member of CUF, the Spokesperson for Defence and Foreign Affairs, and the former International Officer. During my tenure, I have gained a lot of experience in developing policies and writing motions. For example, I spearheaded the overhaul of our foreign affairs manifesto last year and have been a vital part of our campaigns this spring following the Russian war on Ukraine. These are experiences I hope to bring into the preparatory work before congress.

Looking at my work on a European level, I have a record of advocacy for our shared liberal values. I was appointed by the Swedish government to represent Swedish civil society at the Conference on the Future of Europe, where I negotiated a manifesto on migration policy, and performed considerable advocacy work in the form of holding speeches at the European Parliament and giving interviews with international media. Apart from that, the congress in Bucharest is my 7th LYMEC congress. I am a member of the LYMEC Working Group on Cyber and Security. At the last congress, I was elected internal auditor. I also attended the last ALDE congress in Dublin as a part of the Centre Party delegation. I believe my network and experience will be valuable in pushing for LYMEC's positions at the following ALDE congress.

We feel how cold winds blow over Europe. Not everyone believes in fundamental rights and freedom as strongly as we do, and sometimes there are those in our own party that hesitate. But in every forum I have been in, from the podium of the European Parliament to schools in the forests of Northern Sweden, I always defend our values with passion and unwavering conviction. I hope you will allow me to do the same on LYMEC's behalf at the following ALDE congress.

If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to reach out!

Yours sincerely,