

Proposal for Skopje Spring Congress 2020

Proposal
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LYMEC Spring Congress, April 3 to 5, 2020 in Skopje

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Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Skopje Spring Congress 2020 may decide:

1 **Situation in Belarus**

2 This resolution archives Resolution 2.17 on Capital punishment in Belarus, resolution 2.32, 2.33,
3 2.34 and 2.35 on Belarus.

4 *Democracy, Human Rights, Civil Rights, Belarus*

5 **For consideration on the annual Congress of the European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) in**
6 **Skopje, North Macedonia on 3-5 April 2020.**

7 **Considering:**

8 - That Belarus is currently the only country in Europe that is still carrying out the capital
9 punishment.

10 - That the European institutions have been calling on numerous occasions on Belarus to abolish
11 the death penalty. That after yet another death penalty was pronounced in 2019, the European
12 External Action Service insisted that "the death penalty is not a factor to decrease crimes, and
13 mistakes inevitable in any justice system become irreversible if capital punishment is practiced."

14 - that there were cases in the past, when capital punishment convictions were performed swiftly,
15 with arguably insufficient time for appeals

16 - that it is often the case that the election campaigns in Belarus are conducted with lack of media
17 access for opposition campaigners;

18 - that the democratic principles and constitutionally guaranteed rights of freedom of expression,
19 association and assembly continue to be infringed by Belarusian authorities;

20 **Calls upon:**

21 - LYMEC and its member organizations to raise awareness on the capital punishment performed
22 in Belarus;

23 - The European institutions to support the development of a conscious civil society by
24 encouraging and supporting NGOs and pro-democracy activists, and promoting cultural and
25 educational exchange between young people from Belarus and EU, especially with view of
26 supporting young human rights and minority activists;

27 - calls on the European Commission to support independent media and media organizations in
28 Belarus;

29 - extensive review of the EU policy towards Belarus, considering possible targeted economic and
30 travel sanctions including Schengen visa restrictions and freezing of bank accounts and assets to

31 be applied to the senior representatives of the regime, chairs of electoral commissions, heads of
32 military, police etc., who are engaged in civil rights violations in Belarus.

Attention: This is a preview! The official text is printed in the proposal book for Skopje Spring Congress 2020 03 - 05 April 2020.