Pirate Party International
Meeting in Brussels on October 18, 2009

Sven Clement*

October 29, 2009

1 Attendees

- Samir Allioui (Co-president PPI, PPNl)
- Patrick Mächler (Co-president PPI, PPCh)
- Nicolas Sahlqvist (CFO PPI, PPSe)
- Will Tovey (CAO PPI, PPUk)
- Sven Clement (PPLu)
- Jurgen Rateau (PPBe)
- Amelia Andersdotter (PPSe)

2 Funding & Money

- We discussed different forms of getting Pirate Party International (PPI) up and running. It is crucial for PPI to enable anonymous contributions from corporations and other entities. It was also noted that PPI has to ensure that there is a diverse enough spread of donors and other income so that PPI will not rely on one single large donor.

- Samir proposed that PPI be legally organised as a Foundation but also suggested setting up an offshore anonymous trust to handle money. Such an account would cost €1,600 to set up and so a temporary, local bank account would be required first in which to gather those funds. PPI will need money in order to support local parties with ready-made press releases, templates, infrastructures and to help with administration.

- It was mentioned that PPI will likely not be able to handle everything by itself so may have to pay professionals for some tasks. There was a discussion about whether to create a scientific Institute for policy research, which would be of benefit to all PPs. Samir also noted that the scientific institute could be subsidized by third-party funds like EU-programmes.

- The income of PPI was an important part of the discussion, but it was difficult at this stage to fix a financial plan because it was not yet clear if national parties would subsidise the PPI via a "PPI"-tax taken from budgets of each PP. We should therefore focus first on getting funding from corporations that identify with the PPI-ideology. The public sector could also be a source of income by doing scientific research funded by the public.

---

*edited by Will Tovey

- It was decided that there will be a drafting of 2 - 3 financial scenarios ready for the PPI conference so that the delegates can then vote for one of the plans.

- PPI should also consider raising money from the EU via youth programs like Youth in action - Action 1[1]

- PPI should formulate a clear vision of a return on investment for local PPs in order to ensure that they see the benefits of contributing financially to PPI.

3 Structure

- It was discussed if there should be two different types of membership based on whether concerned party is contributing financially to PPI or not. This will be an issue to be discussed at the PPI-conference.

- We should try to study the structures of other international organisations, so that we won't make similar mistakes to them in their start-up phases.

- PPI should see itself mostly as a lobby-group and content provider for national parties in order to create added value for those parties. This could be achieved by commenting on international issues and providing translated content for every member organisation. Also providing services to the national parties will be crucial if we want to help to spread the pirate-message worldwide.

- For the conference, there will be only one (1) delegation per country which should consist of at least two (2) persons. There will be one (1) vote per country, independent of size or financial power of the country's party. Every member of a pirate party which is member of PPI is eligible to stand as a candidate for the executive board and every member of the board will be voted for separately.

4 PPI-Communications

- PPI should compile an international Press contact database so that details won't get lost when a party's board changes. It was also decided to compile an emergency contact list of two (2) persons per member organisation of whom one (1) should always be reachable in case of urgent news or events.

- There should be a mailing-list which only two (2) delegates from every country should be on. This to ensure a fast and efficient discussion between national parties. That list should not replace the general mailing-list, but enable the leaders or international contacts of PPI-members to communicate faster and without as much chatter as on the general list.

5 Conference

- The conference will take place in Brussels (Belgium) on either February 26-28th or 19th-21st, 2010. (Nicolas will check which dates are better.)

- PPI will need money to prepare the event, so fundraising should begin as soon as possible. It was also deemed crucial to have a preregistration form up and running as soon as possible. (PPNL will try to get that done asap)

---

[1]http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-in-action-programme/doc78_en.htm

- Patrick will draft a crude outline of the conference-program so that preregistration will already show a possible program. While doing preregistrations we will ask attendees to provide us with their country of origin and the maximum registration fee they would be able to pay.

- We are still looking for someone to take over Marketing/Press contacts/Invitations for the conference.

6   Translations/Media

- We should try to cooperate with international language schools to help us with translations. Sven will be looking in Saarbrücken (Germany) and Luxembourg.

- PPI should create pre-made press kits including material ready to be distributed, written articles, a media database of PPI- & PP-insignia (Logo, Typeface, Colors, etc.) and a press database where every mention of PPI or a local PP will be recorded and archived for further reference.

7   EUISPA

EuISPA is the european lobby-group of European ISPs and they seem to have similar views. We won't meet with them until we know more about them, but we will ask them to join the conference or to donate to it. We will also ask to be included in their press release distribution.

8   EU-deputies

Anything of information would be more than we get at the moment. Everyone should try to keep informed on EU topics with the help of EUR-Lex[2]). There is also a Google Group with more information (mostly in swedish):
tratten@googlegroups.com

---

[2]http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm