



Andy Morris – EurVoice Coordinator

Why are you applying for the Alumni Association Executive? (150 words)

I have chosen to apply for the role of EurVoice coordinator as upon first hearing of the event and its aims; I felt it was the aspect of EYP that called to me the most. I firmly believe that outreach can, and should be, a vital component of EYPUK and that every step must be taken to ensure that the extremely rewarding experiences that EYP can provide young people, are offered to as broad a group of people as possible, regardless of demographic.

Additionally, taking up the role of EurVoice coordinator would be an incredibly rewarding experience for myself. I have long since felt that balanced, reasoned and intelligent discussion is what leads to issues being resolved and would relish the opportunity to help facilitate this kind of discourse, by focussing on one or two issues in-depth, as opposed to a more general debate surrounding several broader issues.

What would your aims and priorities be in this role? How would you pursue them? (250 words)

Firstly, I would pledge to continue to good work of the previous executive board member in offering EurVoice sessions as a brilliant way for new alumni to build some chairing experience. However, I would like to **place additional importance on increasing the awareness of EurVoice sessions amongst these new alumni**. In order to achieve this, I would like to **publicise EurVoice more openly at both National Sessions**, so that new alumni just entering the organisation are made aware of this excellent starting point. This could be **introduced as a part of events such as the “Staying Involved Workshops”** recently held at the Summer National session, an initiative I would also encourage to continue.

Another of my main goals as EurVoice coordinator would be to **attempt to alter the UK-centric nature of EurVoice** and attempt to introduce a slightly **more diverse range of chairs**, by **encouraging EYP Alumni from other national committees to apply** for these roles. As the primary aim of EurVoice is outreach, what better way to achieve this than by **introducing participants to people from entirely different cultures**, in order to broaden their horizons?

Finally, I would strive to **alter the focus surrounding the criteria under which guest speakers for these events are chosen**. As opposed to guest speakers being chosen as a result of their status or position, I would suggest to the Head Organisers, that these **speakers be chosen on the basis of their experiences and overall message**. People from all walks of life have stories and experiences, potentially relating to the issues being discussed, that can both inspire and educate young people and I would strive to promote this, **as opposed to simply choosing a guest speaker due to their position**.



What skills and experience (within or without EYP) do you have that will help you in this role?
How will you use these skills for the benefit of EYPUK? (250 words)

Having been an EYPUK Alumni for under a year, I feel as though I have an up-to-date and solid understanding of the experiences that new alumni have when first entering the organisation, and believe that this recent experience will allow me to utilise EurVoice as a means of encouraging alumni to continue their involvement within EYPUK.

As I personally hail from an area and school which, in general, has struggled for political interest and involvement; I believe that expanding outreach, and equality of opportunity are issues that are extremely close to my heart. Despite the recent cancellation of my former school's Advanced Higher Modern Studies course, it has experienced a dramatic increase in political interest and discourse. This has undoubtedly stemmed from the school's ever-increasing involvement with EYPUK – something which I believe can be seen from the recent influx of alumni from this area. As this goes to show, taking-part in EYP can have a hugely positive impact on the political involvement of a school/area and if chosen for this role, I will endeavour to utilise this example and ensure that numerous other schools and pupils are given access to these same opportunities that have been afforded to myself and my fellow alumni.

Lastly, I feel as though my experience in promoting my many theatrical productions (something those of you whom are unfortunate enough to know me, will know I categorically **never** talk about...) would also be helpful in publicizing both EurVoice Live and EurVoice events in general. Despite the techniques and creative outlets used to promote these two different types of events appearing very different; I believe the experience of running a sustained promotional campaign, can be easily transferred from one median to another.

Anything else you'd like to add?

To summarise, if I were chosen as EurVoice Coordinator, I would aspire to: reaffirm that EurVoice sessions can be a great way to gain an insight into EYP and to increase ones officiating experience, make delegates and new alumni more aware of EurVoice sessions by suggesting them as a potential pathway to delegate at National Sessions, broaden the selection of officials for EurVoice sessions in order to introduce pupils to potentially different cultures, and issues which they may not have encountered in the UK, and finally, to introduce more variety of guest speakers, focussing on the experiences and message that each individual speaker can bring, rather than their position/title.

It almost goes without saying, but if anyone has any questions, clarifications, alterations or omissions from my manifesto which they would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to drop me a message.

Alternatively, if you just need someone to discuss the latest episode of Love Island with, I am perpetually available. (Ovie is god).