



Mark Alvares - President

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

I'm applying to be the President for 2020/21 because I believe I have the **ideas, skillset and drive** to take EYPUK through perhaps its most difficult phase. I served this year as one of the Regional Coordinators and I'm incredibly pleased that most of the proposals I made in my [manifesto](#) last year were implemented, like widening our alumni base with the new membership policy and implementing an Extended Regional Forum.

In my year on the Alumni Executive, I learned a lot more about EYPUK and the wider EYP network. I have been incredibly honoured to work with an eclectic group of young people, but I have also seen many inefficiencies in the organisation. I believe that my goals of increased transparency, communication and record keeping will allow EYPUK to realise its full potential, and I know that I have the determination to implement these goals.

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

- Prepare proactively for the **new normal**
 - We must plan for doing most of our activities and sessions online, making sure as much effort is put in as if they were physical sessions
 - Even if we can safely run physical sessions, the ability to run online events will greatly improve our resilience to future shocks and potential for outreach
- Improve **record keeping**
 - Committee drive will be cleaned up
 - The criteria we use to measure impact of events will be decided well before they take place and will be kept relatively consistent year on year
 - By recording the same data across several years we are more able to analyse how we are doing and communicate to potential partners more effectively
- Increase **transparency and communication** between members and committee
 - Redacted minutes or a summary from committee meetings will be published so members can see what is being discussed/proposed
 - With the implementation of a communications hub we will be more able to take suggestions from members and get feedback on new proposals
 - Important communications will be sent by **email**
 - Announcements can often be missed on the Facebook group/page, and members shouldn't be penalised if they don't check social media as often
- Improve **clarity** of the organisation
 - Confusion over definitions of certain terms can be detrimental when speaking to new members or potential partners and sponsors, for example:
 - 'members' and 'alumni' are often used interchangeably, but there is no distinction between an active member or a member who was involved many years ago
 - There are several mentions of an "Alumni Association" however no definition of the term exists



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)

First, as mentioned I have served this year as one of the Regional Forum Coordinators. In this role I have had to work closely with nearly every other area of the Committee – with Comms for announcements, Nationals for allocations, Fundraising for sponsorship, Alumni Development for the membership proposal and the Online Members' Weekend, and the President throughout the year. From this I have gained knowledge about the wide range of EYPUK's operations, which will help me provide guidance and support to each of the positions in the coming year.

Second, I took the initiative this year to Head Organise the Online Members' Weekend with Josh Conway. The event proved a great success and has given me the confidence that I will be able to advise on future online events within the organisation, and it also goes to show that EYPUK can quickly adapt to changing circumstances.

Third, I have experienced EYP in several countries outside of the UK and have made valuable contacts in various other NCs. By gaining this wider perspective I am able to take inspiration from what others in the EYP Network are doing, and can reach out to people for advice on various proposals.

Finally, I have developed my time management skills greatly over the last few years. Last year I juggled university, sports and volunteering for other organisations, all while finding the time to implement new and effective changes in EYPUK.

Anything else you'd like to add?

To summarise my proposals: I want to proactively **adapt to the new normal** and improve **record keeping, transparency, communications** and **clarity** in the organisation.

There is not much space to expand on my proposals in this manifesto so I look forward to explaining them more during Hustings. If there is anything you'd like to ask but would rather not post in the Hustings group, please email me at mark.alvarez2@gmail.com.