



## EYP SWITZERLAND

### Board election 2014-15 – candidate manifesto

#### Delia Berner

**Name, age, occupation, hobbies:** Delia Berner, 22, student, hobby musician

**Candidates may indicate a first and second position they are running for. Please indicate your two positions. It is possible to indicate only one position.**

1. International Coordinator

**What are your school, university and life plans from February 2014 until February 2015?**

I will be finishing my bachelor's degree this summer and starting my master's degree, staying in Bern.

**Please outline your past experiences within EYP as a delegate, official or within EYP Switzerland? What other experience relevant to your position do you have?**

I started EYP as a delegate in 2009, helped organising Basel 2010, Ticino 2011 and IS Zurich 2013. From 2011 till (Feb) 2013 I was board member for External Affairs. Besides that I also gained experience as an EYPer abroad, namely as delegate at international sessions and as chair and journo at other regional and national sessions.

**The new board and regional structures are an exciting step forward for EYP Switzerland. Internationally, the EYP community agreed in 2012 that each NC ought to develop and implement their own long-term strategy. In your opinion, what direction(s) should such a strategy for EYP Switzerland take? Which concrete steps would you foresee for the year 2014-2015 to implement that strategy?**

EYP Switzerland is a small organisation compared to other youth organisations in Switzerland. This is not bad as such since we are providing activities of good quality to the few members we have. However, EYP is often criticised as elite organisation and for me a long-term aim would be to make more students profit from the possibilities of self-development the EYP is offering. This aim has one condition though: The quality of our work must at least stay the same if not improve. How is this doable? Four points are important, all of which don't work without the other.

1. Financial resources. While I would insist to keep all our work voluntary, we could improve the efficiency and professionalism of our work with the help of more financial means, ideally taken from long-term sponsors. For the year 2014-2015 I would see the aim of getting a long-term sponsor.
2. International knowledge transfer. Many National Committees of EYP are facing the same problems, therefore an exchange of best practices can be





useful. This can happen on an informal level at the BNC meetings or also in a written form in a database. Besides that, I would also see a certain responsibility of EYP Switzerland to take an active role in activities and initiatives in international EYP.

3. Recruitment. Swiss high schools remain our most important partners. There is hardly a school that dislikes us after they sent a delegation, so it is worth to put an effort into convincing more schools and students to join us for a first time.
4. Alumni. Even though most of the delegates enjoy a session, there is a minority that stays involved in EYP. While this is natural to some extent as people have other interests too, the organisation is depending on those alumni who carry on and are motivated to provide the next delegates with the EYP experience. So while recruitment of new delegates is important, keeping a longer involvement attractive is crucial for the survival of EYP Switzerland. In my eyes, the key to involvement is the social network, the informal bonds we are creating.

To sum up, an expansion of EYP Switzerland is only possible with the three resources money, knowledge and – still most importantly – people. A well-functioning board together with all active members of EYP Switzerland promises to make such a long-term strategy successful.

