

## Suggestions for the Alumni network





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## Current Situation of the Alumni in YPU



### According to the constitution:

You lose your membership at the age of 35 and become automatically an Alumni of YPU

As an Alumni, you are allowed to attend zonal and district meetings but do not have the right to vote

As an Alumni, you can assist YPU as an advisor and are a mediator between the young and senior members within the party

**There are approximately 108 Alumnis in YPU at the moment but only 13 are active members!**



## List of active members (maybe outdated)

Charity Kawonga	F	Karonga	-
Grey Nkolokosa	M	Machinga	AFORD
Afiki Mbewe	M	Rumphi	DPP
Sakina Chingomanje	F	Salima	DPP
Wellington Mwale	M	Salima	MCP
Hopkins Munyenembe	M	Blantyre	RP
Black Maere	M	Kasungu	UDF
Yusuf Madi	M	Lilongwe	UDF
Shalfe Chaseta	M	Nkhotakota	UDF
Howard Chiutsi	M	Chikwawa	UDF
Kenasi Kasinje	M	Lilongwe	DPP
Grace Gondwe	F	-	DPP
Jacob Jacob Nthala	M	-	UDF



## Current Situation of the Alumni in YPU



**The Alumni network is weak and in practice non-existent!**

**This is because of the following reasons:**

- 1) The number of active Alumni is too small
- 2) Possibilities for the Alumni to take part in YPU are presently very limited and not attractive.
- 3) There is no incentive for YPU members to become Alumni.
- 4) Lack of data within the districts and a lot of wrong data concerning the age of members.
- 5) YPU is in some cases not inviting the Alumni to take part in meetings and conferences due to personal and power reasons.

**The Alumni should play a major role within YPU because without them political experience and knowledge will easily be lost and they can inspire young generations of politicians.**



## Propositions



Based on the work of Alumni organisations such as Witten/Herdecke University, the following propositions are made to change the current system of the Alumni:

- 1)** An organisation: „YPU-Alumni and Friends“ should be founded to comprise all YPU members of 35 years and above, and also friends and supporters of YPU regardless their political status.
- 2)** The organisation should be a charity, officially affiliated to YPU but independent in the internal structure.
- 3)** By doing fundraising and using membership fees (Mk 1000/year) „YPU-Alumni and friends“ can create projects to support YPU or give membership fee subsidies



## Propositions



- 4) Every „YPU-Alumni and Friends“ member shall attend zonal and district meetings as an observer (as it is of now) and use those meetings as a platform for political debate etc. (prior announcement)
- 5) YPU will assisting those members in their campaign
- 6) Mentoring to be encouraged (Alumni help new members of YPU)
- 7) Annual meetings for the „YPU-Alumni and Friends“ to coincide with YPU AGMs
- 8) Capable YPU Alumni to be encouraged to facilitate YPU training workshops.

## Propositions



**9)** YPU University members, having graduated have the choice of either joining the districts or become an Alumni, even if they haven't yet reached the age of 35. Their decision cannot be reversed.

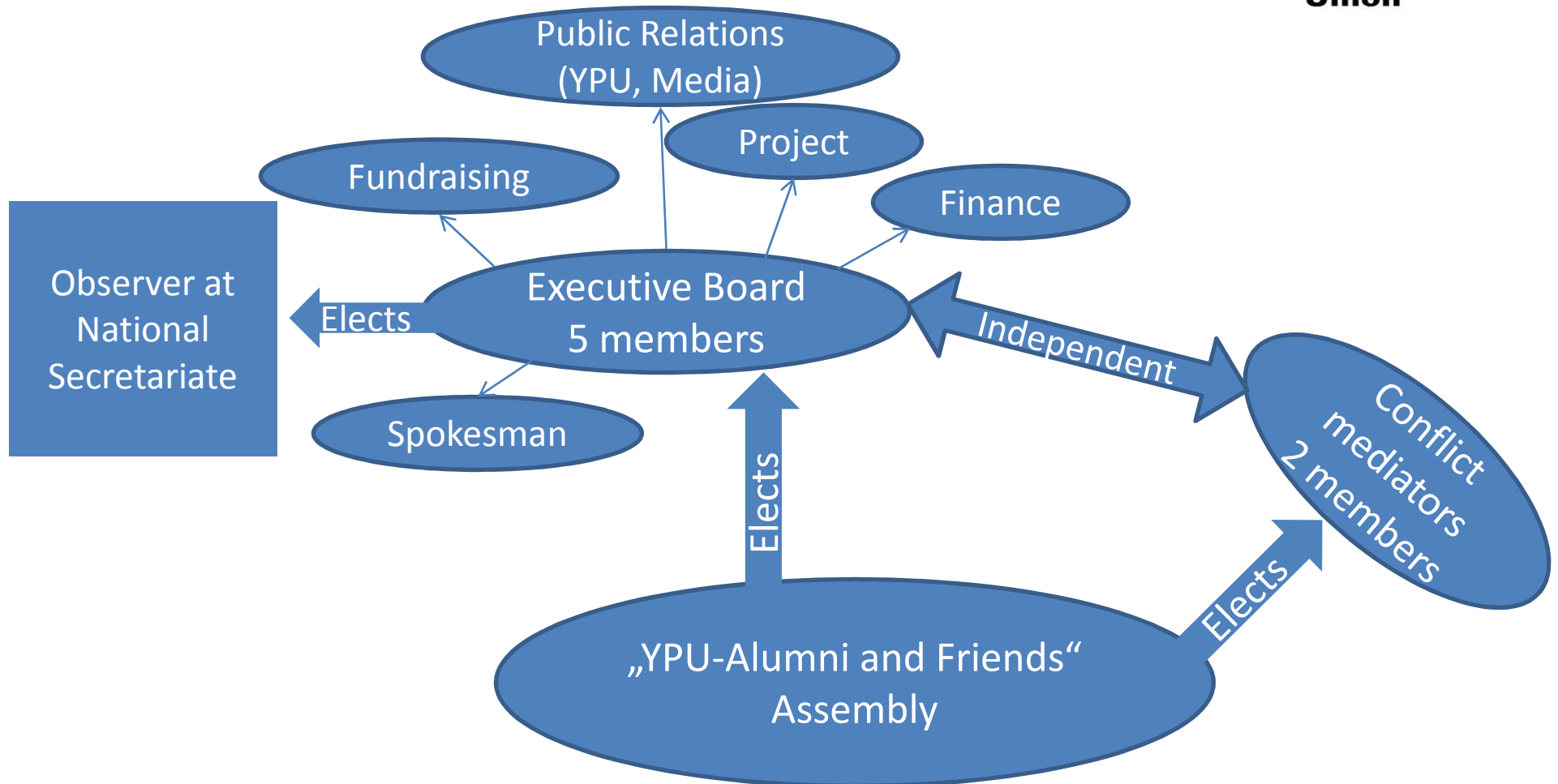
**10)** Membership application form should be changed to cater for members to choose a field of interest while applying. Also a membership ID should be introduced for greater transparency.

**11)** Besides these propositions it is of utmost importance that YPU members and Alumni are asked about their goals in the Alumni network!

**12)** The structure of „YPU-Alumni and Friends“ can be follows:



# Structure draft





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## Structure draft



The „YPU-Alumni and Friends“ Assembly will every two year, select Executive Board and Conflict Mediators, that are independent from each other.

The conflict mediators shall solve arising problems (that are not mentioned in the constitution) as neutral persons.

The Executive Board shall elect one person (from the Board) that will attend meetings of the National Secretariat as an Observer. The YPU Director shall also attend Executive Board meetings.

## Advantages



These propositions have the following advantages:

- 1) Opening the network also to friends of YPU (i.e. former staff of KAS, NICE, Gtz, etc), after proper verification. More people will then be invited join and diversify the organisation in terms of skills, specialities and competences.
- 2) The Alumni are much more integrated into the YPU
- 3) Being a sponsor of YPU the Alumni will play a key role in YPU's development and be seen as essential.

## Challenges (that might arise)



**Financial challenges:** The establishment of the new organisation requires financial assistance (registration, transport, rent etc.)

**Small number of Alumni:** As of now, YPU has very few Alumni. This might make some operations more difficult in the beginning → Problem will be solved later as more YPU members will turn 35.

**Lack of interest:** The Alumni have to state very clearly their ambitions for the Alumni Network so that its objectives and activities are aligned with expectations of members.

**Jealousy:** The efficiency and teamwork could be hindered by petty jealousy.

**Political interest:** Positions could be shared according to party membership to mitigate challenges of political representation.



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## Possible solutions



Within the first months/ years the Alumni network could run under YPU which will reduce some costs until there are enough members.

Through close collaboration and participation opportunities, the Alumni will be motivated to continue to help YPU.

**To put the YPU Alumni Network on an national scale and raise awareness among friends and society, YPU Alumni should introduce regular newsletters and contact the media about their work.**

# Thank You for Your attention