

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party
Didrik de Schaetzen
Secretary General
Rue d'Idalie 11 - box 2
B-1050 Brussels



June 5, 2026

Dear Mr. De Schaetzen,

On behalf of Democrats 66 (D66), I am proud to nominate Fatimazhra Belhirsch, Member of the Dutch House of Representatives, former Senator, career diplomat and public leader, for the position of ALDE Vice President at the upcoming Bureau elections in Vienna.

Belhirsch brings extensive experience in diplomacy, international politics and public leadership. She currently is the D66 spokesperson on defence and international security in the Dutch House of Representatives, Vice-Chair of the Committee on European Affairs and holds the position of Vice-President of the Bureau for Peace and International Security of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Belhirsch has dedicated her career to strengthening international cooperation, democratic resilience and the rule of law.

Recent achievements highlight her capacity to lead, negotiate, and deliver results: within the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), she served as rapporteur for the resolution on sustainable peace and chaired the negotiations in Istanbul, demonstrating decisive leadership and strong consensus-building skills. She also took a leading role in advancing a widely supported parliamentary motion to strengthen action against the Russian shadow fleet, showing her ability to deliver concrete results on key European security challenges.

Before entering parliament, Belhirsch served as a career diplomat at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as Chief of Staff to the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation. She has also held executive and supervisory positions in public and civil society organisations and was a human rights defender, bringing extensive experience in governance and strategic leadership.

Known for her ability to connect people and build bridges across political and national boundaries, Belhirsch believes liberals must lead not with fear, but with courage; not with pessimism, but with confidence; and not with division, but with cooperation. Inspired by the spirit that has defined D66 since 1966, she brings a positive and forward-looking vision rooted in freedom, democracy and opportunity.

As ALDE Vice President, Fatimazhra Belhirsch will bring international experience, strategic vision and collaborative leadership to strengthen our member parties and our liberal family across Europe.

Sincerely,

Alexandra van Huffelen
Chair
Democrats 66 (D66)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alexandra', with a horizontal line underneath.