

Expression of Intent to Stand for the Position of Public Outreach

2018 General Assembly, BIEN congress, Tampere

Julio Linares

Msc Anthropology and Development

London School of Economics and Political Science

I write to you to express my intention to stand for the BIEN posts of Public Outreach at the forthcoming election at Tampere in August 2018.

Since my enrollment as a life member of BIEN in Korea, I have worked together with many friends in the network establishing the Taiwanese and Asia Pacific network, including Enno Schmidt, Sarath Davala and Ping Xu among others. Having lived six years in Taiwan specializing in development economics, I researched into the Taiwanese as well as other East Asian welfare systems and developmental states. I began theorizing basic income sovereign wealth funds to start promoting the implementation of a universal basic income policy in Taiwan. It's outcome came about as a policy proposal in the first quarter of 2018. I then moved to London, where I am pursuing further studies with my academic adviser and friend, David Graeber, who is a universal basic income supporter.

Throughout my travels, I established a wide range of networks across the globe which includes activists, artists and academics, looking to create a better world for all. Currently, I am working to establish basic income networks with activists and political parties in Chile, Israel, Palestine and my own home and birthplace, Guatemala, as well as other South American countries. After my experiences in Guatemala, Taiwan and the UK, I came to the conclusion that nation-state UBI policies have limited capacity in addressing the problem of global inequality we face today. Because of this, I started researching for alternatives. I am now part of a project called Circles, whose aims include the implementation of a universal basic income on the blockchain¹. Like this project, I live and work at the intersection between the global and the local. I speak fluent Spanish, English and Chinese and I also understand basic Hungarian, Kurdish and Portuguese. This allows me to communicate with diverse communities around the world, which is beneficial in furthering BIEN's goals and outreach.

Sarath Davala has encouraged me to apply for these positions to further strengthen South to South cooperation and BIEN's reach so it becomes truly global. It is because of his belief in me that I write this letter. Given the upcoming Indian congress, I believe a lot of positive synergy will sprout from our work collaboration. Moving forward, my aim is to start Unconditional Basic Income programs at a national level and beyond in order to create new forms of cooperation.

¹ www.joincircles.net