

E1 Activity Plan

Proposer: Executive Committee
Agenda item: 5 Plans

Text

1 Political priorities

2 For the last few years, we focused on the pressing issues that we are facing in
3 Europe; migration, climate change and the kind of Europe we want. We want to
4 continue with having 3 political priorities the coming year, but we want to
5 expand our vision for Europe and come to concrete proposals to fight for after
6 the European elections. We will develop and advocate for ideas for an open
7 society and against climate change and focus on what Europe can be for young
8 people's welfare and social rights. After the elections we want a social,
9 welcoming and inclusive and sustainable Europe.

10 We have a holistic, radical political vision on Europe, where we show the
11 interlinkages between different issues. When it comes to radical political
12 visions, we are already a progressive think tank within the Green movement. With
13 the capacities of the Executive Committee but also a campaign team and several
14 active Working Groups, we will continue to come up with radical ideas and push
15 for change, both to our partners in our conversations as to the world, through
16 state-of-the-art communication and impactful actions.

17 Social justice and inclusion - Social Europe

18 Young people are having a hard time in Europe. Youth unemployment rates are
19 still high in a number of countries. And even where the unemployment rate is
20 low, internships are mostly unpaid and flex- or zero hour-contracts, while
21 erasing people from unemployment statistics, do not provide a solution to their
22 situation. In many countries, young people who as fresh graduates did not have
23 the chance to contribute to the system remain excluded from unemployment
24 benefits and other forms of social protection or income support. Young people are
25 also more likely to face housing poverty or to spend more than 60 % of their
26 income on housing. At the same time we see enormous tax evasion schemes and
27 corruption being an everyday reality. This has to change. We know that many of
28 our Member Organisations work on topics such as youth precarity, basic income
29 and minimum youth wage and during our SPM this was the main mentioned issue.
30 Therefore we want to include work and income into our Working Group, where we
31 will discuss these issues and work towards their re-politicization. We want a
32 Europe where everyone can thrive, no matter their starting point in life.
33 Stopping precarious situations for youth and promoting solutions towards this
34 will be a priority.

35 Migration, inclusion and diversity - Welcoming and Inclusive Europe

36 With a great summer camp on how to smash the borders we now have a much clearer
37 vision on a Young Green approach on migration. While we see and propose
38 solutions to this difficult and painful reality, we also observe a growing
39 tendency towards outsourcing this policy area outside of Europe and outside of
40 democratic control of the European and national Parliaments. With the
41 Mediterranean turning into a mass grave and the Member States doing shady
42 backroom deals with dictatorships in Europe's neighborhoods and beyond, the need
43 for change is growing as a democratic and a moral imperative. We will keep
44 pushing for a Europe where everyone is welcome, where freedom of movement is
45 seen as a fundamental right and where we overcome difficult situations through
46 empathy, solidarity and cooperation.

47 We want to take the topic a step further and discuss ways to overcome the
48 ongoing toxic migration debates in Europe. The rise of fascism doesn't only
49 affect refugees and migrants. Everywhere in Europe the fear of people that are
50 different is increasing. Beside an increase in Islamophobic and anti-Semitic
51 attacks, we are seeing more homophobic attacks as well. On top of that, the
52 fascists that are preaching hate to others, are also trying to stop the
53 liberation of women. Fascists, promoting (white) male superiority use the same
54 analogies against women and LGBTQIA+ as to migrants and refugees or Roma, or
55 against any imagined or constructed "other". Therefore the Gender and Inclusion
56 Working Group will be integrated in the Working Group working on this topic.

57 Fighting fascism and promoting humane migration policies will stay a top
58 priority by demonstrating that positive alternatives for an open and diverse
59 Europe exist. We will show that these are realistic by linking with and show-
60 casting everyday heroes in our societies who are already making this reality in
61 their daily practice - people blocking deportation flights, saving refugees at
62 sea or welcoming them in their homes, as well as gender and LGBTQIA+ activists
63 fighting for their rights every day. Lastly, we will show our solidarity with
64 young people outside of Europe by continuing to speak truth to power and by
65 demonstrating that the current EU asylum and migration policies are nothing
66 short of a politics of letting die.

67 Fair Sustainability - Sustainable Europe

68 The Paris agreement was signed, the energy transition has started, but much
69 still needs to be done. Not only the pace of the transition to a sustainable
70 Europe will be defining for the future of the planet. The way we decide who will
71 benefit and lose with this transition is political. Much has to be done, but
72 when we decide who gets the subsidies for renewable energies, we make important
73 choices. We can choose to give subsidies to small collectives of citizens, who
74 want to have their own local renewable projects and promote energy democracy. Or
75 we give them to the big corporations that started the problem. Other important
76 questions are, how to promote safety nets for people currently working in the
77 fossil fuel industry, especially in the coal regions, and making sure their
78 regions won't become ghost areas. Fighting for climate justice and thus a fair
79 transition will therefore be a priority.

80 **Activities**

81 Our activities will be empowering and will aim at decentralizing the knowledge

82 within the movement. Everyone that joins a workshop or seminar will then be able
83 and encouraged to train others to maximise the impact of our events.

84 *Commons Work Plan*

85 To increase the capacities of our Member Organisations to advocate for Commons,
86 we will organise three international activities - seminars on Social and Digital
87 Commons and a Summer Camp on Environmental Commons. The topical outcomes will be
88 documented, among others in a Dictionary of Commons that will, together with an
89 Ecospinter edition on the topic, be a valuable resource for our MOs working on
90 Commons. Further discussions and follow-up activities will be carried on by the
91 initiative for a Commons Working Group.

92 *Study session on Demasculinisation of Politics*

93 After a successful DOP I, we are happy to announce that this year, in
94 cooperation with our sister network CDN, we will again organize a study session
95 for non-males aiming to to strengthen capacities of young women and non-male
96 leaders to tackle

97 structural challenges and obstacles for gender-equal leadership. With a view to
98 the upcoming elections, there will be a particular focus on empowering more non-
99 males to actively engage in politics.

100 *AlterCOP*

101 COP 24, the coming climate summit in Katowice, Poland will be extremely
102 important for the future of our planet. We will see what the Paris agreement
103 will mean in practice and what the different countries are doing to do to stay
104 below 1.5 *C degrees warming. This COP will be crucial and it will be the last
105 COP before the European elections. Therefore we aim to mobilise together with
106 other European youth organisations working on sustainability to have a strong
107 youth voice towards the COP 24. We will collaborate with other youth
108 organisations to have a broad coalition and try to be present with as many Young
109 Greens as possible.

110 *Recruitment day*

111 We have, as requested by MO's, begun the process of planning a recruitment week
112 for late summer. Bolstering our numbers will benefit us greatly, not only in the
113 form of new ideas, but also for our volunteer force who help our representatives
114 get elected. We will have a session on recruitment at the GA, and all MO's will
115 be given the opportunity to share their best practices in due time, to make this
116 a success!

117 *Social Rights Work Plan*

118 In 2019, we intend to organise a series of events related to social rights. The
119 work plan will kick off with a festive conference on the status of social rights
120 and the different struggles around them, together with representatives of

121 various organisations working in this field. The Summer Camp will train
122 participants in organising hackathons locally in order to find creative
123 solutions to concrete problems. These hackathons will then take place around
124 Europe. The project will result in a handbook on what the status of social
125 rights is in Europe right now and on different creative types of activism and
126 advocacy that Young Greens and other organisations can use to fight for their
127 social rights.

128 *European Election Campaign*

129 We will put a lot of resources from the organisational structures and the Office
130 into the campaign. The campaign plan is outlined in detail in a separate
131 document.

132 **Partners**

133 EGP

134 We have a very positive relationship with EGP and hope to continue this. We will
135 stay the progressive voice in the back of their head, when deciding on the
136 priorities and narratives for the European election campaign and work together
137 with them towards making Green solutions heard across the continent. We want at
138 least one Committee Member elected next year to be a Young Green. We will
139 approach these elections holistically to make sure that the Committee as a whole
140 is committed to a strong youth movement within the Greens.

141 GGEP

142 FYEG will continue its positive cooperation with the Green Group. We hope we
143 will be able to collaborate for the COP. This collaboration will also take place
144 with individual MEPs before and after the European elections.

145 European Youth Forum

146 FYEG will actively participate in the European Youth Event and the YO!Fest.
147 Here, we will prioritise gender and climate change, two topics that are not as
148 self-evident amongst all Youth Forum members as for our members. Safeguarding an
149 open and diverse youth forum and bringing climate change and sustainability
150 consistently to the table will be of our priorities in our continuing
151 collaboration. FYEG will stay in close contact with the Board and office of the
152 Youth Forum, to monitor the talks with possible new members whose ideologies,
153 internal structures or aims contradict the aims of an inclusive, open and
154 rights-based pan-European youth organization. We aim to have a Board Member
155 nominated by FYEG in the YFJ Board 2019-2020.

156 Global Young Greens

157 Working together with the Global Young Greens, continues to be important for us
158 in the upcoming year. By having members of FYEG within the Steering committee,

159 different subcommittees and the upcoming working groups, we hope to be able to
160 continue supporting the development of the Global Green Movement.

161 **FYEG as...**

162 **A movement**

163 As always, FYEG will put as many resources as we can into supporting our Member
164 Organisations. We want to facilitate our MOs to become stronger, be it through
165 trainings, giving opportunities to activists to join bodies such as prep or
166 campaign teams and by giving individual support when needed. We will also follow
167 up on the adopted resolution at the 2017 autumn EGP council, by promoting it and
168 ensuring that parent parties give adequate space and resources to our MOs.

169 We realise that, due to the increase in capacities in the Office, FYEG now has
170 more calls than ever. That we are sometimes not able to find enough activists is
171 an issue that we will actively work on together with the MOs. Ensuring good
172 communication with MO representatives, spreading our calls more efficiently and
173 being clear about the benefits of activists participating in FYEG events and
174 bodies will be a priority for the coming year.

175 **A resource**

176 Strengthening our MOs is and will stay a priority for the years to come. FYEG
177 will invest time and effort into creating a platform where all FYEG's
178 educational, topical and capacity-building resources can be available - from
179 campaign-manuals to how-to-fundraise-tips. The platform will include a section
180 for MO's resources as well. In this manner we think that the organisational
181 learning will be facilitated the best.

182 **An inclusive organisation**

183 Our work on inclusion will continue. We will expand the scope and aim at being
184 even more inclusive. Our ambition is to connect with more organisations that
185 work on this matter on a European level, such as disability youth groups and
186 other emancipatory groups that are also members of the European Youth Forum .

187 **Working groups**

188 FYEG is determined to tackle the challenges that Europe is living everyday and
189 propose strong solutions for them. Social Europe, Welcoming and Inclusive Europe
190 and Sustainable Europe will be priority working groups. We will also have a a
191 Commons Working Group and a Food System and Animals Right Working Group for next
192 year where activists from our Member Organisations can discuss and debate
193 together with FYEG's Executive Committee and carry out educational projects as
194 well as political campaigns.

195 **Office**

196 This year, the Office will dedicate a significant amount of time and resources
197 on the campaign. To prevent overload of the office, we aim to find the funds for
198 a campaign manager to assist the Office and Campaign Team during the height of
199 the campaign.

200 Without our volunteers FYEG is nothing, so improving volunteer management will
201 stay a priority. Ensuring and supporting a well functioning EC, EEB, CT, FCC,
202 SPC and Working Groups is crucial and will be at the core of the work of the
203 office.

204 One of the key tasks of the Office will be to secure funds required to uphold
205 and develop FYEG's organisational structures also after the European elections.
206 This needs to be done in close collaboration with the EC and with Green
207 partners.