

E2 Activity Plan 2017-18

Proposer: FYEG
Resolution date: 05/24/2017
Agenda item: 5. Plans

Text

1 Introduction

2 In 2017 and 2018, FYEG will focus its activities on three strategic priorities;
3 fostering the political imagination of Young Greens through topical activities;
4 supporting Young Greens to grow and become more powerful through capacity-
5 building activities, and expanding the awareness of and support for FYEG's
6 vision for a better, fairer and more sustainable Europe among different segments
7 of society, in particular among youth

8 These priorities will be addressed from the perspective of preparing FYEG and
9 Young Greens across Europe for the European elections that are to take place in
10 2019. This will also clearly benefit FYEG's work outside the frame of these
11 elections, including the political work of FYEG's non-EU MOs.

12 Priorities

13 First, to profile Green solutions to pan-European problems as the credible
14 alternative. Subjects should be chosen that draw attention (electoral
15 narratives). We will address local, national and international challenges on
16 which the European project has meaningful impact, to bring the elections closer
17 to many people and make them less abstract. The following topics will have
18 priority:

19

20

21 1. Why is the EU important and how could it be improved? How do we, young
22 greens, build the progressive Europe that we are fighting for? We will
23 especially focus on Green strategies to advocate and have leverage at the
24 European level for progressive, Green and social policies. European
25 solidarity; fight against nationalism and austerity; reform of the
treaties and EU institutions, empowerment of young people in decision-
making processes.

26

27

2. Ecological sustainability and the need for cross-border climate policies.
The EU as a fighting force for climate justice in Europe and worldwide.

28
29
30

3. **Migration and refugee rights. The right to asylum for people fleeing wars. Removing obstacles to free movement. Inclusion of migrants and refugees in societies all over Europe.**

31
32

Second, to provide capacity-building to Young Green activists and politicians and to MOs.

33
34
35

1. **Young Green activists/politicians:**

1. **To have profiled young candidates for 2019 elections**
2. **To have strong non-male candidates represented**

36
37
38
39
40
41

2. **Green organizations (MOs):**

1. **To create and carry out impactful campaigns, in which involvement of MOs in all stages should have priority.**
2. **To understand EU electoral systems and the role of MEPs in EU policy and decision making - how the elections work (e.g. nomination of candidates, getting out the youth vote, coalitions)**

42
43
44

Third, to ensure visibility of Green agenda Europe-wide to broaden the outreach of FYEG and to broaden the outreach of MOs on a national level. The following aspects will get particular attention:

45
46
47

1. **To learn from Young Greens and other successful initiatives around Europe on how different groups of young people can be reached and engaged for Green causes;**

48
49

2. **To support the external communication of our Member Organisations in coordinating collaborative external outreach and campaigns**

50
51

3. To develop FYEG's external communication in ways that support a broader outreach;

52
53
54

4. To develop and strengthen networks of FYEG, especially towards civil-society organisations fighting alongside the young greens in topical struggles (anti-fascism, climate justice, feminism, refugees' rights);

55
56

5. To have fixed goals in the form of milestones and numbers and monitor progress.

57 Activities

58 In 2018, FYEG will celebrate its 30th anniversary. We will celebrate this
59 throughout the year by publishing stories about milestones and inspiring events
60 in FYEG's history. A special edition of the Ecosprinter will be published at the
61 GA 2018 devoted to FYEG's 30 years. The Spring Conference 2018 will be devoted
62 to issues related to FYEG's and Europe's past 30 years and next 30 years,
63 supporting the topics of the pan-European narrative that will be developed for
64 FYEG's election campaign. The GA and Spring Conference will be a big celebration
65 of our movement, with invited guests from different generations of FYEG as well
66 as inspirational speakers from the Greens and beyond.

67 Summer Camps will be devoted to migration (2017) and environmental justice
68 (2018), and will be a space for reflection, sharing and creation. Summer Camps
69 will be organised in a way that they foster networking and political creativity
70 among Young Greens and social movements, with enough space for informal
71 activities. The main aim will be to empower and motivate Young Greens to fight
72 for commons issues together.

73 A series of events dedicated to commons will be organised in 2018. The first one
74 will be about fighting for social commons in times of austerity. The second one
75 will be about environmental commons (Summer Camp 2018), and the third one about
76 digital commons and advocacy. All three events will have substantial capacity-
77 building elements, training Young Greens not only in thinking about commons, but
78 also in successfully fighting for the protection of our common goods.

79 Training on political communication will be offered to MOs, in particular with a

80 training devoted to the subject in September 2017 in Finland and the digital
81 commons and advocacy training in the fall of 2018. We will aim at high-quality
82 input from Green and other experts in political communication and will document
83 the lessons from these events so they are available for all Young Greens.

84 We will organise a series of debates devoted to all three priority topics. These
85 will, whenever possible, take place in a physical space but with maximum online
86 participation opportunities for the audience (live streaming, participation).
87 The first debate, on migration, will take place on Summer Camp 2017, on the
88 topic of European migration policies. Another one will take place in September
89 on why the EU is important and where the European project should be heading. A
90 third one will take place in October on climate justice and on what
91 environmental movements should be focusing on in the near future. After these we
92 will evaluate the three first debates and the concept itself, together with
93 people who took part in and attended the debates, and develop the concept on
94 that basis to best respond to the needs of the Member Organisations. The debates
95 will be organised by the EC with support of the Secretariat.

96 The EC and the Secretariat will do their utmost to ensure that different working
97 structures have enough resources to accomplish their work successfully. There
98 will be meetings of the Campaign Team, the Working Groups, the Strategic
99 Planning Committee, the Ecosprinter Editorial Board, the Financial Control
100 Committee and the Executive Committee. We aim at organising a Strategic Planning
101 Meeting for FYEG's MOs and other working structures in the end of 2017 or
102 beginning of 2018.

103 We will organise a one-year project with the aim of strengthening the
104 publications of Young Greens. It will consist of capacity-building activities
105 for Young Greens engaged in such publications, development of joint content of
106 the Ecosprinter and Young Green publications, and an even stronger online and
107 printed output of the Ecosprinter.

108 In order to support the efficient and functional running of our MOs, we will
109 organise a meeting of members of the Secretariats of Young Greens, with the aim
110 to exchange successful experiences.

111 FYEG will throughout 2017 and 2018 implement the guide to non-male participation
112 that resulted from the Demasculinisation of Politics training in March 2017.
113 There will be space devoted to empowering activities of non-male Young Greens on
114 FYEG's events and the topic will also be addressed politically in eg the
115 development of the 2019 campaign. There will be a follow-up event to the
116 training organised in 2017, under the format of a similar, small size event for
117 non-male activists from our member organisations, that will also fit in our
118 objective to empower young non-male for decision-making positions, in the run up
119 to the 2019 European elections.

120 Political work and external communication

121 FYEG will devote a significant amount of its resources in 2017 and 2018 into
122 designing a pan-European campaign to be carried out between GA 2018 and the
123 European elections in 2019. The campaign will not only aim at getting Young
124 Greens elected to the European Parliament from different parts of Europe, but it

125 will also galvanise and politicise youth around Green topics in order to get
126 young people engaged for a progressive Europe in the elections and beyond. MOs
127 and EC will have a central role in designing the campaign, with support of the
128 Secretariat. There will be an open call in the summer of 2017 for MOs to
129 nominate up to two nominees to a Campaign Team (CT) that will consist of seven
130 people (4 MO representatives, 2 EC members, 1 person from the Secretariat). MOs
131 will be encouraged to nominate people with experience in election or other
132 campaigns, and the team will be regionally and gender balanced. Each MO will be
133 invited to appoint a contact person to serve as a link between the MO and the
134 CT. The Campaign Team will have the task to produce drafts for a campaign
135 strategy and for a Young Green manifesto, using working methods that include MOs
136 in each stage of the process. These documents will be thoroughly discussed at
137 the MO meeting between GA 2017 and 2018 and formally adopted at GA 2018.

138 FYEG will direct its political outreach to a wider public in 2017 and 2018. This
139 will be done by using the political experience of the EC as well as the full
140 potential of the Secretariat in terms of eg audiovisual support and social media
141 optimisation. We will also get better at using traditional media channels, with
142 the aim of getting visibility in online and print media throughout 2017 and
143 2018.

144 Partners

145 FYEG will continue nurturing constructive and mutually supportive relations with
146 its Green partners.

147 Our mother party, the European Green Party, is a central partner for FYEG's
148 political work and we will keep a close relation. FYEG will advocate for strong
149 visibility of its political priorities and of youth in the European election
150 campaign of the EGP, including having at least one top candidate who will
151 represent FYEG's vision of Europe and be supported by FYEG. FYEG will also use
152 the platforms offered by the EGP, such as Councils, to advocate towards Green
153 parties to include young people on electable positions in the European
154 elections.

155 FYEG will work closely with the Green Group in the European Parliament, in
156 particular MEPs working on issues close to FYEG as well as advisors who can
157 support the capacity-building of Young Greens on specific topics during FYEG
158 activities. With regard to the EGP and the GGEP, we will support both adequately
159 in terms of sharing our vision of how Greens should reach out to young people
160 better around Europe.

161 FYEG will cooperate with Green foundations, such as the Green European
162 Foundations as well as national foundations like the Heinrich Böll Foundation,
163 to ensure that their activities and resources support FYEG's strategic
164 priorities and the development of the knowledge and skills of Young Greens.

165 FYEG will be actively involved in discussions and plans related to progressive
166 cooperation in Europe, both party-politically and with non-party actors. FYEG
167 will be represented in youth coordination of the Progressive Caucus in the
168 European Parliament. We will also identify specific issues that relate to young
169 people in Europe and that Party-Political Youth Organisations can cooperate

170 around for increased impact.

171 We will maintain positive relations with the European Youth Forum (YFJ) and
172 other youth organisations in Europe, in particular in terms of how to be
173 mutually supportive in getting young people engaged in the European elections.

174 FYEG will actively take part in mobilisations around social and/or ecological
175 issues in Europe and foster close relations with non-party actors. The aim of
176 this is two-fold; to expand the political imagination of Young Greens and
177 partners, and to establish FYEG as a channel for fighting for progressive causes
178 within political institutions.

179 **Human resources**

180 FYEG relies on the massive contribution of volunteers. FYEG will therefore
181 become more skilled in volunteer management, in order to make sure that
182 volunteers in FYEG have a solid learning curve from their very first steps. We
183 will also limit negative experiences of volunteering that can be the result of
184 work overload, stress, or confusion about what is expected of volunteers by
185 proactive support, in particular from the Secretariat.

186 FYEG's Secretariat will use its full potential in delivering what the MOs expect
187 from FYEG. We will have sound and functional general administration (financial,
188 legal), support to FYEG structures (GA, EC, WGs, SPC, EEB, FCC), project
189 management, external communication, and keeping close relations with partners
190 (in particular EGP, GGEP and YFJ). The Executive Committee will develop
191 guidelines for WGs.

192 Particular attention will be paid to making sure that FYEG has competent staff
193 and volunteers to carry out the pan-European campaign from GA 2018 forward.

Reason

The activity plan serves as a guideline for the organisation for the upcoming year.