

P2 Activity Plan 2023 - 2024

Proposer: FYEG

Agenda item: 7. Plans - To be Published 14 April

Plan text

1. Strengthening the FYEG Network and Membership Coordination

FYEG organises two network activities per mandate to facilitate political exchanges.

The **Young Green Forum** serves as a precursor to the annual General Assembly (GA) of FYEG, where representatives from Member Organisations (MOs), working groups, and other FYEG bodies convene online to exchange ideas and discuss organisational and political issues. It is an excellent opportunity for FYEG members to network, establish stronger connections, and provide feedback to enhance FYEG's activities. The Forum will be held online, tentatively by the end of January 2024, and will be mainly used as a space to unveil FYEG's 2024 Election Campaign to FYEG MOs and to receive their input, and to address statutory and political issues ahead of the General Assembly.

The **General Assembly** is the highest authority of FYEG, where MO delegates elect the organisation's leaders and approve new members. Moreover, it is the platform for FYEG's members to present and discuss political resolutions on various policy matters. This is the chance for the network to propose policies on current events. The 2024 General Assembly will be held in late summer, following the European elections. It will be followed by the annual public conference that brings together experts, representatives of the federation, young activists, and FYEG partners to discuss and debate a particular political topic.

FYEG Executive Committee will hold four live EC Meetings, tentatively in June 2023, September 2023, January 2024 and June 2024.

Membership Coordination

FYEG remains committed to fostering the growth and coordination of its MOs, which form the essence of our Federation. In pursuit of this goal, FYEG will

26 hold **regional meetings**.

27 Considering the geographical implications of the upcoming votes on membership at
28 the General Assembly, the next Executive Committee might consider reviewing the
29 regional zones that are currently: East, Balkans, South, Center-West and North.

30 The Executive Committee members responsible for these regions will oversee the
31 organisation of regional meetings, the frequency will be decided following the
32 recommendations from the last mandates and it will guarantee coherent
33 coordination and communication across all regions.

34 The Executive Committee aims to provide more attention and assistance to MOs
35 that have been less active than others. To facilitate this, there is a dedicated
36 budget for MO visits. Furthermore, MOs are encouraged to invite FYEG to
37 participate in at least one of their activities annually to foster a
38 constructive working relationship.

39 FYEG's strategy to enhance the involvement of its MOs from the East includes
40 ongoing **assistance and collaboration with the Cooperation and Development**
41 **Network (CDN)** and participating at the European Green Party (EGP) Balkan network
42 meetings. Moreover the second edition of the Young Greens Decentralised Training
43 will be focused on MOs coming from outside of the EU, specifically the Balkan
44 region.

45 FYEG intends to build upon its previous efforts in the South region, follow up
46 on the outcomes of the live South regional meeting, and further enhance the
47 South region's engagement in FYEG's political initiatives and long-term
48 planning.

49 Furthermore, FYEG will continue to **track the participation and representation of**
50 **its MOs** in its activities and structures.

51 Regarding the upcoming Study Visits, Estonian Young Greens MTÜ Noored Rohelised
52 will be in its second year of candidacy and if they wish to proceed with full
53 membership, a study visit will have to be planned latest by the end of 2024.

54 2. **Capacity Building and Educational Activities**

55 **MO trainings**

56 The second edition of the **Young Greens Decentralised Trainings (YGDT)** will bring
57 the same programme as the previous edition, focused on building a vision and
58 recruiting members, to more MOs of the network. The design of the programme will

59 take into account the input that the trainees of the 2022 edition provided
60 during the evaluation phase. This edition of YGDT will especially target MOs
61 from Eastern Europe and the Balkans in need of strategies to enhance their
62 structures and to recruit and engage new members through activities in line with
63 their vision and mission. The programme will take place during a period of 5
64 months and include individual consultations, a live training, and online
65 workshops.

66 In 2024, FYEG will not hold an edition of the Young Greens Decentralised
67 Trainings. The 3rd edition of this capacity-building project will be designed
68 after the EU elections and will be implemented during the first half of 2025.
69 After two iterations of the same programme, the content of the 3rd edition will
70 be developed taking into account the evaluations of the 2022 and 2023 editions,
71 as well as the context of the aftermath of the EU elections, an assessment of
72 the needs of the MOs, FYEG's capacities, and the position of the Green Family in
73 the post-election scenario. The call for MOs will open in autumn 2024.

74 **Focus on youth participation**

75 For 2023 and 2024, FYEG designed a 2-year-long project to support all young
76 people to have a say, influence decision-making and increase diversity in
77 democratic participation, with a focus on election periods everywhere in Europe.
78 For the first phase in 2023, through the "We need the Green YOU(th)!" Annual
79 Work Plan, FYEG will host two main international activities:

- 80 • In July, during the 5-day-long "**Writing the Green Stories**" Summer Camp in
81 Sweden, we will see 55 young people come together to explore the
82 importance of narrative-building, storytelling and political
83 communication. Participants will get trained on how to frame complex
84 issues through clear messages and impactful stories, and will be guided by
85 experts to compose the foundational document - the Green Activist Reader -
86 outlining the winning story to influence politics ahead of the 2024
87 elections and beyond as Young Green Activists.

- 88 • From September, the "**Online Influencelection Games**" will be a 4-month long
89 gamification experiment that will see 150 young people competing in a
90 healthy online environment to become the Young Influencelection leaders
91 for the European elections in 2024. A digital platform will gamify the
92 learning process, and turn it into a series of competitive games. By the
93 end of the four months, a small group of trainees will be promoted to
94 Young Influencelection Leaders and become the facilitators of the digital
95 platform to be run in 2024.

96 For the second phase in 2024, through the **“Your Future Starts Today”** Annual Work
97 Plan, FYEG will host three main international activities:

- 98 • In the beginning of the year, a 3-day kick-off event, **“The Green Rave”**,
99 would bring together 70 young people from FYEG MOs, progressive youth and
100 environmental movements, and young politicians to gather final ideas and
101 hone skills for the launch of the European election campaign. The activity
102 will be designed to help young community leaders refine the skills to
103 further raise the issue of the 2024 elections in their local contexts.
104 They will also have a chance to present their work to the wider public
105 during the open event (with approximately 210 external guests). During
106 this event, the Get Out the Vote Europe Tour will be officially launched.

- 107 • From the Green Rave until May, the **“Get Out the Vote Europe Tour”** will
108 involve approximately 160 young people directly through 4 decentralised
109 activities, and reach at least 1000 indirectly all over Europe through
110 smaller actions. The core of the activity will be 4 events organised in 4
111 regions of Europe. The unifying theme of the tour will be getting the
112 youth vote out, i.e. promoting participation of young people in the
113 European elections or increasing their interest in the EU, while promoting
114 the youth message and demands identified in the course of the 2023 Work
115 Plan. The locations will be selected to support our young candidates in
116 their campaigns.

- 117 • At the end of the year, a 5-day event **“Ready, Set, Go - The Green Future”**
118 will bring together 55 participants from all over Europe, from FYEG MOs
119 and other youth organisations. The activities will focus on exploring the
120 means of political and activist participation and the enjoyment and
121 successful use of rights and skills in community-building. Taking place
122 during COP29, the event will also include activities focused on exploring
123 ways of sustainable environmental activism, as well as participation in a
124 peaceful demonstration linked to the main events of COP29.

125 MO Grant Programmes

126 FYEG will fund decentralised activities implemented by selected MOs through a
127 grant programme both in 2023 and 2024. First in 2023, through the **“EU and you!”**
128 **Grant Program**, FYEG will support the implementation of 4 to 6 decentralised
129 projects designed to raise awareness on the impact of an EU programme or action
130 for the citizens at the local, regional or national level. The awarded MOs will
131 implement their projects between June and October. Then in 2024, through the
132 **“Get out the vote!”** programme, a selection of FYEG’s MOs will receive financial

133 support for the implementation of actions and events to promote participation in
134 the 2024 EU elections. These local actions will be implemented in April and May.

135 **Working Groups**

136 After the General Assembly, the **Beyond Growth Platform (BGP)** will organise a
137 session at the pre-conference activity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)
138 leading to the Beyond Growth Conference in order to promote our manifesto with
139 Generation Climate Europe to civil society partners and policymakers. The BGP
140 will attend said Conference to represent FYEG's views. After the resolution to
141 the Vienna EGP Congress, the BGP will then aim to draft an FYEG resolution for
142 the 2024 GA, and initiate steps towards developing a detailed working paper.
143

144 In terms of political aims, **the Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF)** will expand
145 FYEG's work on decoloniality, with a deeper focus on specific areas thereof.
146 RJTF will also seek to collaborate with other racial justice organisations, such
147 as the European Network Against Racism's Climate Justice Working Group.
148 Organisationally, RJTF plans to assess our Safer Spaces Policy and to work with
149 the Office, EC and MOs through a survey to update our Inclusion Plan with a
150 focus on racial justice and the inclusion of racialised, culturally- and ethnic-
151 minoritised youth. RJTF will also hold a live meeting in Brussels.

152 **Study Session "Green Perspectives on European Security"**

153 FYEG and CDN will be jointly organising a Study Session titled "Green
154 Perspectives on European Security" at the European Youth Centre in Budapest from
155 23 to 28 October 2023. The objective of this Study Session is to foster a shared
156 understanding of security in the context of new global challenges, and their
157 intersections, guided by the values of democracy, the rule of law, self-
158 determination, human rights, fundamental freedoms, and feminism.

159 To achieve this goal, the Study Session will provide an opportunity for learning
160 and fostering intercultural dialogue between youth from various European
161 countries, wherein they can discuss the concept of security and ways to ensure
162 it.

163 **European Youth Congress**

164 The Congress that was formerly known as the "Congress of Young Europeans" is
165 coming to Greece in 2023. This political event brings together young people from
166 various European countries to discuss and exchange ideas on current European
167 issues, such as democracy, human rights, migration, climate change, and social
168 justice. The Congress aims to foster a pan-European dialogue and promote a sense
169 of shared responsibility and solidarity among young Europeans. It is jointly
170

organised by Heinrich Böll Stiftung, Green European Foundation, and FYEG.

171 The upcoming 2023 edition of the Congress will take place in Thessaloniki,
172 Greece, from October 19th to the 22nd, and will focus on the right to
173 independent living. This event aims to provide a platform for young Europeans to
174 voice their opinions, share their experiences, and engage in constructive
175 discussions with policymakers, activists, and experts.

176 **3. Bringing forward the youth perspective**

177 **General Comms and Campaigns**

178 Our General Communications for 2023-2024 will focus on providing a voice to
179 young people from across Europe. To achieve this we will make clear and concise
180 political statements through social media on current events and ongoing issues.
181 We will work closely with our MOs, the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament and
182 the European Green Party to reach a broader audience.

183 The **Ecosprinter** will remain independently coordinated by the Ecosprinter
184 Editorial Board. The board will work to provide a space for young people across
185 Europe to write on a variety of issues.

186 **Lobbying, advocating and campaigning for the youth perspective through** 187 **collaborating with our partners and through participation in international** 188 **political events**

189 FYEG Co-Spokepersons will closely follow the work of the **European Green Party** by
190 attending its Committee Meetings. Moreover FYEG will continue to send delegates
191 to the EGP Congresses. EGP will organise an in-person Congress in Vienna in June
192 2023, an online congress in December 2023 and an extended in person congress in
193 January/February 2024, and finally a regular Congress in November/December 2024.
194 In the extended Congress of 2024, EGP will introduce the EU election campaign
195 and elect the Spitzenkandidaten. FYEG will attend these congresses with its
196 delegation and will also organise a youth event at the January/February extended
197 Congress. This youth event will be a moment to introduce FYEG's election
198 campaign as well.

199 FYEG will have a presence in the EGP Campaign Working Groups, namely the
200 Campaign Working Group and Manifesto Working Group. FYEG will be represented by
201 its EC members when political input is required or by the Secretary-General
202 and/or Communications and Campaign Manager when the meetings are at staff level.

203 FYEG will continue to **cooperate with the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament,**

204 in particular with young MEPs on initiatives that are also political priorities
205 for FYEG. The FYEG Secretary-General will continue to follow the Group meetings
206 when the Agenda is relevant to FYEG's priorities. Members of the FYEG Executive
207 Committee will also be present at the Group retreat which will take place in
208 Madrid in September 2023.

209 The FYEG Communications and Campaign Manager will take part in the Greens/EFA
210 Campaign Taskforce meetings whilst the FYEG Secretary-General and/or EC members
211 will join the political discussions that are related to the European Campaign.

212 FYEG maintains a strong connection with the **European Youth Forum** through the
213 efforts of an EC delegate. This delegate takes part in various events, policy
214 discussions, and endeavours to build relationships with the Forum's members.
215 FYEG will continue this partnership, specifically during the run up to the
216 elections to support the European Youth Forum's efforts to bring issues and
217 demands of young Europeans to the political debate.

218 The work carried out from our elected representative in the **Advisory Council on**
219 **Youth of the Council of Europe** is a key element for disseminating and lobbying
220 for our green ideas. FYEG EC Member Milan Zlatanović will continue his mandate
221 at the Advisory Council on Youth until the end of 2023. For the upcoming 2024-
222 2025 mandate, Sean Currie put forward his candidacy, representing FYEG. If
223 elected, FYEG will continue its work on climate policy to ensure that there will
224 be more funds for green-minded projects through the EYF. Moreover, FYEG will
225 keep monitoring the democracy and transparency of the processes within the
226 Council. Finally, FYEG is committed to ensure that the work of the Council of
227 Europe is beneficial and supportive to all youth organisations, including
228 smaller ones, to enhance their development and the development of the youth
229 movement and civil society as a whole.

230 **Lobbying, advocating and campaigning for the youth perspective through our**
231 **campaigns and disseminating our work and ideas to new and broader audiences**

232 In the 2023/2024 mandate, all of FYEG's campaign work will be focused on the
233 upcoming EU elections.

234 The goal of FYEG's EU24 campaign is to **spread our vision** for "a just, feminist,
235 diverse, democratic, sustainable Europe where people are happy and free";
236 **mobilise, empower, and engage young people** across Europe around our message of
237 hope and our belief in a Green Europe, and to **increase the visibility** and name
238 recognition of Young Greens.

239 The full details of the EU24 Campaign are set out in the Campaign Plan.

240 Our 2024 Campaign will focus on:

- 241 • Spreading the Young Green vision and increasing the visibility and name
242 recognition of Young Greens

- 243 • Active and involved Member Organisations

- 244 • Building a Green community

- 245 • Empowering young people through the Young Candidates Platform

246 4. Organisational Growth

247 FYEG's work on strengthening and improving its internal structures, processes
248 and governance is still vital in order to build on FYEG's successes and to
249 develop and maintain durable, efficient, and strategic foundations for our work.
250 In this perspective, FYEG will continue to work on its strategic planning and
251 Strategic Framework; on the well-being and retention of its EC and staff
252 members; and on internal processes and governance.

253 **Strategic Framework**

254 Last year, a Strategic Framework was created to monitor and evaluate the
255 Strategy and yearly Activity Plans. In the Strategic Framework, each strategic
256 objective listed in the Strategy is linked to relevant activities or tasks and
257 divided into Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). A baseline and yearly target is
258 set for each KPI and responsibilities for the implementation and monitoring of
259 all activities and tasks are decided.

260 During this mandate and following up on the implementation of the 2022-2025
261 Strategy, FYEG will update the targets for each KPI in line with the evaluation
262 from the 2022-2023 period. Each EC and staff member will again create an
263 individual plan in line with their roles, priorities and the task division
264 decided at the beginning of the mandate. These plans will ensure tasks are well
265 defined and reasonable plus they will allow easy monitoring of individual
266 performances and contributions to FYEG's work.

267 In addition, preparations for the development of the next Strategic Plan will
268 start in the second half of 2024. MOs will be consulted through a survey and

269 during statutory meetings to help set the new goals for FYEG's work. The new
270 Strategic Plan will be adopted at the 2025 General Assembly.

271 **Human resources, internal management, governance processes, and transfer of**
272 **knowledge**

273 FYEG's main operational roles are shared between the EC and Secretariat. Their
274 good coordination and efficient functioning are essential to the development and
275 implementation of the activities and work of the federation.

276 The FYEG Secretariat will experience a lot of changes and evolutions during this
277 mandate. First, following the increase in the FYEG Office capacities in the
278 beginning of 2023, with two additional temporary positions until the 2024 EU
279 elections, a new Secretary General will also take office in June 2023. A one-
280 month transition period is foreseen with the former Secretary-General to help
281 set up the new mandate as well as a two-day residential Office retreat that will
282 allow the office to plan the year ahead. Then, following the 2024 EU elections,
283 the FYEG Office is expected to downsize and experience a transition period again
284 with senior staff members moving on to other endeavours.

285 Through this intense period, FYEG will continue to ensure that the staff and EC
286 well-being and working conditions remain a priority and continue the upward
287 trend started over the past few years. This goes hand-in-hand with the efforts
288 started to streamline and make internal processes more efficient: FYEG will
289 continue its work to improve the internal delegation order between the EC and
290 Office, especially with the more detailed provisions to be adopted in the
291 Statutes; the EC task division will be updated and improved based on the last
292 mandate's evaluation and recommendation. These processes will also be evaluated
293 before the end of the mandate to ensure a good transfer of knowledge and
294 continued improvement. For all of this to be possible in the long run, FYEG will
295 also continue with its fundraising efforts, to ensure the financial
296 sustainability of the organisation.

297 FYEG will also continue to test and adopt relevant digital tools to facilitate
298 its work. During the last mandate, FYEG started using an accounting software, a
299 project management software and a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool.
300 The FYEG Secretariat will continue to improve the use of these different tools
301 as well as explore possible synergies with other areas of work and between
302 different softwares. The Secretariat will also further its experimenting with
303 working time accounting to better analyse and adjust staff workload and
304 capacities.