

P1 FYEG Strategy 2022 - 2025

Proposer: FYEG

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Plan text

1 FYEG Strategy

2 **2022 - 2025**

Introduction

4 FYEG has been growing steadily in terms of organisational capacity and political
5 impact since 2014 and the Green Wave of the EU elections in 2019 has rapidly
6 amplified the process. In 2020, the FYEG Executive Committee started a process
7 for organisational change aiming to ensure that FYEG will continue to develop
8 and grow in a coherent and sustainable way in order to be able to continuously
9 work for a stronger young green European movement.

10 The Executive Committee, Advisory Committee and Secretariat worked on this
11 organisational change process together with a consultant (the European Activism
12 Incubator). They assessed FYEG's internal structures and processes, evaluated
13 the organisation's main challenges and then selected three key priorities to
14 improve FYEG's capacities and impact. Two of these priorities were linked to
15 FYEG's strategic planning and aimed to (1) create a more focused and actionable
16 strategy and (2) implement processes and tools to ensure the Executive Committee
17 and Secretariat's work is more focused, efficient, manageable and in line with
18 FYEG's strategy and through better delegation systems.

19 This Strategic Plan is the result of the organisational change process. It is
20 based on a Member Organisations Survey and workshops gathering the Executive
21 Committee, Secretariat and Advisory Committee. It highlights FYEG's core vision
22 and mission, as well as the organisation's strategic focus and objectives for
23 the coming years, setting a clear mandate for future Executive Committees. The
24 Strategic Plan will be implemented through FYEG's Activity Plans and Financial
25 Plans and monitored via a Strategic Framework with Key Performance Indicators
26 (KPIs).

27 FYEG's main goal is a feminist, diverse, democratic, sustainable and social
28 Europe. In order to achieve our goal we use different channels, political arenas
29 and tools.

30 **Background**

31 FYEG is the European umbrella organisation for Young Green organisations from
32 all over the European continent, from Azerbaijan in the East to Ireland in the
33 West and from Cyprus in the South to Norway in the North. FYEG's member
34 organisations have various backgrounds: local ecological groups, student unions,
35 youth wings of Green political parties and Young Green civil society
36 organisations. They were created and are developing in different political and
37 institutional contexts. They also vary in size and impact, from small or newly
38 established organisations who focus on recruiting members to large and well
39 established organisations who have parent parties in government and focus on
40 putting forward the youth voice in the legislative agenda.

41 One of FYEG's main roles and challenges is to bring these very heterogeneous
42 member organisations together and support them in bringing forward a common
43 vision. In order to better understand the needs of our member organisations, we
44 launched a Member Organisation survey. The survey aimed to evaluate FYEG's
45 current work and set priorities for its future activities in line with the needs
46 of FYEG Member Organisations. 20 member organisations responded to a set of 22
47 questions across 7 topics.

48 The results of the survey showed the following key points:

- 49 • FYEG's main strength is seen as capacity building for its members and
50 young green organisations in general. Member organisations are most
51 interested in training related to the development of their organisation
52 (such as volunteer management and fundraising) but a lot of respondents
53 also report that their organisation lacks the capacity and time to attend
54 FYEG's training;

- 55 • FYEG's main added values are seen as pioneering new and radical ideas
56 through activities engaging young people and coordinating public campaigns
57 across Europe;

- 58 • In line with FYEG's analysis, member organisations identify the political
59 activation and recruitment of members from racialized communities as the
60 most relevant priority to improve the inclusion and representation of
61 racialized communities within our movement.

62 Along with FYEG's monitoring and analysis of members' engagement with FYEG
63 activities, the results of the survey were fundamental in understanding the
64 needs of the member organisations and incorporating them in FYEG's strategy.

65 **Vision, mission and strategic focus**

66 Vision

67 FYEG's core vision is a just, feminist, diverse, democratic, sustainable Europe
68 where people are happy and free. Run by young people, for young people, FYEG's
69 core mission is to empower young people to bring forward their perspectives in
70 order to realise this vision, in line with green values.

71 Strategic focus

72 In order to realise its vision and mission, FYEG strategic focus for 2022-2025
73 will be on:

- 74 • Strengthening the FYEG Network and Membership Coordination;
- 75 • Capacity building;
- 76 • Bringing forward the youth perspective;
- 77 • Organisational growth.

78 In addition, FYEG will make inclusion and diversity an overarching focus of its
79 strategy and activity plan, with the aim of building a more inclusive and
80 diverse network where racialised communities and other underrepresented groups
81 are better represented.

82 Practical implementation

83 To realise its mission, FYEG is led by its Executive Committee and run by its
84 Secretariat. The FYEG Executive Committee is elected by FYEG's member
85 organisations at the annual General Assembly. The FYEG Secretariat is based in
86 Brussels, Belgium and is managed by the Secretary General, who is elected at the
87 General Assembly. In realising its mission, FYEG is guided by its Political
88 Platform that is adopted by Member Organisations at the General Assembly and

89 lines out the organisation's political positions and values in detail.

90 Strategic objectives

91 Find below the strategic objectives for each strategic focus:

92
93

1. **Strengthening the FYEG Network and Membership Coordination**

94 The first strategic focus of FYEG is strengthening its network and membership
95 coordination. For more than 30 years, FYEG's Member Organisation have joined
96 forces at the European level, uniting their collective aspirations to learn from
97 each other, to debate, to campaign together and to make the green Europe we wish
98 to see become a reality. FYEG will continue to coordinate its network and member
99 organisations to best serve both the federation as a whole and individual member
100 organisations.

101 FYEG's long term goal is to maintain and develop a strong and well coordinated
102 federation where member organisations are actively engaged and where FYEG's work
103 complements the work of its member organisations.

104 Based on this goal, FYEG's priority will be to focus on its current members
105 rather than expanding and growing its membership. This means expansion will only
106 be pursued with organisations that are already connected to other Green family
107 actors such as EGP, GEF or CDN, in countries where FYEG is not yet represented
108 and when FYEG Executive Committee and Secretariat have the capacity to implement
109 a meaningful welcoming process for and with the incoming organisation.

110 To realise this goal, FYEG will focus on 6 strategic objectives in the coming
111 years:

112 1. Tailor FYEG member organisation coordination and communication to the
113 needs and demands of the member organisations;

114 2. Improve the engagement of FYEG's member organisations from the South,
115 especially to ensure they are more proportionally represented in FYEG's
116 political work and long term planning;

- 117 3. Improve the engagement of FYEG's member organisations from the East and
118 empower them to be more active in the federation. To this end, FYEG will
119 continue to support and cooperate with CDN, an instrumental and important
120 partner organisation that is committed to develop and implement Green
121 ideas in Eastern Europe;
- 122 4. Invest in its candidate member organisations to implement a meaningful
123 integration process;
- 124 5. Increase the attention and support towards struggling member
125 organisations;
- 126 6. Facilitate political exchanges at the federation level.

127

2. Capacity building

128 FYEG advocates for a systemic change that requires a transformation of society
129 as a whole. In order to achieve this, FYEG strategically focuses on capacity
130 building of young people across Europe and empowering changemakers through
131 training and non-formal education projects. As a European organisation, FYEG's
132 work is centred on the European level and reaches the regional and national
133 level through its member organisations who, in turn, reach and impact the
134 provincial and local level.

135 FYEG's long term goal in capacity building is twofold. On one hand, FYEG will
136 invest in the capacity building of its Member Organisations to be more
137 resilient, resourceful, sustainable, effective and efficient in delivering
138 change at local and national levels. On the other hand, FYEG will empower young
139 people to be skillful and impactful change-makers that are equipped and
140 confident in developing radical ideas.

141 Throughout its activities, FYEG will work to develop and foster critical and
142 analytical thinking as well as creativity and progressive ideas among young
143 people, through quality non-formal education, capacity building and
144 intercultural exchanges. FYEG will also encourage and promote inclusive and
145 active participation of young people in democratic processes, especially for
146 young people from racialised communities and other underrepresented groups.

147 To realise these goals, FYEG will focus on 4 strategic objectives in the coming
148 years:

- 149 1. Improve the capacities and resources of FYEG's member organisations and
150 develop their competences in empowering young people at the national
151 level;

- 152 2. Increase youth participation in electoral processes, specifically the
153 number of young greens running for political mandates at the national and
154 European level;

- 155 3. Create a space for young people to develop progressive ideas with relevant
156 and meaningful political output;

- 157 4. Increase the level of inclusion and diversity within the membership of
158 FYEG's member organisations and at FYEG's educational activities.

159

3. **Bringing forward the youth perspective**

160 FYEG fights for equality, inclusion, personal liberties and freedoms, social
161 welfare and survival and well-being of our planet. As written in FYEG's
162 political platform, FYEG does not see a single one of these political issues as
163 a lone priority but instead fights for all of them simultaneously.

164 In order to achieve its vision of a feminist, diverse, democratic, sustainable
165 and social Europe, FYEG uses different channels and tools. We work to be present
166 and heard at all stages and levels, be it institutions of formal politics or
167 grassroots level.

168 FYEG has two long term goals for bringing forward the young green perspective:
169 (1) Ensuring that young people can participate and influence democratic
170 processes and political institutions at the EU and European level, especially
171 for young people from racialised communities and other underrepresented groups;
172 and (2) ensuring the development, dissemination and adoption of new radical
173 progressive ideas and policies in line with FYEG's Political Platform,
174 especially in policy areas that predominantly affect youth.

175 With this goal in mind, FYEG will use its network and capacity building
176 activities to empower young people to bring forward new radical progressive
177 ideas and policies. FYEG will use its platform and media presence to amplify the
178 youth voices and demands, with a particular focus on marginalised young people.
179 When relevant for its work and objectives, FYEG will continue to collaborate
180 with other youth organisations or progressive organisations in order to achieve
181 greater impact and diversify its outreach.

182 FYEG will use its strategic partnerships with the European Green Party and the
183 Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament to ensure the youth perspective
184 influences all parts of EU and European decision-making processes. FYEG will aim
185 to continue its work as a member of the Advisory Council on Youth to the Council
186 of Europe, to make sure that the Council of Europe provides democratic and
187 transparent support to youth organisations and prioritises the relevant
188 political priorities of the Youth. FYEG will also continue to influence the UN's
189 climate policies through its COP delegation.

190 To realise these goals, FYEG will focus on 4 strategic objectives in the coming
191 years:

- 192 1. Disseminate FYEG's educational activities and political statements to a
193 broader audience, utilising communication and media tools;

- 194 2. Improve the interest and engagement of FYEG's member organisations and
195 young people in European and EU politics through joint campaigns and
196 communications;

- 197 3. Improve FYEG's political impact at the European level by focusing on
198 existing partnerships with EGP and the Greens/EFA Group in the European
199 Parliament and, when relevant, by fostering networking with the European
200 Youth Forum and other youth organisations;

- 201 4. Increase youth participation, both in terms of voter turnout and in terms
202 of young Greens running for the European Parliament in the EU elections in
203 2024 via an impactful elections campaign.

204

4. Organisational growth

205 Finally, in order to better implement its work and objectives, FYEG's last but
206 essential strategic focus is organisational growth. Since the organisational
207 change process started in 2020, FYEG has made a lot of progress, but there are
208 still a lot of areas where improvement is needed in order for the organisation
209 to be able to more effectively execute its mission. To this end, FYEG will
210 continue to work on its internal structures and processes.

211 FYEG's long term goals in terms of organisational growth are (1) to have a
212 network and internal structures that are strong, resilient, sustainable and
213 efficient in order to better achieve their goals and objectives and (2) to
214 ensure that FYEG grows in a meaningful, strategic and sustainable way that
215 benefits FYEG as an organisation and as a network.

216 In the medium term, FYEG will aim at improving long term planning and continuity
217 within FYEG's structures by developing a 5 years Strategic Plan to be adopted at
218 the 2025 General Assembly, proposing the adoption of a 3 years mandate for the
219 Secretary General and evaluating the possibility of extending the length of the
220 mandate for the Executive Committee in the future.

221 To realise these goals, FYEG will focus on 3 strategic objectives in the coming
222 years:

- 223 1. Improve FYEG's internal management, governance processes and transfer of
224 knowledge;
- 225 2. Improve the working conditions and retention of FYEG's staff and Executive
226 Committee;
- 227 3. Improve FYEG's Strategic Framework with the aim to facilitate monitoring
228 and evaluation of the implementation of the Strategic Plan and to ensure
229 adequate use of resources and capacities when creating the Activity Plans.