

EEB4 Palina Burko

Agenda item: 5. Ecosprinter Editorial Board Candidates

Palina Burko

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July 4, 2024

General Assembly

The Federation of Young European Greens

Dear General Assembly,

With this letter, I am expressing my interest in becoming a member of the Ecosprinter Editorial Board. Since 2019, I have been a member of the Belarusian Young Greens, an associate member organization of the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG). That same year, I was introduced to FYEG and I am grateful that our paths have continued to align.

Unfortunately, the events of 2020, when elections in Belarus were once again falsified and activists were persecuted, forced me to leave my homeland. The onset of Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine has further delayed any hopes of a swift return. My heart aches, as do the hearts of many in similar situations: approximately 500,000 Belarusians were forced to leave the country, at least 1,415 people (as of July 4, 2024) are imprisoned for their fight against dictatorship, and in Ukraine, people die daily because of Russian aggression, aided by the Lukashenka regime.

I want to restore hope that this situation will change. I wish to draw the attention of many Europeans to the hardships faced by people in our region. I believe I can achieve this through a medium that is natural for me — writing. This is why I am applying for this position.

Beyond the experience listed in my resume, I have extensive experience working with texts. I have written publications for the Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe, translated content for top Belarusian YouTube channels (such as *życio-malina* with 100,000 subscribers), and worked as an audio transcriptionist. In February 2024, I was selected to participate in a literary residency at Dom Kultury Śródmieście in Warsaw. Currently, I work for two independent Belarusian media organizations, where I write grant applications and reports — skills I am ready to bring to the Ecosprinter Editorial Board.

Additionally, I have a significant social capital network consisting of various Belarusian journalists, and I am well-acquainted with many journalists and authors from Ukraine and the region as a whole. I am prepared to develop the magazine and contribute my Belarusian and Eastern European perspectives, which I believe are currently underrepresented within the Federation of Young European Greens. This representation is crucial not only for me but for all people from Eastern Europe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Palina Burko
04 July 2024

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Profile

Results-driven professional with a proven track record in **project management, grant application and reporting**, as well as **writing and translating**. Skilled in team coordination and dedicated to driving organizational and project growth.

Professional Experience

2024/01 – present

Project Coordinator

ePramova | DigitalMediaHub

- Prepared and submitted reports for prestigious funds and organizations, including **Chemonics**, the **National Democratic Institute (NDI)**, and the **German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF)**.
- Secured grants by writing compelling applications for **IREX**, the **National Endowment for Democracy (NED)**, and other notable organizations.
- Translated content between English and Belarusian for leading Belarusian YouTube channels, such as **жыццё-malina** (100,000 followers), **OBYCHNOJE UTRO** (35,000 followers), and **ZAHLANIE SONCA** (10,200 followers).

2022/07 – 2024/02

Green Phone Project Manager

NGO Ecohome 📍

- Implemented a strategic plan aligning with Green Phone's mission, **improving efficiency by 15%**. Executed a PR plan, **boosting recognition by 30%**.
- **Optimized the efficiency of the project team**, comprising an operator, a legal expert, environmental documentation specialists, and journalists.
- Secured extra funding by successfully applying for grants from organizations like **Goethe-Institut**, **Chemonics**, and others. Wrote detailed reports highlighting the success of Green Phone activities, ensuring continued financial support.
- Successfully established strategic partnerships with other initiatives, NGOs, and activists, including **Petitions.by**, **Robim Good**, **Miensk Urban Platform**, **Nation of Leaders**, and others. Fostered collaboration with prominent Belarusian independent media outlets, such as **Belsat**, **Euroradio**, **PALATNO.media**, and others.
- Founded Ecohome Volunteer Community and organized **10+ volunteer events in 2023**. Created a Telegram chat (@zialonychats). Collaboratively launched and managed **Green Phone's TikTok channel @mikrazielanina**, achieving **4500 followers and 71.8K likes within 9 months**.
- Spearheaded initiatives with experts to analyze the environmental impact of **30+ different factories** in Belarus.

2022/03 – 2022/07

Transcriber

International Committee for Investigation of Torture in Belarus (ICIT) 📍

- Accurately and sensitively transcribed approximately **10 audio interviews** of torture victims, significantly contributing to the documentation of vital information for legal and advocacy purposes.

2021/01 – 2021/07

Public Relations Specialist (Intern)

Minsk, Belarus

Republican Theater of Belarusian Drama 📍

Learned Skills:

- **Public Relations:** created and carried out PR strategies to promote plays.
- **Campaign Management:** led a postcard campaign for plays, working with a designer to make eye-catching visuals.
- **Recruitment:** finding and managing PR team members.

2020/03 – 2021/04

Executive Committee Member

Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe (CDN) 

- Designed and executed non-formal education projects (**International Seminar “Digitising the Youth Ar(c)tivism”, Work plan: Art for the Young, the Queer, the Feminists of Eastern Europe, RUMB (Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus) Regional Meeting 2021**, etc.).
- Successfully applied for additional funding (**Erasmus+**, other grant opportunities). Crafted detailed reports for the grants.
- Planned and executed **international events** (online/offline) on green politics, feminism, and mental health.

Education

2020/09 – 2021/07

Master of Arts

Minsk, Belarus

Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts

Studied academic disciplines:

- art theory and methodology of art studies;
- information technologies in art studies;
- Belarusian art and art studies;
- media technologies in art and modern art practices;
- pedagogy and psychology of higher education.

Thesis: Ecological activism in the photographic art of the second half of the XX — beginning of the XXI cc.

2016/09 – 2020/06

Bachelor of Management of International Cultural Relations

Minsk, Belarus

Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts

Studied academic disciplines:

- culture studies (history of culture, history of arts);
- cultural relations (intercultural management, international communication);
- economic disciplines (economics, management, marketing, accounting).

Thesis: International educational programs as an instrument for developing cultural relations.

Publications

2022/12

Shades of the Baltic Sea: stories of coastal Latvia

Green European Foundation

2019/12

Inspiring examples of activism

Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe

Languages

Belarusian



Russian



English



Polish



Latvian

