

P1 Activity Plan 2024- 2025

Proposer: FYEG EC
Agenda item: 9. Plans

Plan text

The 2024-2025 Activity Plan for this GA will present FYEG's work from August 2024 until June 2025. You will find the overview of all of FYEG's activities planned for this period below. The activities are divided into the 4th overarching objectives of the FYEG 2022-25 Strategy.

1. Strengthening the FYEG Network and Membership Coordination

FYEG will organise the already traditional two network activities during this mandate to facilitate political exchanges.

The **Young Green Forum**, which will serve 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 2025, and will be mainly used as a space to present the financial report of the fiscal year 2024, address statutory issues ahead of the GA, and facilitate political exchanges among the Member Organisations mid-mandate.

The **General Assembly**, our highest decision-making body of FYEG, where MO delegates will approve the main political lines of FYEG for the next mandate. In this event, the delegates will also elect the organisation's leaders and approve new potential members. The 2025 General Assembly will be held in late spring. 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 three live EC Meetings, tentatively in September 2024, January 2025, and April 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 hold **regional meetings** and put in place other spaces for feedback, coordination and update, such as 1-on-1 meetings.

As mentioned in the previous Activity Plan, the outgoing EC decided to divide the former region Center-West into Center and West. This division will remain unless deemed otherwise by the newly elected EC. The Executive Committee members responsible for these regions will oversee the organisation of regional meetings, the frequency will be decided following the recommendations from the last mandates and the objectives established in the framework of the current Strategy, and will foster coordination and communication across all regions.

The Executive Committee aims to provide more attention and assistance to strategic and priority MOs. These MOs are established at the beginning of the mandate following political criteria. Dedicated budget for MO visits is allocated for the EC to visit these MOs (see financial plan and its attached budget). MOs are encouraged to invite the FYEG EC to visit their activities.

The Membership Coordination will start to converge with the development of FYEG's digital strategy and the set up of our online space hosted in the Green Base (Discord). With that aim, the EC and the Office will steer the participation of the members of our network in this digital platform, with the aim to foster more independent and bottom-up relations between the FYEGers and their MOs.

FYEG's strategy to enhance the involvement of its MOs from the East includes ongoing **assistance and collaboration with the Cooperation and Development Network (CDN)**.

Furthermore, FYEG will continue to **track the participation and representation of its MOs** in its activities and structures, with special care for the MOs in Southern and Eastern Europe and in the Balkans.

Estonian Young Greens MTÜ Noored Rohelised will be in its third year of candidacy and should move to full membership in the next mandate, unless they wish to revoke their membership, a Study visit should be organised before spring 2025. Romanian Young Greens Tinerii Verzi will be in their second year; the EC is suggesting to exclude them from the network. Should the MOs not support the recommendation of exclusion and wish to move to full membership, a Study visit should be organised.

2. Capacity Building and Educational Activities

M0 trainings

After a hiatus of one year in 2024, FYEG is bringing back the Young Greens Decentralised Trainings (YGDT). In this edition, and with the aim to work towards a greater incorporation of this programme into FYEG's activities and calendar, a number of novelties will be introduced. The programme will take place during a period of 6 months, will focus on building the recruitment and digital capacities of the Member Organisations, and will include a training on Digital Organising by the European Centre for Digital Action. The trainees will also visit Brussels and the European Parliament during the live meeting, and the programme includes as a part of its practical exercises applying for a FYEG grant in order to organise a strategic meeting of the national board of the M0.

The call will open in late autumn 2024. The selected participants will commit to follow the steps of this project (online training and live meeting in Brussels) and implement the decentralised meeting of the board through the financial support offered by FYEG (therefore acquiring hands-on experience on grant application and reporting).

Educational activities: Focus on social justice

The 2-year long project that FYEG implemented to prepare and implement the EU elections campaign comes to an end in autumn 2024:

- The 5-day event "**Ready, Set, Go - The Green Future**" will bring together around 40 participants from all over Europe, from FYEG M0s and other youth organisations. The activities will focus on exploring the means of political and activist participation, now beyond the participation in elections. The event will take place in Baku (Azerbaijan), in parallel to COP29; the event will therefore include activities focused on exploring ways of sustainable environmental activism, as well as participation in a peaceful demonstration and actions linked to the main events of COP29. The EC and Office have put special care into considering the safety of the participants, as well as our local young greens on the ground, to ensure all participants are safe and that our colleagues in Azerbaijan are not in danger after the implementation of the activity. Upon the announcement of Azerbaijan as the host country, FYEG and CDN have been working together for the organisation of this event.

In 2025, the participants to FYEG's educational activities will share their understanding of social justice and the dimensions of its evolution through the

“One for all, all for one” Annual Work Plan. FYEG will host three main international activities:

- At the beginning of the year, a 3-day event, **“European Lab: Social justice, here and now”**, will bring together around 50 young people from FYEG MOs, environmental and progressive youth movements, and young politicians to explore the existing social justice definitions and critically assess whether they are sufficient. In this event, participants will develop a young green understanding of social justice that will guide the work during the remaining two phases of the AWP.

The Annual Work Plan 2025 will expand during the mandate 2025-2026 with two more activities:

- A 6-day summer camp, **“Policies of today, and of tomorrow”**, will focus on policies that function in the legal and political sphere of contemporary Europe, both on the European and national/regional levels. This event will gather approximately 40 young people, be it participants of the previous event or new ones. The participants will be informed what policies are, how to evaluate them, and will engage in activities that will allow them to explore in detail concrete regulatory proposals related, among others, to access to rights, environmental protection, animal rights and migration. They will also create their own policy assessment projects, to put their newly-gained skills into practice, and power FYEG’s social justice informational campaign.
- A 4-month long online learning academy on social justice, **“Young Green Academy: Social justice in theory and practice”**, will take place in the FYEG digital space, developed during the WP23 and WP24 on Discord. The activity will begin with two interactive workshops led by experts who will support the participants in discovering the realm of policies around the topics of:
 - Equality and youth representation;
 - Environmental Justice and the New Green Deal;
 - Food justice and plant-based revolution;
 - Fair and just security.

MO Grant Programmes

After two years of great successes in the implementation of the subgranting schemes, in 2025, FYEG will fund decentralised activities through the **“Empowering the EU” Grant Programme**. FYEG will support the implementation of up to 10 decentralised projects designed to protect and promote rights and EU values, with a particular emphasis on addressing issues of racial justice and fostering the independent living and empowerment of European youth. The awarded MOs will implement their projects between June to October.

In this occasion, we bring two different topics for the interested applicants to choose from two topics:

- 1. Strengthen the MO’s capacity to protect and promote rights and EU values.

By applying to this grant topic, the MO will receive funds to organise and implement an in-person training / strategic meeting of its structures (board, secretariat, etc.) with the aim to develop a plan to strengthen the organisation and its capacities to promote EU values.

The participants to the Young Greens Decentralised Training must apply for this MO grant, and include in the programme of this strategic meeting a space to share with their peers the learnings of the programme. Other MOs are also eligible (selection is subjected to availability of funds and quality of the applications).

- 2. Increase citizens awareness on EU rights and values

The MOs applying to receive funds for this topic will have to design an online and/or offline campaign (printed material, campaign events, social media posts...) and/or dissemination activity (conferences, educational event, creation and publication of media...) on relevant issues connected to European rights and values.

The call for decentralised events will be open for two months, after its launch around february. An info session will be organised for all interested MOs. Especially the second type of action will be specially considerate and positively evaluated by including emphasis on topics related to racial justice and/or youth independent living, empowerment and participation in decision-making processes.

The actions should be implemented from June to October. The call for actions will provide more in-depth information.

Working Groups

After several years of developing and overseeing working groups, the Executive Committee (EC) has evaluated the process and decided to restructure and enhance their flow. Moving forward, working groups will transition to FYEG's digital space (the Green Base hosted on Discord) to streamline their creation and operation. An EC representative will be assigned to each group to ensure their efforts align with and strengthen FYEG's structures and plans.

The two currently existing Working Groups, the Beyond Growth Platform (BGP) and the Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) will therefore fully transition to the Green Base. This move aims to make both groups more accessible to all the young greens members of the digital community, fostering greater collaboration and engagement and promotion of their initiatives, opportunities and work.

The RJTF will continue to serve as a safe space for young greens of racialised and ethnicised communities to organise, with the support of the Office and the EC, the activities and lead the projects of their preference in the field of antiracism. To ensure the principles of racial justice are integrated into FYEG's formal structures, and with the conviction that antiracism and inclusivity in FYEG is not a task that should be on the shoulders of racialised and ethnicised young greens only, an Anti-Racism group will be established.

The EC, with the support of the Office, will monitor potential proposals for new Working Groups as a result of exchanges and discussions among the members of the Green Base. The EC will also empower the young greens to take part in ad-hoc efforts, creating limited-duration groups with specific objectives, similar to the great experiences of the teams created in this past mandate linked to the EU elections campaign 2024.

3. Bringing forward the Young Greens perspective

General communications and campaigns; FYEG channels and Ecosprinter

FYEG General Communications bring European and international politics closer to our audiences. We aim to deliver clear, impactful political messages through social media on current events and critical issues, with special attention to the priorities of the MOs. To achieve this ,we will communicate on our political statements and advocacy on current topics using explainer videos or slides to raise awareness, understanding and engagement with EU news and topics.

Collaboration with our MOs, the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament, and the European Green Party will help us expand our reach. We will also continue to collaborate with other like-minded Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and youth-led organisations to create joint actions and/or statements.

The **Ecosprinter** will continue to be independently coordinated by the Ecosprinter Editorial Board, providing a platform for young Europeans to express their views on various topics, and with the support and ad-hoc steering of one of the members of the EC.

Lobbying and advocacy; influencing and collaborating with partners and relevant stakeholders

The joint efforts of the FYEG Executive Committee (EC) and the FYEG representative in the European Green Party (EGP) Committee will be pivotal in 2024. We will continue to work closely with the EGP to design youth-oriented events and include young members of EGP's member parties in these events through engaging formats. The FYEG EC will actively participate in the EGP Congress in December 2024, ensuring that the youth perspective is represented. We aim to replicate the success of the 2023 Lyon Congress by increasing the presence of FYEG members through strategic collaboration and influencing the EGP's guest list for the event.

We will formalise a bilateral agreement between FYEG and the Greens/EFA Group, including both financial and political dimensions. This agreement will ensure FYEG's involvement in youth-related issues within the CULT Committee and other relevant matters in the European Parliament and the Group's campaigns. Our participation will extend to the Greens/EFA's strategic group meetings, including regular attendance at weekly communications meetings and ad-hoc presence at other critical group meetings. FYEG will also ensure representation at any Greens/EFA retreats that may occur.

We will continue to support our sister organisation in Eastern Europe (CDN). We will continue to work closely for the creation of joint campaigns and statements like the "Divest from Russia" or the position on the situation in Nagorno-karabakh. In 2024, the 3rd activity of the 2024 AWP is also organised in collaboration with CDN. Based on the great experience of having the chance to count with the leadership of CDN in the latest EGP Congress, we will continue to advocate for such opportunities of collaboration.

FYEG will maintain its role in the Advisory Council of the Council of Europe, building on the efforts of previous FYEG members to prioritise climate action and social policies in the Council of Europe's recommendations to its member states.

FYEG will actively participate in the European Youth Forum (YFJ) spaces, including coordination meetings among Political Party Youth Organizations. Our representation in these forums will help amplify the youth perspective on various issues and foster stronger collaboration with other youth organisations.

FYEG set up a delegation to attend the COP29 in November in Baku (Azerbaijan). Similarly to previous occasions, a group of young activists will be selected to access the UNFCCC with FYEG's observer NGO badges. FYEG COP delegates will work with our partners in the Green Family, coordinate with youth-led organisations on the ground, and meet with the participants of the educational event organised in parallel to COP.

Disseminating FYEG's work and ideas through digital campaigning and the promotion of outputs

In 2024, FYEG will further develop and implement the digital strategy initiated in 2023, which includes digital campaigning and a CRM system. This strategy aims to expand our mailing list and volunteer base, thereby nurturing our Member Organizations. We will focus on creating specific, engaging opportunities and mobilising activities for our membership base to foster a stronger sense of community among FYEGers.

FYEG's mailing strategy, supported by the European Centre for Digital Action (ECDA), will explore new possibilities for digital engagement while also prioritising fundraising efforts. This approach will ensure that our digital campaigns are not only effective in disseminating our work and ideas but also in securing the necessary resources to sustain our initiatives.

4. Organisational Growth

Strategic Framework

As the current Strategy (2022-25) approaches its end, FYEG will continue the processes for its membership base, including Member Organizations (MOs) and volunteers, to contribute to the development of the new Strategy (2025-30) that started in Spring 2024. The new strategy will be approved at the General Assembly in 2025.

Member Organizations will participate in a MO Survey, designed with the support of external consultants, to gather diverse insights and feedback. Additionally, a reduced group of FYEG members, advised by external experts, will engage in Focus Group Discussions to delve deeper into specific areas of interest.

The EC, following the guidelines and insights provided by the consultants, will lead the creation of the new Strategy. The EC will collaborate closely with the Office to establish a robust Strategic Framework that aligns with the needs of the FYEG community, ensuring a cohesive plan for 2025-2030.

FYEG will develop a framework to measure the **Inclusion Plan 2024-2027** that complements the Strategic Plan. Further measures included in the Inclusion Plan will be detailed in the Activity Report or any other required document or channel for monitoring and accountability.

Human Resources, internal management and transfer of knowledge

To ensure seamless transitions and efficient collaboration, FYEG will prioritise structured handovers between EC members and office staff. Allocating dedicated time for these handovers will facilitate knowledge transfer and continuity in the organisation's work.

Team-building activities will be an essential part of the process, aimed at fostering a cohesive and collaborative working environment within both the EC and the Secretariat. These activities will help build strong interpersonal relationships, enhance communication, and ensure that all team members are aligned with FYEG's goals and values.

Following the recommendation of the EC, FYEG will explore the possibility of hiring the co-spokes, allocating time and resources to thoroughly investigate this option and potential organisational changes that should be taken to implement this measure.

Additionally, FYEG will continue to focus on improving internal processes and enhancing the efficiency of its operations. This includes the ongoing evaluation of the task division within the EC, based on feedback from previous mandates, as well as a comprehensive and updated delegation order, that is in line with our standards of efficiency, transparency and professionalism. By maintaining a focus on well-being and working conditions, flexibility and understanding, FYEG will support its members and staff in achieving a healthy work-life balance.

In 2023, FYEG created two new positions, the Campaign and Events Officer and the Community Manager. Their tasks and responsibilities were linked to the campaign, and therefore the former has already finished their contract and the latter will be leaving the office soon. The EC decided to create a junior part-time position, the Community Officer, that will be responsible for the continuation of the development of the digital community and the engagement of the volunteers after the major efforts invested in this structure in the past months. One month of handover is planned between the Community Manager and the Community Officer.

Diversification of funds and preparedness

Following significant growth in financial capacity due to the success of the

2019 EU elections, which also enhanced the office's grant application capabilities and contributed to an increased FYEG budget, FYEG is now capable of designing, planning, and implementing more events than ever before. In light of reduced resources from the Green Family members, our focus will be on two key areas:

- **Maintaining Core Grants:** We will prioritize securing our primary current grants, including the European Youth Foundation's Annual Work Plan and the Commission's CERV Programme. For the latter, we plan to apply for the Framework Agreement (2026-2030) in Spring 2025, aiming to ensure a steady flow of funds.
- **Diversifying Funding Sources:** We will intensify our efforts to diversify our funding base by exploring new funding opportunities, such as Erasmus+, with special focus on investing these funds into MO training programs, ensuring the long-term sustainability of these activities.

In line with the development of the Digital Strategy, FYEG will further explore the possibilities of fundraising through targeting small donors.