

CS2 Anja Presnukhina

Agenda item: 1. Candidates for Co-Spokesperson

## Introduction

Hello dear FYEG!

My name is Anja, I'm a 22-year-old local politician and student activist from Finnish Young Greens. I am running for the Co-Spokesperson to make the best pan-European political organisation even broader, braver and stronger!

Europe is in flames of hatred, turning away from climate goals and closing its borders, allowing pushbacks and giving money to authoritarian regimes. Let's choose differently. Let's continue fighting for joy!

I prepared the documents below with a lot of love. I hope you will feel it while reading them!

See you at the GA!

## Supporters

Tilde Isaksson (Grön Ungdom); Salih Tuna (Genç Yeşiller); Kristiana Bruce (Protests); Nijat Guliyev (MIL Network); Anna Winkelmann Larios (Joves Ecosocialistes); Vilma Jaatinen (Vihreät Nuoret); Filip Janković (Zelena omladina Srbije - Green Youth of Serbia); Tommaso Gorini (Giovani Europeisti Verdi); Iason Paschalidis-Gerostergiou (Νέοι Πρόσβινοι); Ana Apakidze (Young greens of Georgia); Mariia Patrul (Green youth of Ukraine); Nora Axberg (Grön Ungdom); Josefina Kubinova (Mladi zeleni); Myriana Christou (Young Cyprus Greens)



Member Organisation:  
Vihreät nuoret - Finland

# MOTIVATION LETTER

ANJA PRESNUKHINA

Dear colleagues!

My name is Anja Presnukhina, I'm a 22-year-old international political organiser and activist from Kirkkonummi, Finland. I am proudly putting my candidacy to become the next Co-Spokesperson of FYEG.

My story with FYEG started at a Finnish Young Greens local event in Hämeenlinna. It was 2019, the European election campaign time. There were a lot of great speakers, but the two who struck me the most were FYEG's then-chairpersons, Katri Ylinen and Zuzana Pavelková. I remember hearing them speaking about the EU's racist and deadly fortress policies, the importance of combating the climate crisis, and above all, the significance of European integration in addressing these challenges. I was 17 then, full of enthusiasm and questions about politics.

Since then, I have interned with the Green Group and FYEG volunteered hundreds of hours in various event and project working groups and served on the executive committee this past year, where my responsibilities included overseeing our Southern European member organizations, starting the process of developing up our strategy for 2025-2030 and assisting the Project Manager with the working on plan for the upcoming year.

Now, with my enthusiasm solidified into a burning passion and an ever-growing list of ideas on how to make our federation stronger, I am willing to give all my resources to the task of being in the steering position of FYEG.

The role of the Co-Spokesperson is a tight mix of interpersonal skills with a clear political vision and the ability to work under big pressure. Co-Spokespeople of FYEG are at the forefront of the organisational and need to be ready to hold themselves accountable. After working in the situations listed below and in my CV, I am certain that this is a role I am ready to take.

As the former Chairperson of the University of Helsinki Greens, I had the privilege of being part of leading the longest university sit-in in Finland's history. This student-led movement sparked a wave of sit-ins across the country, rallying against education cuts and bringing attention to marginalized voices, including the precariat, immigrants, and racialized communities. It was a powerful testament to the impact of collective action, and I do want to bring that to my work in FYEG too.

Professionally, I have worked with both FYEG and the Finnish Young Greens offices, giving me a comprehensive understanding of these organizations. At the moment I work part-time for the educational centre of the Finnish Green Party and sell vintage Moroccan carpets every Saturday. I know the value of a working hour and I am ready to put many of them to the demanding work of the Co-spokes.

As the upcoming mandate of the EC will be short, it will be extremely important to start the work right away. One of the first things that I envision doing as a facilitator of the work of the EC is to build a group work environment based on trust and common goals. We really don't have any time to miss.

# A MOVEMENT THAT KEEPS FIGHTING FOR JOY

## MY VISION FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR IN FYEG

Our federation has grown and developed immensely in the past couple of years, the best examples being the large and diverse volunteer base, our strong presence in the media and the good relationships with the parliamentary group and EGP. In the upcoming 9 months, we must take quick and strategic actions to ensure our success does not fall flat right after the European elections.

To sustain a movement that keeps the fight for joy and against regression, I developed the next three pillars that will guide my work as a co-spokesperson of FYEG.

### **Advocating for Young Greens - from the streets to the cabinets**

Although we, Young Greens have a strong presence within the group and relatively good youth representation in the parliamentary group, we still have to fight for our voices to be heard and taken into account. We are not to be taken for granted or as some souvenirs on the shelf. FYEG needs to take a stronger hold on youth advocacy within the mother parties and all rooms we have access to. The European elections showed that the support that the candidates have from FYEG matters in the national contexts of the parties, and we must not underestimate that.

The shared internships are a good practice that we need to continue with an emphasis on the interns being the rapid messengers of us and the European Parliament.

While advocating for Young Greens, we must not forget our Eastern sister organisation CDN, with which we need to develop a clear strategy on how can we amplify the voices and political messages from Eastern Europe. This work has to be both internally and externally.

### **Fostering effective collaboration with activist movements**

Green parties, as we have them now were born from the grassroots activist movements, and our big asset has always been the connection to the groundwork. Connecting our Green Base with local and international activist movements is a way to create synergy and trust between the organisations.

FYEG consists not only of youth wings of the political parties, but we also have a beautiful amount of civil movements in the Federation. Using our resources to help and emphasize the non-partisan side of our organisation is extremely important if we want to keep being a truly pan-European movement.

### **Strengthening international solidarity through horizontal cooperation and lively ideological debate**

What is a political organisation without real political conversations? Our moderate success in overcoming the struggles of discussing topics like energy transition and Palestine shows us that we really can have brave learning spaces where people and MOs can express their stands and concerns even about the most scared topics.

The Green Base provides us with a great chance to establish more horizontal topical conversations. During the next mandate I am also committed to proactively organise MO to MO trainings on topics that the Federation lacks consensus or knowledge.

# ANJA PRESNUKHINA

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### COURSE SECRETARY

2/2023- *STUDY CENTRE VISIO*

- Assisting in developing courses for the next year
- Coordination of the Green Advocacy Academy course with REV Poland

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECT OFFICER

2/2022- *GREEN YOUTH OF FINLAND*

7/2023

- Managing an international YSD project, which is financed by a grant given by European Youth Together in 2021
- Preparing and organising a transnational conference event for over 40 participants from 6 different countries
- Leading a project group of 4+ people
- Preparing communications plans for ongoing projects and participants' calls
- Coordinating study visits to Brussels, Milan and Lublin
- Administration and financial reporting

### WAITRESS

2021- *NOLLA HELSINKI*

2024

### SUMMER THEOLOGIST

*VALAMO MONASTERY*

2021

### ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

*KIRKKONUMMI ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE*

6/2021-

9/2021

- Assisting in developing courses for the next year
- Administrative work and assisting in Kirkkonummi art school

### PROJECT INTERN

*FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS (FYEG)*

9/2020-

2/2021

- Assisting with Just Transition Granting Programme, communicating with granters
- External communication with international Member Organizations, such as Ukrainian Young Greens and Polish Young Greens
- Producing a podcast

### CAMPAIGN AND OUTREACH INTERN

*THE GREENS/EFA IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, CAMPAIGNS AND OUTREACH UNIT*

9/2020-

2/2021

- Supporting the Network Officer with preparing the European Ideas Lab
- Assisting the campaigners teams focusing on Arms Export, Mercosur and Gender-based violence

### SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

*CITY OF ESPOO, CITY OF HELSINKI*

8/2020-

2019

### ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

*JOYLLA*

5/2019-

10/2019

- Creating content for social media (Facebook, Instagram)
- Event organizing
- Creating media contact and organizing interviews
- Graphic design (postcards and advertisements)

### ART TEACHER

*KIRKKONUMMI ART SCHOOL*

2016

## VOLUNTEERING & AFFILIATIONS

2023 - 2024

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**  
*FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS*

2023 - 2025

**BOARD MEMBER, HEAD EDITOR OF THE RAASTIN MAGAZINE**  
*FINNISH GREENS*

2023 - 2025

**PARTY COUNCIL MEMBER, SPOKESPERSON OF THE YOUTH GROUP**  
*FINNISH GREENS*

2021 - 2025

**VICE COUNCILMEMBER**  
*MUNICIPALITY OF KIRKKONUMMI*

2022-

**VOLUNTEER, TRANSLATOR**  
*PAKOLAISET TURVAAN RY*

2022-

**CURATOR AND EXHIBITOR**  
*DARKROOM PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTIVE*

## PAST MANDATES

2022-2023

**CHAIRPERSON**  
*HELSINKI UNIVERSITY GREENS*

2019 - 2020

**POLITICAL PRINCIPLE PLATFORM DEVELOPER**  
*FINNISH GREENS*

2019

**YOUTH COUNCILLOR**  
*YOUTH COUNCIL OF KIRKKONUMMI*

2017 - 2024

**BOARD MEMBER**  
*GREENS OF KIRKKONUMMI*

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

Finnish, Native speaker

Russian, Native speaker

English, C2

Ukrainian, B2

Swedish, A2

French, A2

Arabic, A1

## EDUCATION

**BACHELOR OF ISLAMIC THEOLOGY**

*UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI*

2020 - 2024

**STUDY OF ARTS, BACHELOR LEVEL**

*UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI*

2023 - 2025

Letter of support

The Young Greens of Finland warmly support

**Anja Presnukhina**

as the co- spokesperson for the Federation of Young European Greens

As a party council group leader, an international project manager in the Young Greens' office and a spokesperson of the Helsinki University Greens, Anja has shown excellent leadership and organisational skills. Her strong foundation and interest in activism guides her relentless strive for a just and green future. Anja's contacts in the pan-European Green movement, her knowledge about international relations and her deep dedication to FYEG earns our enthusiastic support.

In Helsinki on the 23rd of July 2024,



**Selinä Nera**

Co- spokesperson