

C3 Anja Presnukhina

Proposer: Miro Ilvonen (Vihreät nuoret)
Agenda item: 1. Candidates for Co-Spokesperson

Introduction

Dear FYEG,

My name is Anja, I'm a carpet dealer, social work coordinator and Co-Spokesperson of FYEG, and with the greatest honour and a lot of excitement I am asking for your trust and support to continue the job next year as well. I've co-lead this organisation with a tremendous amount of love and I hope you can feel it!

Feel free to send me a message on Telegram (@anjapre) or Discord (@kiitosanja) if you have any questions regarding my candidacy.

See you in Paris <3

Supporters

Saúl Lara (Juventud Verde); Salih Tuna (Genç Yeşiller); Egle Olesk (Noored Rohelised); Vilma Jaatinen (Vihreät Nuoret); Maria Kola (Young Cyprus Greens); Nora Axberg (Grön Ungdom); Renata Anetska (Ostra Zieleń); Mariia Patrul (Green youth of Ukraine); Teun Boswinkel (Jong Groen); Josef Horváth (Mladí zelení)



Member Organisation:
Vihreiden nuorten ja opiskelijoiden
liitto

MOTIVATION LETTER

ANJA PRESNUKHINA

Dear colleague,

This is a love letter to FYEG, my political home and a Federation that I would love to co-lead next year. The road from Dublin to Paris was a tough but fun one, and I could never be more thankful to our EC and especially Luca, who has taught me the art of gentle, but impactful and inspiring leadership. Let's finish the work we have started!

My story with FYEG started at a Finnish Young Greens local event in Hämeenlinna, where Katri Ylinen and Zuzana Pavelková, Co-Spokes of that time spoke 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.

I am 6 years older now, but the enthusiasm and spark haven't gone anywhere. The spark is now a full-blown fire of rage and readiness to fight for a future in which immigrant kids like me can still dream of a better tomorrow for all, not few. In my work as a family work coordinator, I see what cold austerity politics and the destruction of the welfare state lead to, daily. We can't sit still while our futures are being torn down by right-wing governments and commissions. To hope is an active verb. To rage is an active verb. Our job is to foster that hope and rage and guide it towards collective action. And firstly, that is the job of the Co-Spokesperson of FYEG.

Transfer of knowledge and peer-to-peer learning are some of the greatest strengths of political youth organisations. I believe I can provide the necessary skills to facilitate that and make it a permanent custom in FYEG. Work for the next election wins have already started and thus we need to enable our members and MOs to develop and grow. We have access to many important rooms and tables, and this year I am committed to using every chance to fight for the goals and needs of our MOs.

FYEG is the most united progressive pan-European youth organisation. This is not a coincidence, but a result of the tireless work of the generations of people who do give a fuck about our planet. The times of recession, poverty and mass destruction caused by imperialistic autocrats, an alternative vision of the future is not just a need, but a basis for survival. I call for organising that is uniting, not alienating. I am committed to leading our Federation towards a vision that is shared by all the Member Organisations and is exciting as such. This year we will focus on building a community that has enough joy to give and multiply it.

One of the core duties of political youth organisations is to allow people to grow and nothing helps a person grow quite like taking some missteps. My experience in leading different teams from the international unit of the Finnish Young Greens to the Executive Committee this year gives me good grounds to continue the work as a facilitator of both the personal growth of the EC members and strategic improvement of our network, and I believe this job can be done best in couple with Amy < 3

A MOVEMENT THAT KEEPS FIGHTING FOR JOY

A VISION FOR THE SECOND YEAR OF CO-SPOKESHIP OF 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.

Strategically advocating for Young Greens - from the streets to the cabinets

Thanks to the years of hard work of internal lobbying and bringing FYEGers and FYEG-minded people within the structures of the Green and other partners, we have a strong presence and good relations not only with the EGP and the Green Group in the European Parliament but also in structures like European Youth Forum and others. Our position should not be taken for granted, and us sitting around the tables of change should mean more than just being a nice souvenir for youth washing.

Our new Strategy and the Strategic plans of the CDN are already showing a good sign of willingness to strategise and influence the European Green politics together. The process of rewriting our Political Platform should be done in full sync with the Members. FYEG should act as an amplifier and strong advocate for the visions and needs of our Member Organisations. This could be achieved with at least these four tangible steps:

- Sharing a brief of the bigger political debates that FYEG is involved in with the MOs, internally
- Writing down the political policy priorities of each region and incorporating them with both the external and internal advocacy of ours
- Figure out the way how to make the topical focus groups an established part of our political work and involve them in campaigns and meetings (housing group as the example)


Giving space and resources to the next generations of Young Greens

The post-COVID era showed us the importance of organisational memory and its timely transmission. Almost all of the struggles that FYEG might have are not here for the first time, and we must ensure that the next generations of FYEGers will have it better than we do. FYEG isn't only a campaigning machine or a lobbyist, we are a community that should be raising the next generations of system shifters in love and care. In 2025 we are already setting the grounds for the wins of 2029 and beyond, and that means giving space and attention to younger people who are just entering their political lives. We are not just some political alliance, we are a movement that fights for just alternatives and hope.

Even though FYEG is continuously diversifying, this is not enough. Only a certain type of people tend to apply for positions of power. We are still predominantly white, and our bodies of power are quite masculine. We need to open the role of FYEGer beyond the usual wealthy, university student pool.

I see the role of Co-Spokes as the role of facilitator of change. The Co-Spokesperson needs to acknowledge the state of play and find the best way to let all our members flourish. My plan for the next year is to make FYEG more accessible and open for the next generations, the ones that will be carrying us into the next decade. This can be achieved through:

- Supporting the EC members in need through re-establishing the alumni network and using our other connections in fundraising, so people would not have to take second or third jobs just to sustain themselves.
- Establishing a Young Candidate Platform outside of the European Elections for support, training and community building among all young people aiming for any elected positions.
- Continuing and elevating the support for women and gender minorities through a mentorship programme, also for the EC members.

It's a highly strategic and political decision to empower and take care of our community. FYEG should be a political trampoline for the baddies of tomorrow 

Solidarity beyond words

FYEG is a platform for the Member Organisations to debate, learn and organise. It is clear that the political and ideological aspect of us is not going anywhere, and the role of leadership is to create safe spaces for healthy debates and conflicts. Us Greens are often afraid of conflicts, but when done well, they can be catalysts of positive change and give more power to the bold and brave movement we are born as.

The *controversial* topics are not going to become less controversial if we stay silent about them. FYEG is already an example of a healthy and productive space for debates for the EGP and the Group. Next year we need to make tangible steps towards an organisational culture where the MOs feel that they can reach out for help and resources easily.

The Green Base provides us with a great chance to establish more horizontal topical conversations. Community Crew should be given more resources and attention, and the whole EC should be active in engaging in the political dialogues happening both online and offline.

Fascism will not be beaten by us beating each other. We have to take care of ourselves to be dangerous together.

ANJA PRESNUKHINA

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 4/2025- **FAMILY WORK COORDINATOR**
YWCA HELSINKI
- 9/2023- **RUG SHOP ASSISTANT**
MATTOMATTI
- 2/2023- **COURSE SECRETARY**
STUDY CENTRE VISIO
- Assisting in developing courses for the next year
 - Coordination of the Green Advocacy Academy course with REV Poland
- 2/2022-7/2023 **INTERNATIONAL PROJECT OFFICER**
GREEN YOUTH OF FINLAND
- 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
 - Coordinating study visits to Brussels, Milan and Lublin
 - Administration and financial reporting
- 2021-2024 **WAITRESS**
NOLLA HELSINKI
- 2021 **SUMMER THEOLOGIST**
VALAMO MONASTERY
- 6/2021-9/2021 **ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT**
KIRKKONUMMI ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE
- Assisting in developing courses for the next year
 - Administrative work and assisting in Kirkkonummi art school
- 9/2020-2/2021 **PROJECT INTERN**
FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS (FYEG)
- Assisting with Just Transition Granting Programme
 - External communication with international Member Organizations, such as Ukrainian Young Greens and Polish Young Greens
 - Producing a podcast
- 9/2020-2/2021 **CAMPAIGN AND OUTREACH INTERN**
THE GREENS/EFA IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, CAMPAIGNS AND OUTREACH UNIT
- Supporting the Network Officer with preparing the European Ideas Lab
 - Assisting the campaigners teams focusing on Arms Export, Mercosur and Gender-based violence
- 8/2020- **SUBSTITUTE TEACHER**
CITY OF ESPOO, CITY OF HELSINKI
- 5/2019-10/2019 **ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER**
JOYLLA
- Creating content for social media (Facebook, Instagram)
 - Event organizing
 - Creating media contact and organizing interviews
 - Graphic design (postcards and advertisements)
- 2016 **ART TEACHER**
KIRKKONUMMI ART SCHOOL

VOLUNTEERING & AFFILIATIONS

- 2024 - 2025 **CO-SPOKESPERSON**
FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS
- 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
Classical Arabic, A1

EDUCATION

- BACHELOR OF ISLAMIC THEOLOGY** 2020 - 2024
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI
- STUDY OF ARTS, BACHELOR LEVEL** 2023 - 2025
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

Letter of nomination

The Young Greens of Finland warmly support

Anja Presnukhina

for a second term as the FYEG Co-Spokesperson.

Anja has consistently demonstrated dedication, integrity, and a deep commitment to green principles and values throughout her term. Her leadership has been inclusive, strategic, and responsive to the needs of the federation. She is a servant of the whole Federation. We wholeheartedly endorse her candidacy for the second term.

In Helsinki on the 22nd of April 2025,



Miro Ilvonen,

the spokesperson
of Finnish Young
Greens