

EC1 Aislinn Hughes

Proposers:

Agenda item: 2. Candidates for Co-Spokesperson

Introduction

My name is Aislinn Hughes, and FYEG brings out the best in me, so I would love to have the opportunity to bring out the best in FYEG.

I am currently a member of the Executive Committee of FYEG, and if I am not elected as Co-Spokesperson, I would love to serve another term as member of the Executive Committee of the organization I call home. Through my experiences as an activist and a policy staff advisor I am skilled at translating abstract politics into simple, strong messages and maintaining a network marked by its many unique cultures. I am dependent, I have my shit together and I am ready to help this organization through this stormy weather.

In my free time I love to watch rugby, go to concerts, read books, watch movies, (and post unhinged reviews of them on my private Instagram story), hug animals and being in nature.

Dankjewel, and see you in South Tyrol!!!



Member Organisation:
DWARS - GroenLinkse Jongeren



motivation

Dear Member Organisations of the Federation of Young European Greens,

I'm just a girl (again) standing in front of the MOs, asking them to elect her as Co-Spokesperson of FYEG.

This decision comes from ambition, timing and above all my belief in this movement. FYEG represents what drew me to Green politics in the first place: **international solidarity, grassroots activism, non-formal learning**, and a **community** that empowers young people to challenge systems that were never built with us in mind.

FYEG has given me friendships, knowledge, and political direction. After 3 years of being involved and 1 term as EC, running for co-spokesperson is my next step to give back and help strengthen our collective voice. Because the moment we are living in demands it.

Across Europe, the far right is gaining ground, pushing agendas rooted in authoritarianism and technofascism. More and more we see hatred poison society, in the form of the dehumanisation of migrants, attacks on LGBTQIA+ rights and reproductive freedom. At the same time, public attention to the climate crisis is shrinking, even as climate disasters intensify.

The Green voice must be facts-based, progressive, inclusive and loud. FYEG has a role to play in making sure that voice is heard.

As Co-Spokesperson, my priorities will be:

- Ensuring our long term strategy towards EU29 is present in every activity and output.
- Strengthening FYEG's political voice amongst EGP's structures, and introducing us to spaces where we don't yet have a seat at the table.
- Making sure Young Greens create the agenda and the narrative around climate justice, democracy, and social justice, not only being a **reactionary** voice.
- Representing FYEG within the Green family and beyond, and being a watchdog for including youth perspectives.
- Ensuring strong coordination within the Executive Committee. The EC works best when it functions as a collaborative leadership team. The Co-Spokespersons play a key role in keeping that coordination strong, transparent, and supportive through consistent check ins and feedback.

My green base

I've been active in DWARS, the Dutch Young Greens, for nearly 4,5 years. During that time I contributed to renewing our Political Platform twice, helped organise around 10 General Assemblies, served on a local chapter board, was on the selection committee for our board, and organised larger activities. Throughout my involvement, I consistently pushed to strengthen international cooperation between FYEG and DWARS, for example, successfully amending DWARS's board structure to reinstate the position of international responsible.

Professionally, I work as a policy advisor to the Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, focusing on spatial planning for transport, circular economy, water and soil systems, and coordinating the implementation of the Environmental Planning Act. This role has given me insight into how political institutions function and how to speak the language of decision-makers.

Before that, I interned with the Green Party in the Dutch Parliament, supporting the first hijabi MP in the Netherlands. Attending court hearings related to violent online threats against her deeply shaped my understanding of politics, showing both the risks of political engagement and the resilience needed to challenge exclusionary systems.

Experience within FYEG

Since becoming active in FYEG in 2023, I've contributed to three Prep Teams, worked with the Beyond Growth platform, supported the EU24 campaign, and joined the Community Crew.

Over the past year as EC member, I served as contact point for 16 Member Organisations. This role brought me to several General Assemblies across Europe and allowed me to better understand the diverse political realities our MOs operate in. It also reinforced something simple: the strength of FYEG lies in its members.

Within the broader board structure, I gained experience coordinating discussions, facilitating consensus, and building bridges between MOs and the Executive Committee. Alongside this, I was involved in political strategizing around the merger between GroenLinks and the Dutch Labour Party (PvdA), which strengthened my understanding of coalition-building and long-term political positioning.

How I work

My working style reflects my cultural background:

- I am both pragmatic, direct, and comfortable working under pressure.
- At the same time, personal connections are everything, politics is about people about building trust, creating welcoming spaces, and sometimes having difficult conversations over a beer rather than a tense meeting.

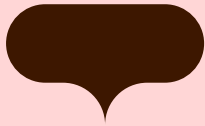
Leadership, to me, means facilitating space for disagreement and debate while centring what we agree on, allowing our movement to keep evolving. It also means creating the conditions for others to bring forward their best ideas. My main counter-argument to running for Co-Spokes was that my instinct is to facilitate rather than direct. I wasn't sure that fit a coordinating role, but I've come to see that making space for others and bringing out their strengths can also be a form of leadership.

Closing

The Green movement has shaped me profoundly over the past years, and I want to help shape its future. As Co-Spokesperson, I'm ready to represent FYEG publicly, coordinate the work of the Executive Committee, and strengthen our political voice within the Green family and beyond.

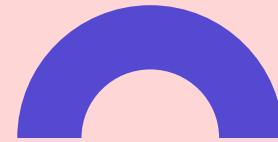
(consensual) hugs and kisses,
Aislinn

FYEG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



MISSION

FYEG must empower, mobilize and campaign to break the cycles of oppression, inequality and climate injustice in Europe.



VISION

FYEG as a fearless, interconnected grassroots movement across Europe where ordinary people build extraordinary power, hold institutions accountable, and reshape systems rooted in oppression and inequality. By transforming outrage into strategic action, we turn resistance into lasting change.

Key Points

What I want to keep prioritizing

1. **Intercultural exchange between MO's**
 - Social media collabs
 - Knowledge transfer: FYEG-wide toolkit
 - Online and physical exchange between MO's
 - Political positions and organizational tips
2. **Nurturing our sense of community**
 - To MO's, young candidates, and internally (Office)
 - An online presence which attracts people to us
3. **Long term political strategy**
 - Consistently adding to the EU29 strategy in all activities
 - Pushing advocacy through petitions
4. **Fundraising strategy**
 - MEPs, EGP, national mother parties

What I want to (re)prioritize

1. **Structurally increasing collaboration with other PPYO's and youth NGO's**
 - Both *externally* (social media/events) and *internally* (network for knowledge sharing).
2. **Strategic task division**
 - Clear(er) expectation management of the EC's capacity.
 - Taking time to make developed and clear responses to relevant global events, limiting rushed output.
3. **(Proudly) advertising the benefits of being involved.**
 - Promoting skills and a network
 - Retaining people within organisations
4. **Visibly holding our partners accountable**
 - Being well organized, prepared and critical when needed so the 'grown ups' cannot work around us.



Aislinn Hughes

Amersfoort, Nederland

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EXPERIENCE

Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management

March 2024 – Present

- *Policy Staff Officer for Physical Living Environment* – Providing policy advice to the Minister and State Secretary, Secretary-General, and Director-General of the ministry. Policy areas of expertise: circular economy, water, soil, environment, mobility, maritime affairs, aviation and spatial planning.

Federation of Young European Greens

May 2025 – present

- *Executive Committee Member*: Regional responsible for the Western and Northern regions, Summer camp, strategy 2025-2030.

EU&U, Social Media Movement for EU Politics

Jan 2022 – May 2025

- *Social Media Team Member* – Creating content for the Instagram (reach 32k) and TikTok (reach 6k) accounts.

GroenLinks, House of Representatives Faction

Jan 2023 – Nov 2023

- *Policy Intern* – Responsible for the portfolios of circular economy, climate, and energy: preparing parliamentary questions, debates, roundtable discussions, lobbying meetings, and legislative initiatives. **MP: Kauthar Bouchallikht**
- *Back Office Staff for Parliamentary Elections* – Contact with undecided voters, organizing 4 campaign activities, including the congress at Ahoy Rotterdam.

Study Abroad Office, Leiden University

August 2023 – Feb 2024

- *Student Assistant* – Logistical support and website maintenance for the exchange program for Bachelor students.
- Organising partner events between Universities and study programs.

EDUCATION

Propaedeutic Diploma: *Teacher of English (Secondary Education)*

- Utrecht University of Applied Sciences | 2018–2019

BA *English Language and Culture (cum laude)*

- Leiden University | 2019–2022
 - Minor in Global Affairs (grade: **9.2**), Honours Programme ‘Humanities Lab’
 - Essay prize “EU in Practice”
 - Thesis: “The Changing Use of Nationalism, Identity and Trauma in Irish Literature of the Great War” (grade: **9.1**)

MA *International Relations: Global Conflict in the Modern Era*

- Leiden University | 2022–2024
 - Thesis: “Graffiti Scrawls: ‘This is not your country’: Belfast Murals as Modern Ideological Battlefields”(grade: **9.0**)
 - *Honours Track*: Leiden Leadership Programme – corporate sustainability consultancy project at Arcadis.

• Summer Schools

- Research on Greek Dynamic Heritage, Netherlands Institute Athens | 2022
- Crisis of Democracy – the State of Europe, EUROPAEUM | 2023

COMMITTEE WORK

DWARS, GroenLinks Youth Organization

- *Board Member Leiden-Haaglanden Chapter*: Promotion and Member Engagement – Responsible for contact with members and managing social media channels.
- *Various committees*: Congress Committee, Acquisition Committees, DIRT, Political Program Committee, Activities Committee.

Federation of Young European Greens

- *Various committees*: Summercamp 2023, Influenceelections, EU24 Campaign, COP Baku Event, Community Crew

ISSA, MA International Relations Study Association

- Board Member ‘Social Chair’ – Organized 12 networking and educational events for ~150 students

De Jonge Ambtenaar

- Board Member ‘sustainability’ – Organising events for young policy advisors across all levels of Dutch government, with a focus on applying sustainable practices into policy writing.

SKILLS

Event Organization

Social Media Management

Financial Administration

Policy Development

Fundraising

Graphic Design

Stakeholder Management

Analytical Research

CRM Systems

Political Strategy Development

Digital Marketing

Data Analysis

VOLUNTEERING

- **Researcher, LGBTQIA+ Library** – Developed educational material about the lives of senior LGBTQ+ individuals for vocational training programs in Healthcare and Welfare.
- **Local Team, Milieudefensie** – Organized protest actions.
- **Student Buddy, Senior & Student** – Weekly visits to elderly living alone.
- **Buddy, InCLUision Leiden** – Supported refugee students with learning Dutch, finding housing, and job seeking.
- **Palliative Care Volunteer, Alrijne Hospital** – Supported patients declared terminally ill.
- **Volunteer, European Solidarity Corps** – Available for projects across various EU member states, such as camps and trainings.
- **SPRNT Program, Nederlandse Jeugd Raad** – Attended self-development trainings by the Dutch National Youth Council and contributed to political strategy “Vote for Youth Candidates.”
- **Volunteer, Refugee Council Netherlands** – Supported refugees at the Municipality of Leiden.

LANGUAGES

- **C2:** English, Dutch
- **B1:** French, German, Gaeilge, Icelandic

The Hague, The Netherlands, April 7th 2026

Letter of Support for Aisling Hughes, Candidate Co-Spokesperson

Dear fellow International Secretaries and delegates,

DWARS, GroenLinkse Jongeren, fully endorses the candidacy of Aisling Hughes as candidate for Co-spokesperson of the Federation of Young European Greens.

A Co-spokesperson is someone who is able to lead a team, put others in positions where their qualities are best utilised, and look at the bigger picture. Aisling is a person who can do all three, and above all, is compassionate and dedicated to others. As co-spokesperson Aisling create an environment within the EC where co-creation is the foundation, and a safe space for individuals to learn, make mistakes, and grow.

In her current role on the Executive Committee, she is responsible for all the Northern and Western Member Organisations—a very large number of MOs. Over the past year, Aisling has dedicated herself to giving each of these MOs the personal attention they deserve. She has done so not only by visiting as many MOs as possible, but also by being attentive to their situations, contexts, and capacities. She is approachable, always open to helping, and available by phone or text. This demonstrates not only her dedication to the federation—where each MO deserves individual attention—but also her commitment to understanding each MO's local context.

Alongside her dedication, compassion, and attentiveness, Aisling is also an excellent strategist and lobbyist. In her role at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands, where she works directly with the Minister, she translates ideas into practical policy. Moreover, she has played a vital role in the campaign to keep Progressief Nederland (the merger party from GroenLinks, our mother party) within the Greens.

With her experience in DWARS, FYEG, all her other work and her dedication to the green movement we believe Aislinn is extremely qualified for this position and are proud to support her candidacy.

In green solidarity,

Cerisa van Kesteren
International Secretary of DWARS, GroenLinkse Jongeren

EC2 Lena Zehne

Proposers:

Agenda item: 2. Candidates for Co-Spokesperson

Introduction

Dear friends,

I am Lena, a 26-year-old activist and local politician who is intentionally loud, quick to admit when I'm still learning but stubborn enough to never let that wear me down, and firmly convinced that our movement's strength lies in our ability to sustain one another.

I am running for Co-Spokes!

My application is a roadmap for how we can continue to turn FYEG into an unavoidable political force, which emphasizes unity and resilience. It is a collection of everything I have learned while navigating the messy, beautiful reality of our activism throughout my 11 years as a member of the Young Greens.

To set the mood for the road to the GA, I've curated [this playlist](#) to share a different side of my world. Let's get hyped!

Stay loud,

Your Lena (she/her)

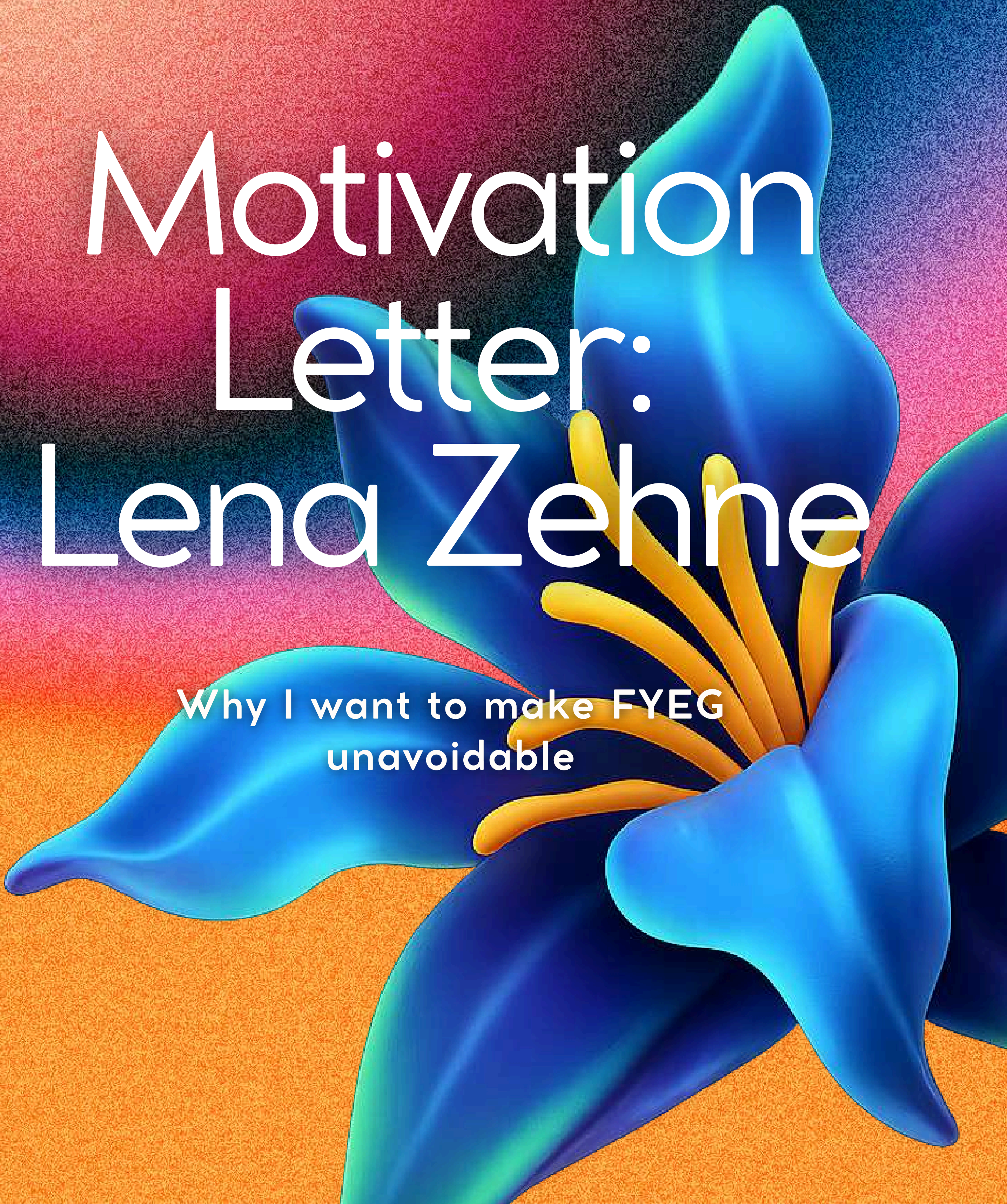


Member Organisation:
Grüne Jugend (Germany)

GA26:
Co-Spokes
Application

Motivation Letter: Lena Zehne

Why I want to make FYEG
unavoidable





Dear friends,

I am running for Co-Spokes because I want to turn our federation into an unavoidable political force. My work as a Political Advisor and Parliamentary Assistant, alongside my candidacy for the Federal State Parliament in Saxony-Anhalt, has shown me exactly how young voices are sidelined. We are tired of being summoned only when the establishment needs a youth perspective, e.g., run-down school bathrooms. I am running to challenge the patronizing idea that young candidates should only represent "youth topics". Clean air, affordable train tickets, and proper education are fundamental pillars of our society. Those in power must realize that our demands ensure a functioning society for the generations to follow. A system that fails its youth today will have no one to sustain it tomorrow. The bottom line is this: Our generation and future generations **MUST** be able to lead a normal life without having to count every penny!

My academic and international background provide the necessary foundation to lead a pan-European movement. With a Master's degree in Environmental Science, Policy and Management and a Bachelor's in International Relations, I have the thematic depth to navigate European legislation. My experience living and working in multiple countries has prepared me to continue my work on the Executive Committee with a borderless perspective, bridging the gap between local struggles and European action.

My time in Lesvos and Lebanon, for example, fundamentally shaped my politics and made me the intersectional eco-feminist I am today. Working together with refugees in Moria and students in a region defined by the scars of occupation plus the bravery of feminist uprisings taught me that our struggles are deeply interconnected. Whether witnessing the consequences of the invasion of Lebanon, the ongoing suffering in Gaza, or the courageous resistance of women in Iran and the Kurdish struggle for self-determination, I learned that justice is indivisible. I want to address climate justice in a way that actually motivates people. Within the Green movement, we often talk about climate policy in an academic language that even experts struggle to follow. I understand the frustration of the youth who feel there is always something more "burning" to address. For me, climate justice is holistic, spanning everything from human rights and feminism to the fundamental need for affordable housing. FYEG must stay true to our distinguishing feature: we fight for our planet and for everyone who lives here. I want to make our climate communication sexy and accessible.

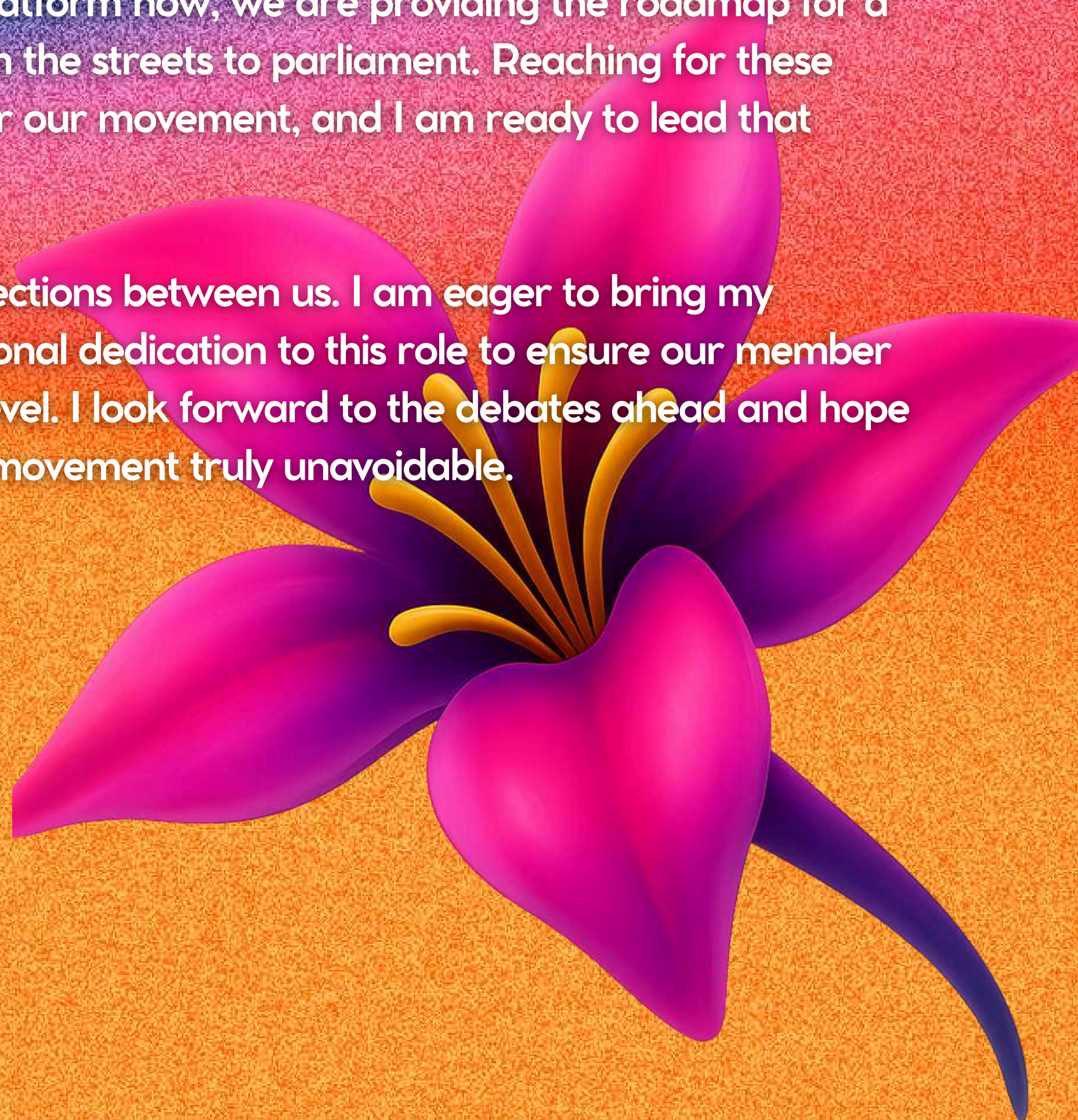
This past mandate in the Executive Committee (EC) has given me the structural oversight needed to lead. My responsibility for the East Region - supporting MOs in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, and Belarus - is a constant reminder that Green politics is a matter of physical safety and democratic survival. I have seen how our non-EU activists often navigate a completely different political reality, facing barriers that the rest of our federation must better understand and support. Managing Volunteer Management and the Green Base allowed me to see our internal barriers and how to better coordinate local action. Furthermore, coordinating the Beyond Growth Platform (BGP) and the Racial Justice Taskforce (RJTF) allowed me to anchor radical thematic work into the daily life of the federation. I feel very prepared to step into the role of Co-Spokes with a full understanding of the diverse needs of our Member Organisations (MOs) based on my past year in the EC.

The upcoming mandate is the decisive moment to build the foundation for the 2029 European elections. Young Greens are ready to grab power. I see the role of Co-Spokes as a vital platform to gain the visibility and experience necessary to lead our movement into the EU29 cycle. While a regular EC member focuses on internal management, the Co-Spokes role carries the political weight and external mandate required to represent our federation in the highest political arenas. Serving in this position will provide me with the specific tools and the political profile to run a successful European campaign for FYEG and to consider running for the European Parliament myself. By renewing our Political Platform now, we are providing the roadmap for a generation of activists to move from the streets to parliament. Reaching for these mandates is the logical next step for our movement, and I am ready to lead that transition.

FYEG is only as strong as the connections between us. I am eager to bring my grounded perspective and professional dedication to this role to ensure our member organizations are heard at every level. I look forward to the debates ahead and hope to earn your support to make our movement truly unavoidable.

With energy and solidarity,

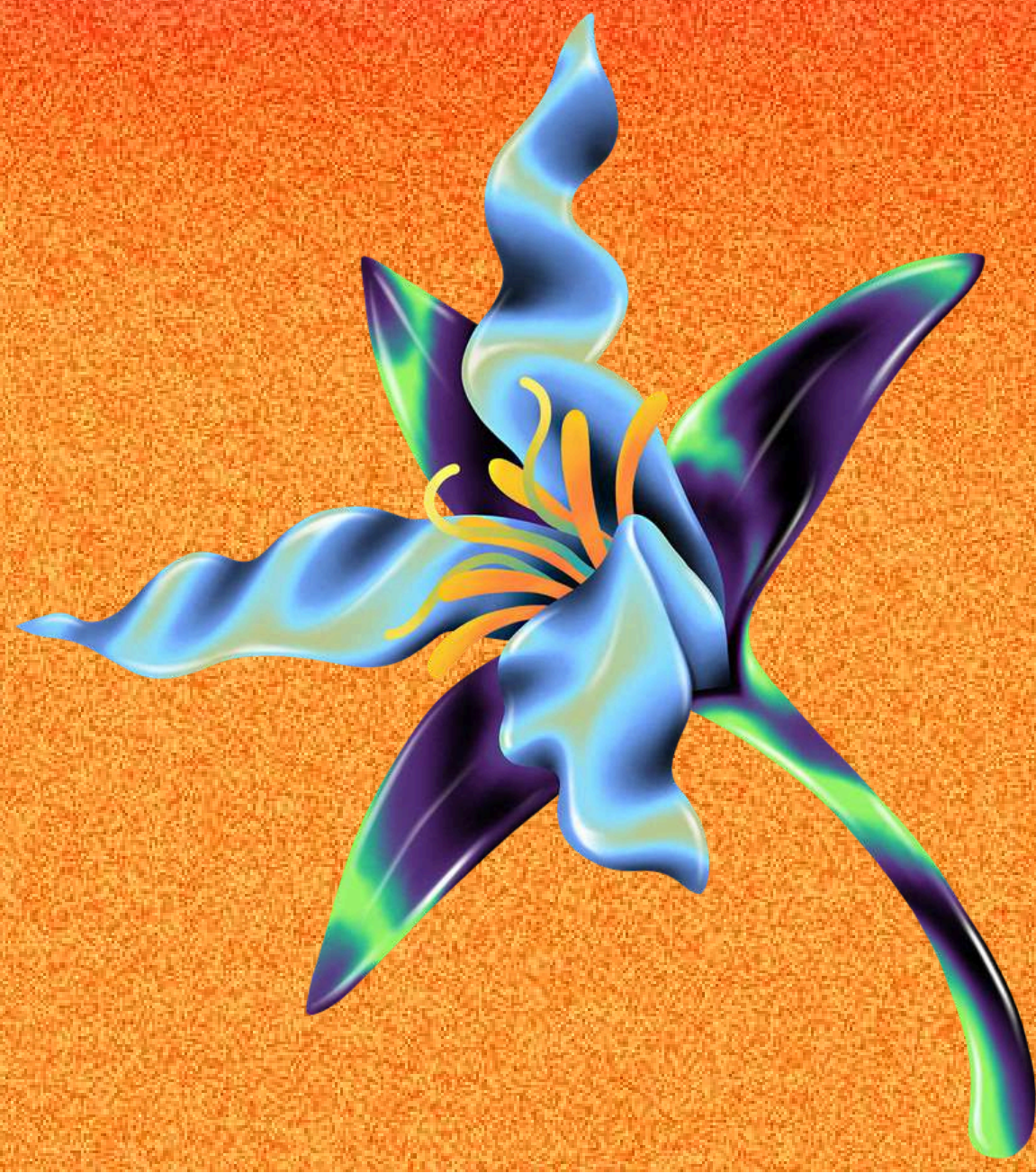
Your Lena (she/her)



GA26:
Co-Spokes
Application

Vision Statement: Lena Zehne

How I want to make FYEG
unavoidable



WHO THE F* IS FYEG?

Ever talked to friends at home about FYEG and got the response: "What is that?" Me too. I want to change that. Through provocative social media and sharp press releases, I want to create an unavoidable presence. Our existence is vital because we are the radical voice that the "old and rich" want to ignore. With my work experience, I became quite a fan of press releases and, hell yes, I want to see headlines like "Young European Greens push the European Parliament to stop ICE-like deportations in Europe". Only when we keep expanding our press and public engagement strategy will we have the platform to set the agenda. To be the loud ones, we must master the tools of the trade. I want to commit to scaling up our press operations and social media presence to ensure we are unavoidable in the European media landscape. I want to better utilize our internal multiplier effect so that no member is ever caught off guard when asked about who we are. I will ensure you are always equipped with the latest updates, giving you the confidence to spill the tea on our goals and invite others into our movement!

ANNOYING THOSE IN POWER

As your Co-Spokes, I will take my seat at the "important tables" to be the most persistent advocate in the room. This also means being the person who consistently challenges the status quo within the European Green Party (EGP). I will advocate for our MOs by demanding that FYEG's radical platform is a central driver of the Green agenda. Whether it is fighting for more financial resources, better representation for our Eastern partners, or ensuring our grassroots demands are reflected in high-level policy, I will remain uncomfortably persistent. Given our current financial situation, I intend to actively utilize my existing network to explore the resources we need; my goal is to reach out to Green politicians to identify potential donations and collaboration opportunities. Just as we spent this mandate knocking on doors in the European Parliament, I want to look for similar opportunities to engage, e.g., with the German Bundestag. I want to ensure that those in power feel the pressure of our movement's energy every single day. My goal is to make sure that the EGP and other party stakeholders treat FYEG as a powerful political partner that cannot be ignored or sidelined.

READY FOR EU29

The road to the EU29 campaign starts now. During the next mandate, we will undergo the vital process of renewing our Political Platform. This is our chance to redefine our radical vision for Europe. I want to co-lead a federation that uses this process to sharpen our collective voice, ensuring that when the EU29 campaign hits, our demands are unignorable and our digital infrastructure is battle-ready. Policy only carries weight when we have the people to back it up.....

We are the movement of the Green youth at the European level, but our heart beats in our cities, our regions, and our countries. FYEG lives through our individual MOs, yet we can only grow into our full potential if we bridge local action with borderless digital activities. I am running for Co-Spokes because I want to turn these four letters — FYEG — into a name that every young activist in Europe knows, and every person in power respects. And this is how I want to do it:

STRENGTHENING OUR DIGITAL COMMUNITY

We are stronger together. The success of our first-ever MO exchange in our Green Base proved it: we never stop learning from one another. While serving as the regional responsible for Ukraine, Belarus, Azerbaijan, and Georgia, I learned firsthand that FYEG's primary role is to make MOs feel heard and provide a platform without draining their limited capacities. This is why I want to utilize our digital hub as a space for genuine interaction. I want to create more space for digital engagement where we truly learn from one another. How can we adapt your MO's election campaign strategy? How can we make our digital tools a multiplier of solutions for your local struggles? My vision is a community where you can find a bed in Stockholm, learn about the elections in Spain, banter with international friends, and shape FYEG's social media all in one day. I want to show everyone how amazing our Green Base is and enable as many individuals as possible to become active. You shape FYEG, and you should be able to do that every single day.

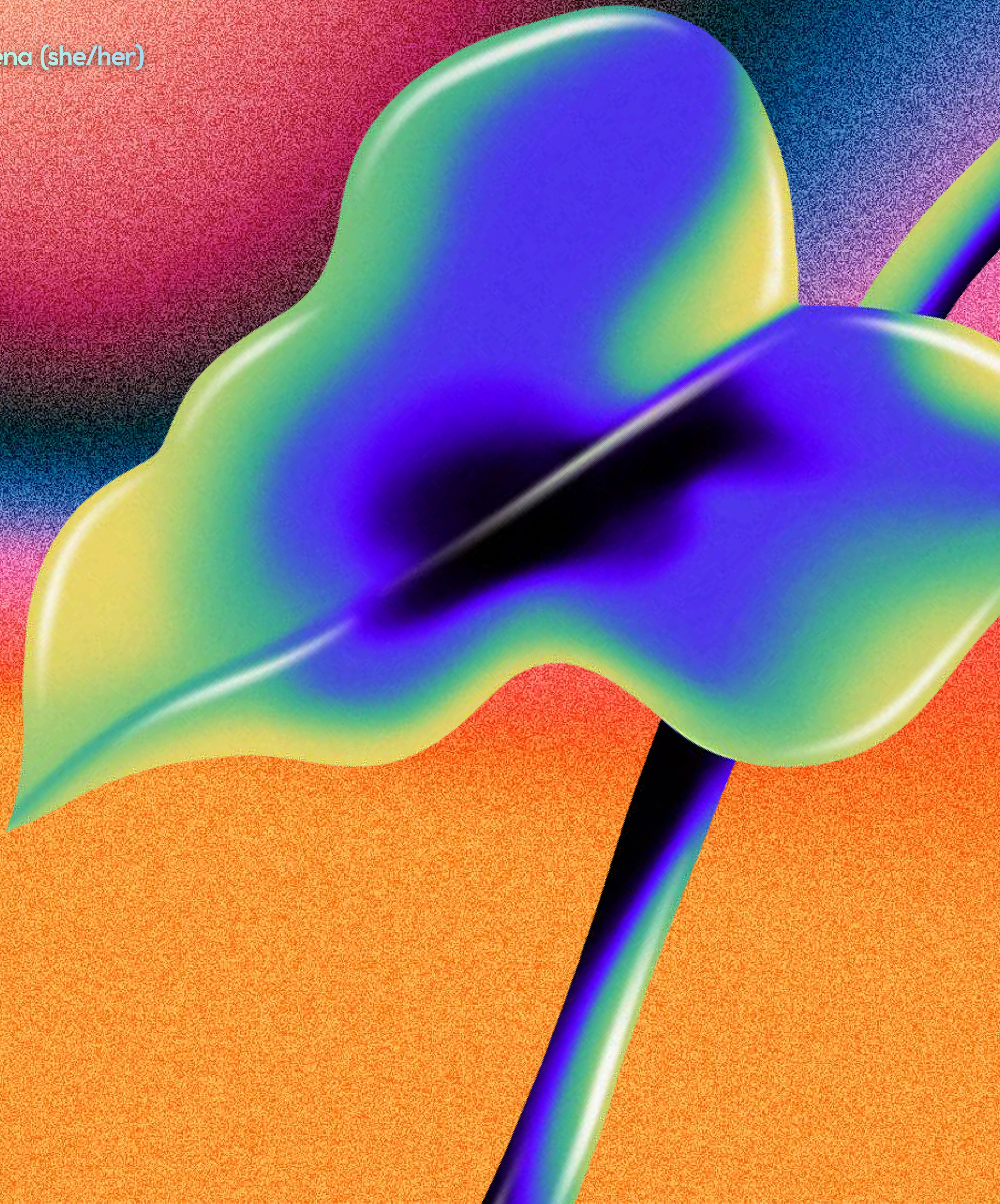
MENTAL HEALTH STAYS POLITICAL

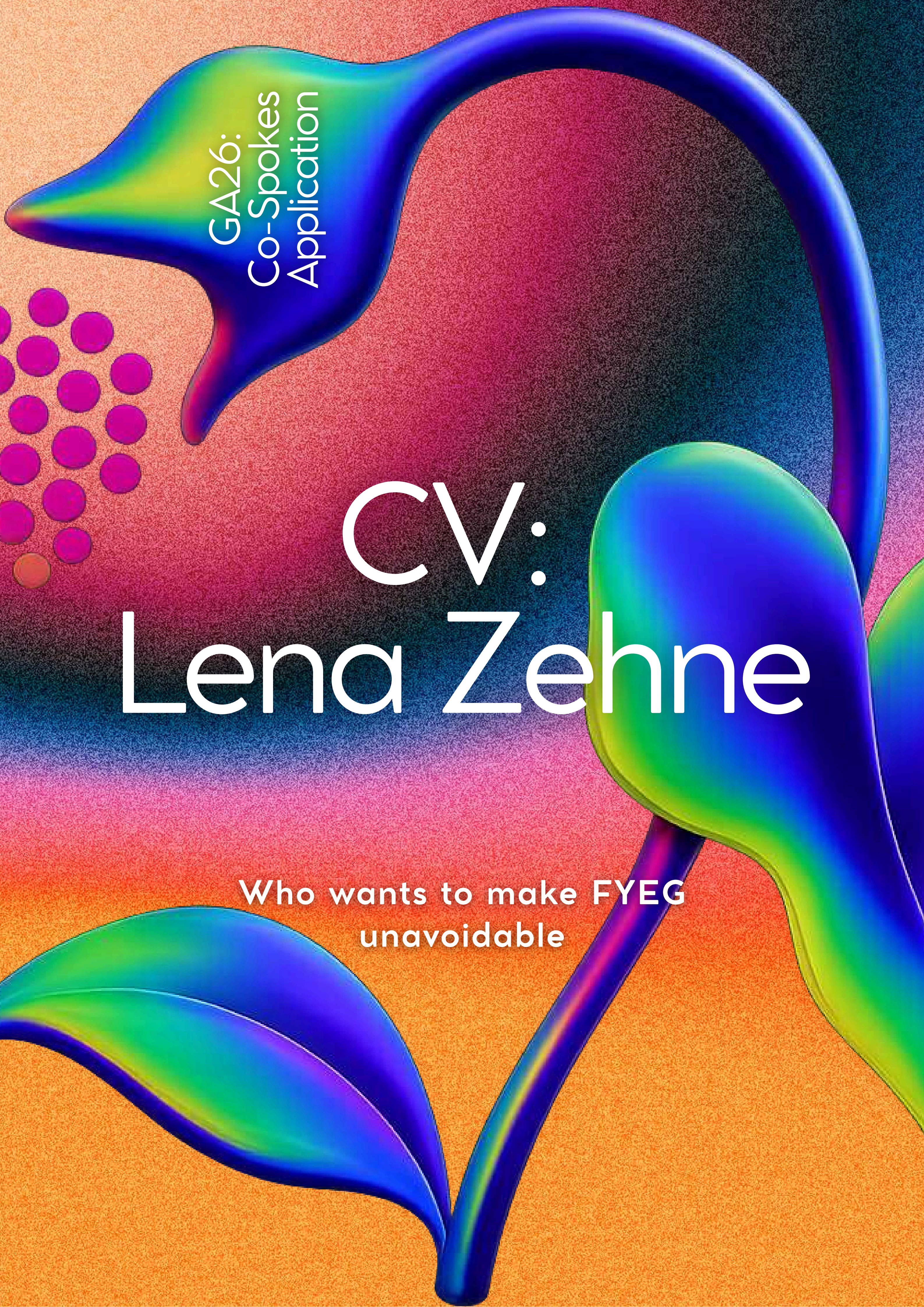
I have seen too many friends step back, overwhelmed because their immense passion for our planet collided with a system that refuses to respect its boundaries, not because they are weak. This cannot be the norm! Political work should be a source of inspiration and not a cause of exhaustion. We built and keep on building a movement that lasts because we actually care about each other and our planet. I want to lead an EC that prioritizes our collective joy as a radical act of resilience. Hence, mental health STAYS political. I will listen, and I will ensure that our activism fuels us instead of draining us. For that, I want to offer more learning opportunities, during which we can share our tips and tricks on how to deal with the stress of our political work. As Co-Spokes, I will lead by ensuring that sustainability is a structural reality. My leadership style will focus on setting a pace that respects our humanity, moving away from a constant crisis mode that leads to burnout. I intend to normalize the setting of boundaries within the Executive Committee and throughout our digital hub, facilitating peer-support networks and skill-sharing on how to handle the emotional toll of activism.

....My goal is to use our educational activities and digital network to empower you to grab power yourself. You or the people you believe in should leave every FYEG event with new ideas and the skills and confidence to run for office. We are the candidates of today, and our movement is the training ground for the leaders Europe actually needs. When we are educated, connected, and empowered, we become the very future the establishment fears. Never let anyone tell you that you cannot change the system from the inside out!

For our collective joy and resilience,

Your Lena (she/her)





GA26:
Co-Spokes
Application

CV: Lena Zehne

Who wants to make FYEG
unavoidable

WORK EXPERIENCE

Political Advisor / Federal State Office of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen Saxony-Anhalt (Magdeburg, Germany) | Jan 2026 – Apr 2026

- Responsible for coordinating the drafting process of the election program for the 2026 federal state elections
- Managed press and public relations, and coordinated communication with the parliamentary group and key stakeholders
- Developed policy questionnaires, prepared thematic content, and managed scheduling

Parliamentary Assistant / Leon Eckert, Member of the German Bundestag (Berlin & Freising, Germany) | Jun 2024 – Jun 2025

- Responsible for constituency management, press, and public relations.
- Managed internal and external communication with party, non-party, governmental, and non-governmental stakeholders
- Provided thematic support in the areas of environment, agriculture, mobility, and civil protection

Student Research Assistant / American University of Beirut (AUB) (Beirut & Beqaa, Lebanon) | Jul 2023 – Aug 2023

- Contributed to an EU-funded study on nutrition and food security risks in relation to environmental factors

Volunteer / Refugee African Dance (RAD) Music International (Lesvos, Greece) | Apr 2023 – Jun 2023

- Co-coordinated German language classes for refugees

Intern / Leon Eckert, Member of the German Bundestag (Berlin, Germany) | May 2022 – Aug 2022

- Responsible for setting schedules and providing thematic research for the Member of Parliament

Intern / Union Internationale des Cinémas (UNIC) (Brussels, Belgium) | Jan 2022 – Apr 2022

- Managed event organization and external communication with member organizations
- Provided thematic research on European (cinema) culture, EU law, and legislation

Intern / Minister for Science, Energy, Climate Protection and Environment of Saxony-Anhalt (Halle & Magdeburg, Germany) | Apr 2021 – Jun 2021

- Provided thematic support and managed schedules for the minister
- Served as campaign manager at the state office of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen for the State and Federal elections

Intern / Anna Cavazzini, Member of the European Parliament (Brussels, Belgium) | Oct 2020 – Dec 2020

- Responsible for scheduling and thematic research for the MEP

EDUCATION

Erasmus Mundus M.Sc. Environmental Science, Policy & Management (MESPOM) / Central European University (Vienna), Lund University (Sweden), University of the Aegean (Greece) | Sep 2022 – Jun 2024

- Master's Thesis: „Prosperity in Transition: Unravelling the Synergies of the EU's Post-growth Policies for Socio-Environmental Harmony”
- Award: Recipient of the Boroli Award (LSE, Hertie School, Sciences Po, Bocconi, CEU)

B.Sc. International Relations & Organizations / Leiden University The Hague (The Netherlands) | Aug 2018 – Jan 2022

- Honours Degree
- Founder of the 'Studentenvereniging van Duitse Studenten Den Haag' (German Student Association)
- Vice-Chair of the European Union Study Association (EUSA)
- Volunteer for WWF The Hague
- Founder of the Greenpeace Student Branch
- Member of the Fundraising and PR team for Amnesty International Students The Hague

Abitur / Hans-Dietrich-Genscher-Gymnasium Halle (Saale) (Germany) | Aug 2010 – Jun 2018

FURTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Languages: German (C2/Native), English (C2), Dutch (B1)
- Software: Proficient in MS Office, Canva, Google Workspace, GIS, and SPSS
- Expertise: Ad-hoc speaker on Post-Growth at the German Economic Institute

VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT & POLITICAL ACTIVISM

- Member of Grüne Jugend since 2015
- Direct and list candidate for the Saxony-Anhalt federal state election 2026
- Member of the Executive Committee of FYEG since 2025; here responsible for the East Region (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus), the Beyond Growth Platform (BGP), the Racial Justice Taskforce (RJTF), Volunteer Management, and the Green Base
- Executive Committee Member of the federal state board of Grüne Jugend Saxony-Anhalt (2025)
- Candidate for the Halle municipal elections (2024)
- Co-Spokes for the working group on Europe, International Affairs, and Peace for B90/DG Saxony-Anhalt (2024-25)
- EC member of Grüne Jugend Saxony-Anhalt (2025)
- Delegate to EGP (extended) Congresses, national party conferences, national working groups, and federal state conferences

Dear delegates to the General Assembly 2026 of FYEG,
On behalf of Grüne Jugend (GJ) Germany, I am writing to express our full and enthusiastic support for Lena Zehne's candidacy as Co-Spokes of the FYEG Executive Committee for the 2026/2027 mandate. We take great pride in highlighting both her professional expertise and her deep-rooted commitment to our movement, shaped by over 11 years of dedicated involvement in our Green family. Since last year she has been a member of the Executive Committee of FYEG and was able to bring a European spirit to our GJ. She inspired stages at our national General Assembly, federal state congresses, regional conventions, and protests with her insights from the Young European Greens and raised awareness for international aspects. We are more than convinced that she is a true speaker and, hence, a worthy Co-Spokes.

Her leadership qualities remained evident throughout her 2025 campaign as a lead candidate for the city council in her hometown Halle (Saale). Building on this experience in 2026, she is now standing as a candidate for the state parliament on the Saxony-Anhalt federal state list while simultaneously contesting a direct seat in her own constituency. Lena has remained a constant and active presence in the GJ of Saxony-Anhalt, which is located in East Germany. In this region, the political landscape is defined by the significant strength of the far-right, creating a challenging environment for young Green activists that differs substantially from the political experience in many Western strongholds. She consistently led efforts to maintain a visible Green presence in spaces where our members often face intense opposition and social pressure. By organizing in Saxony-Anhalt, she proved she has the resilience to stay active when the surroundings work to marginalize progressive voices, performing the essential grassroots work in a territory where every Green event requires immense courage and persistence.

Her identity is rooted in this specific reality of East Germany, a region marked by historical and structural differences that continue to shape its political culture today. She understands that the German experience is not a monolith and that the struggle for democracy in Saxony-Anhalt requires a level of grit and strategic patience that offers a valuable perspective within FYEG. By bringing this background to the Executive Committee, she helps ensure a more nuanced understanding of the diverse political climates across the continent. She acts as a crucial bridge, carrying the lived experience of a region where the fight for Green values is a daily necessity, making her uniquely capable of advocating for true regional diversity within our federation.

Her ability to communicate complex European issues while staying grounded in local struggles is exactly what FYEG needs to mobilize young people across the continent. We fully stand behind her candidacy, convinced that she is the right person to represent our shared values and to drive a progressive, inclusive agenda for the future of Europe. Given her extensive skills, personal qualities, and the network she has built within the international Green movement, we are certain that she is the ideal candidate for this role. Based on her proven track record and deep experience with FYEG, the GJ wholeheartedly supports Lena's application to serve as Co-Spokes.

Melsa Yildirim International Secretary of Grüne
Jugend (Germany)



**GRÜNE
JUGEND**

EC3 Luca Guidi

Proposers:

Agenda item: 2. Candidates for Co-Spokesperson

Introduction

In what would be my last mandate as Co-spokesperson of FYEG, i would really like to make sure that by the end of it, the Federation is financially out of danger, inclusive, strong in its foundation and is heading towards its 40th Anniversary, happening in 2028, with a renewed sense of confidence. To also make sure it is on the good path leading to the next EU elections happening in 2029. I believe that the experience i gathered during these past two mandates, including one as Co-spokesperson, would be extremely needed. Feel free to read my motivation letter and my vision to know more about it!



Member Organisation:
Giovani Europeisti Verdi

Motivation

Luca Guidi

It has been an honor serving this year in the Executive Committee of our Federation. Serving what i am proud to call my political home. Every time i had the chance to meet someone from our Member Organizations it has always been truly enriching. I believe the diversity of political cultures within our organization is something we should appreciate and consider way more. Other than being enriching and fulfilling, the mandate has been challenging.

The shrinking civic space we so much talk about is something extremely concrete. It happens in many forms, including cuts in funding. As many Civil Society Organizations, we were also affected by it. When decision-makers decide to cut money, youth is usually one of the most affected groups. This is one of the reasons i decided to rerun as Co-spokesperson. We are still navigating troubling waters and i believe that having served already for one mandate as Co-spokesperson gave me a lot of experience that would be beneficial to the organization.

I also served as regular EC member, which helped me to understand even more the dynamics among EC members and Co-spokespersons. To understand even more what kind of leadership EC members expect and need. My past experience i also had as regional co-spokesperson of the Italian Young Greens in Rome region is also something i brought and always will bring with me. I do know how hard it can be to manage a local branch with almost no funding in a country where young people are hopeless for their future and 100.000 of them leave the country every year.

What the past months also allowed me to see even more is how different are our political cultures and different working styles among different European regions and countries. I believe this diversity on approaches and perspectives is absolutely beautiful and profoundly valuable. If the different approaches are well coordinated they integrate, they influence each other in an amazing way and they fit together like pieces of a puzzle. Everyone learns from each other, we all grow together and the organization benefits from it. I would therefore like to ensure as Co-spokesperson that the EC is a space where the different regional perspectives are always welcome.

I'm running for what would be my last mandate as Co-spokesperson. In order to close a cycle and use all the experience i gathered in these past two mandates (the first of which has sadly been only 9 months long due to the European elections postponing our GA) to make sure the Federation keeps strong foundations, financial stability and a solid structure to face the challenges ahead while setting the path leading to the next EU elections. Our Federation was founded in 1988. In two years it will be its 40th Anniversary. In the past years i've put a lot of dedication and efforts towards our political home. I'm running to do all i can to make sure that for its 40 years our Federation is out of danger, strong, inclusive and welcoming for all the young people who believe in our values and want to take back their future in their hands.

Vision

Luca Guidi

In what would be my last mandate as Co-spokesperson of FYEG, i would really like to make sure that by the end of it, the Federation is financially out of danger, inclusive, strong in its foundation and is heading towards its 40th Anniversary, happening in 2028, with a renewed sense of confidence. To also make sure it is on the good path leading to the next EU elections. This can be ensured not only by the overall vision that we have for the organization but also by several decisions of many kinds taken during the mandate. Regarding the latter, i believe that the experience i gathered during these past two mandates, including one as Co-spokesperson, would be extremely needed. The work of the Executive Committee as a whole is made of a big number of weekly “small” decisions which ultimately shape the organization. The knowledge of the internal mechanisms and way of functioning is extremely important to take these decisions wisely.

Of course, the overall path we would like to take during the mandate is ultimately driven by the vision we have for the organization and what steps should follow in the months and years to come. During the mandate my priority would be, in strong collaboration with the Treasurer, the office and the rest of the EC, to have the Federation being back in a situation of financial stability. This is clearly the most urgent issue the organization needs to face at the moment.

For this mandate I would also like to value more the different approaches and perspectives coming from the different European regions and States. The richness of the diversity of our Federation should be a pride and as Co-spokesperson i would like to make sure the EC is a space where all these cultures, political backgrounds and working styles fit together, are welcome and are valued even more.

What i would also like to do is to strenghten the role of FYEG as a Party Political Youth Organization within European politics. I would like to see taking place the custom of regular consultations with the Commissioner on Youth of the European Union. There are many different ways and no single solution to bring the EU closer to the issues and the needs of young people. But the fact that there is currently no direct consultation between the Commissioner on Youth and the Youth wings of the European political families is something i believe should be addressed to be able to give our generation a bigger say in European politics.

Something i also would like to strenghten, knowing it's an everlasting and constant work, is the sense of belonging of our Member Organizations to FYEG while letting the MOs have all the ways possible to feel listened to. This happens already through different tools but could be improved in many different ways including increasing the number of individual calls with the organizations or, where financially possible, organize EC retreats around Europe and not only in Brussels.



Luca Guidi

Date of birth: 28/01/2000 Nationality: Italian

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

- [05/2025 – Current] **FYEG Executive Committee member**
- [08/2024 – 05/2025] **FYEG Co-spokesperson**
- [02/2025] **Delegate at COP16 Biodiversity**
- [10/2022 – 10/2024] **Italian Young Greens regional Co-spokesperson**

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- [19/10/2022] **Bachelor degree in Science of Politics and International Relations**
Sapienza University of Rome
City: Rome | Country: Italy | Final grade: Full marks with honors
- Master's degree in International Relations (Currently enrolled)**
Sapienza University of Rome
- [08/2021 – 01/2022] **Erasmus+**
Université de Bordeaux
City: Bordeaux | Country: France
- [10/07/2018] **Linguistic High school Diploma**
Liceo statale Maria Montessori
City: Rome | Country: Italy | Final grade: Full marks
- [2015 – 2018] **English language summer schools**
City: Bromsgrove, England - Egham, England - Stirling, Scotland - Dublin, Ireland

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Italian Parliament**
City: Rome | Country: Italy
- [09/2024 – 10/2024] **Traineeship with Green-Left Alliance Parliamentary group**
Helping and assisting the Green-Left Alliance parliamentary group in the Italian Parliament with several tasks.
INpressMAGAZINE
City: Rome | Country: Italy
- [27/06/2022 – 12/08/2022] **Journalism traineeship with online magazine**
Writing of articles on climate, international relations, history, inequalities focusing on their deeper political analysis. Learning how to better structure pieces of articles for them to work the best in delivering a message.

VOLUNTEERING

[01/08/2021 – 14/08/2021]

Volunteer in international work camp Großlohra, Thüringen, Germany

Taking care of and restoring the Burg Lohra, an old local castle of the 12th century, part of UNESCO Geopark Harz - Braunschweiger Land - Ostfalen. Collaborating with volunteers from all over the world gathering there to contribute to the conservation of the local historical and cultural heritage.

[02/08/2019 – 23/08/2019]

Volunteer in international work camp Albertville, France

Restoring the Fort du Mont, an old military fort on a mountain in the Savoie region part of the local historical and cultural heritage as well as one of the main touristic spots of the area.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Italian

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1

French

LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1

Spanish

LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B2 SPOKEN INTERACTION B2

German

LISTENING B1 READING B1 WRITING A1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A2 SPOKEN INTERACTION A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user



Giovani Europeisti Verdi
Via Augusto Valenziani, 5
00187, Rome, Italy

Rome, 28 April 2026

Federation of Young European Green
34 Rue du Taciturne,
Brussels B-1000, Belgium

Subject: Nomination letter

The national executive committee of Giovani Europeisti Verdi (GEV), full member organization of FYEG, with the following letter, unanimously nominates Luca Guidi to run as a candidate for co-spokesperson of the Federation of Young European Greens.

Having proved his expertise and his commitment as FYEG co-spokesperson and member of the Executive Committee in the past two terms and having fulfilled his responsibilities in the various roles he had within FYEG, Giovani Europeisti Verdi grants its full support to Luca's candidacy.

Yours sincerely,

Michele Rattotti - GEV international secretary,

on behalf of

the national executive committee of Giovani Europeisti Verdi

EC4 Teun Boswinkel

Proposers:

Agenda item: 3. Candidates for Treasurer

Introduction

Hey hi everyone!

I am excited to announce my candidacy for treasurer of FYEG. I'm Teun (he/him), a Dutch person living in Brussels for the last 4(ish) years, where I have been active with the Flemish MO Jong Groen as International Secretary for the last 2 years. Before that, I studied in the Netherlands where I spent most of my time outside of the studyhall protesting on the streets and organizing within the climate movement.

Finding and getting to know FYEG, you all, has brought me immense energy and joy. With my candidacy I hope that I can give back to this federation that I feel has given me so much; As treasurer I hope that I can use my experience managing budgets and projects to help guide us through the difficult times ahead. As the world barely holds on today, I am glad to know that FYEG is here. I will help make sure it stays that way, hopefully improving it along the way.

See you in Bolsano,

yours truly

Teun



Member Organisation:
Jong Groen

Motivation letter

Teun Boswinkel

Dearest everyone,

I am running to be treasurer and a member of the FYEG Executive Committee. It's something that I have thought about for a long time, and have tried to prepare for. I got involved with the people in this European space during the 2024 campaign, before ever being part of an MO, and after having served two terms as International Secretary of Jong Groen, I now feel ready to be a part of the EC. In the motivation letter I describe what drives me, how I got here. In the vision I talk a bit more about my experience and how I will try to apply that in the EC. It would be an honour to continue the work of the many incredible people before me as a member of the Executive Committee, and to take up the responsibility for an unfortunate part of the world; the money.

Revolutions happen in the streets, but a lot of the everyday world is governed by people that can sit through 5 hour long zoning law meetings. At FYEG, I see both, solidly represented. These groups aren't necessarily mutually exclusive either; I have personally always felt torn between the two. I am no stranger to civil disobedience, yet will also accept the municipality's invitation to come share our activists' thoughts. It is a careful balance. It is what I found in FYEG, fighting for joy. It's one of the reasons why I care about this organization so much. It captures the enormous creativity and wide range of strategies that people possess, and are sometimes forced to deploy, as we navigate a world that is misaligned with our values the vast majority of the time. Finding FYEG was knowing I had arrived at what I felt I had been looking for. I know a better world is possible when I see it in the people around me; I am running with that feeling, for that feeling, and to pass it on to as many as will listen.

I am not naively arguing for change from within the system; we have social democrats for that. I do solemnly believe that it is up to us to want better for ourselves than what the current, vile powers that be make the world suffer through. The environmental collapse that we are experiencing as a result of centuries of capitalist and imperialist pillaging is not some coincidence, nor is it the "normal" outcome for people to have arrived at. Genocide does not happen by accident. It is the result of a systemic and deliberate effort, and will take all of us to change.

I have had the privilege of growing up sheltered and without war; I have had the privilege of working with all kinds of incredible people in green and activist spaces over the years. I have studied, I got to learn how to manage projects, teams and budgets in different environments. And for the last 2 years, I had the privilege of being the International Secretary for Jong Groen. Now I want to put all that to use for you, and this federation.

There is a difficult year ahead of us. I hope to contribute to an Executive Committee and to you,

the MO's the best way I know how: by being constructive, by being hard on systems, and soft on people, by fostering a space where people know that they are heard; especially those people who are not always granted that by default. Change is something you do together. I have enjoyed all the time that I have gotten to spend getting to know the people that make up this organization, and the fact I am running today is a testament to them.

Always here for a chat. We have to stick together.

Love,

Teun

Vision

Teun Boswinkel

Our vision in terms of the political platform of FYEG is not something where I wish to deviate from, in significant ways. Our goal is, and remains, a feminist, diverse, democratic, sustainable and social Europe. Instead, I want to set out my main goals for the coming year as treasurer and how I intend to go about them if you decide to elect me.

We are first and foremost a political organization. As a federation, we have clear objectives; to foster collaboration amongst our MO's, and to represent them and their views as effectively and strategically as possible. In an increasingly hostile political environment across Europe, this fight can be exhausting if we don't come well prepared, and if we don't allow ourselves to breathe occasionally.

It also means looking forward to 2029. I participated as a team leader in the FYEG European election campaign of 2024, where FYEG provided real, concrete support, training as well as a space to exhale for young candidates from all over Europe. If we were able to, it's also because of the large base of volunteers that were mobilized. A lot of effort and preparation went into building that community, and enabling it, us, to help in meaningful ways. Creating a welcoming space and being conscious of intersectionality is a foundational part of that program, as an objective and as a strategy.

A painful result in the Belgian 2024 election was to see Green parties losing seats. Research afterwards showed that specifically, it lost hard with first time voters and young people. A lot of first time voters didn't vote for another party; they just didn't vote all together. Our political parties may or may not choose to try to bring these people back into the fold. But for me, for us, it is an obligation to try.

For my mandate, I see 3 priorities:

1. The (budgetary) path to 2029 and beyond
2. enabling MO's
3. Decolonising the space

1. The (budgetary) path to 2029

As you all know, the financial position of FYEG took a big hit missing out on a large subsidy. We have recovered a large part of that deficit thanks to the efforts of the previous EC, but more efforts will be required in the coming year(s) still. In my normal people job, I work as a program manager at the Belgian transmission grid operator Elia. A sizable part of that job is managing, reporting and following up on our operating budget, in a highly scrutinized context where I constantly have to justify expenses to the Belgian energy regulator. I hope that with that I can bring some experience to the role and make clear the trade-offs that budgets sometimes tend to impose, and pave the way with a solid foundation to the elections in 2029 and beyond. I also want to continue the work started with Vita last year of looking into more revenue streams, like donation campaigns and fund applications. I want to help guarantee a workable budget with enough space for emergencies or unexpected setbacks.

I believe our budgetary decisions should reflect our politics. Budgetary decisions are matters of prioritisation, and as treasurer I promise to not prioritise just cost reduction, but to look .

2. Enabling MO's

When I first campaigned with FYEG during the 2024 European elections, I had never been part of any MO. During the last 2 years, I have gotten to know my own, Jong Groen, as well as several other MO's, and the challenges we face. Where these challenges are the same, we can learn from, support each other, if we are able to find each other. In the strategic plan 2025-2030 we set out explicitly to politically prioritise FYEG's intervention and support to the MOs based on solidarity, fairness, democracy, and optimisation of resources, which is what I intend to help implement consciously. This means continuous proactive engagement from us as EC, in time as in budgetary decisions, to know where our efforts are needed the most.

An idea I would like to take up and have been conceptualising for some time is an active FYEG alumni network. I think that the community of FYEG'ers and ex-FYEG'ers are a cornerstone of what makes this organization what it is, and if we can find ways for our alumni to be more involved, either through donations or, if they are willing to, through giving trainings and lectures, I think that could prove an enormous benefit. A lot of

alumni already are volunteering, or otherwise contributing informally, but I would like to formalize a structure for people to stay in touch after FYEG (in my ideal world, this could even alleviate some pressure from the budget, if we are able to find for example interesting speakers through such a network).

3. Decolonising the space

We are good at recognising that the diversity is lacking in our representation as a federation. I don't make illusions that my involvement would pose a radical shift, but I do think it's important that we do not leave our education on , and the dismantling of oppressive systems to those people that suffer the most from them. I want to work together with the Racial justice taskforce and create ways for us who do not experience the receiving end of racism and systemic injustice to help decolonise our organisation. Concretely I am thinking of initiatives like organising a volunteer base to actively moderate comment sections, that intervene proactively by managing the platforms of candidates from racialized backgrounds and removing racist comments. I want to find ways to, where possible, shelter those people who take the risk of stepping forward. I think it is really important to offer safe spaces to our members, like a safe space for racialised people, but those should not be the same spaces we rely on exclusively to put in the real labor that change requires, though their voices should be guiding our decisions. The 2024-2027 inclusion plan includes some very concrete and crucial steps like political education & training on antiracism, but next year will also be the final and in that sense defining year of year the program (though of course, it doesn't end there). 'Anti-racist work is the work of all of us, because it concerns us all' we wrote in 2024 and I wholeheartedly agree.

At the time of writing, I am yet to attend the GIRL MO training organised by FYEG on intersectional feminism inside member organisations. I hope to take what I will learn there with me to Jong Groen and help the next board continue the project, but also to apply that during my mandate at FYEG. At the end of my term, I hope to be able to report some progress, and during it to work with the Racial Justice Task Force, FYEG's Office, EC and MOs, to implement the inclusion plan and to shape our inclusion plan for the following years. Since this period is overlapping with the run-up to the elections, I think it should be a fundamental principle

This whole year will also still be a learning process for me. I try to not have my ideas set in stone though I have some strong beliefs about what tomorrow should look like. Of

course, on any and all of this I am happy to discuss with all of you, and always willing to be wrong. If we are not doing this together, then we can only lose sight of what really matters.

**If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far,
go together"**

Teun Boswinkel

Treasurer Candidate



Green experience

FYEG - EU election campaign, Team leader DEC 2023 - JUN 2024

- Worked with FYEG in preparation for/during the 2024 European election campaign

Jong Groen, International Secretary SEP 2024 - MAY 2026

- Coordinated the Jong Groen attendance and preparation for the GA,
- Advocated for (and secured) more youth representation in Party structure
- Organised (International) events like parliamentary visits, panel discussions, online events and demonstrations

Groen/Zeleni twinning project Steering committee member Jan 2026 - now

- Coordinating activities connecting the Belgian (Flemish) green party and Serbian Green party
- Organised a visit to the EP in Strasbourg with Jong Groen, Ecolo J & Zelena Omladina

Broader activist engagement

CORE Member Maastricht 4 Climate 2018-2020

- Organisation of predominantly students in Maastricht which whom we organised several, demonstrations, workshops, and climate marches
- Engaged with local activists group and part of the Climate Action Network coalition

Local Lobbyist Milieudefensie (Friends of the Earth) 2020-2022

Extinction Rebellion 2021-2022



Relevant Professional Experience

Teaching Assistant, VU Amsterdam (Vrije Universiteit)

2021-2022

- Taught courses in the bachelor Development & Global Challenges

Policy intern, Institute for Public Economics

The Hague, Summer 2021

- Worked on studies on intergenerational wealth redistribution, taxation & budget policy

Project manager, INTYSIFY

Brussels, 2023 - now

- Managed projects with a variety of contexts, budgets and areas related to energy and sustainability
- Gave trainings and workshops on sustainability, energy policy and European emission reporting
- Currently working as Project management office at the Belgian Energy Grid Operator working on Security of Supply to facilitate the energy transition
- Managing and structuring working processes, coordinating work, long-term planning
- Administering and reporting on the budget to the Belgian Energy Regulator

Education

University of Maastricht, University College Honours program bachelor of liberal Arts & Sciences, 2016-2020
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Masters in Economics: 2020-2021 <i>Planetary boundaries & energy economics</i>
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Masters in Politics Science: 2021-2022 <i>Environmental Governance</i>

Languages

Dutch - Native

English - C2

French - C2





*Jong Groen vzw
Van Orleystraat 5-11
1000 Brussels
Belgium*

Letter of Support for Teun Boswinkel, Candidate Treasurer

Dear Delegates, International Secretaries and members of FYEG,

As co-presidents of Jong Groen, we proudly and sincerely endorse Teun Boswinkel as candidate for the position of Treasurer in the Executive Committee of the Federation of Young European Greens.

Over the last 2 years, we've had the opportunity to work with Teun in the national board of Jong Groen, where we've seen him take action, responsibility and leadership from the very first moments on. Serving as our International Secretary, he included our members in European topics and politics, and invested in strengthening our connections with EcoloJ (our Belgian French speaking friends and colleagues) and other FYEG member organizations. We witnessed his passion for European politics up close, and saw how Teun was a strong advocate and organizer for an inclusive organisation, e.g. by joining the Jong Groen working group that re-evaluated and elevated our internal policies on inclusivity and accessibility.

But even beyond his role as international secretary, Teun was there to advise other members of the board, to help set up grassroots actions and to help out wherever possible. His fundamental understanding of political systems, political ecology and community-organizing made him a real asset in our board and in the deep diving discussions on many subjects.

We were pleasantly surprised when Teun shared the news that he's running for FYEG Treasurer, as we're confident that he'll bring these same values and experiences to new levels, and can become the same trusted partner within the Executive Committee that he's been to our National Board. He's someone you can trust and count on, and his dedication is inspiring.

With his experience in Jong Groen and as a familiar face within the FYEG family, Teun is highly qualified to take on the role of Treasurer, and we look forward to seeing him thrive in this position. We therefore endorse his candidacy with much trust, pride and enthusiasm.

With kind and green regards

And with the wish for the best possible Executive Committee,

Daan Reydams & Liv Onkelinx
Co-Presidents of Jong Groen

EC5 Vitaliia Kilinkarova-Toronchenko

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Candidates for Executive Committee

Introduction

Hi, My Dear FYEGERS! ♥

My name is Vitaliia Kilinkarova - young Ukrainian politician, energy sector worker and ecosocialist theorist;) You may know me from Beyond Growth Platform and Ecosprinter.

This year I`m running to be an EC Member of our amazing Federation!

Let`s LOVE.REVOLUTION.TOGETHER!

If you have further questions regarding my candidacy, please, reach out to me via Instagram (@kilinkarova_vitalia) or Discord (@vitaliia_ktva).

Can`t wait to see you all in Bolzano! Thank you for support!

Green kiss



Member Organisation:
Green Youth of Ukraine (Зелена Молодь України)

VITALIIA

MOTIVATION LETTER



“...In your 20s there will be conservative people saying that you are too idealistic and your imagination is too vivid for politics. Baby, it’s important that you don’t listen to them ”



My dear FYEG Member Organisations,

It’s me, Vitaliia - young Ukrainian ecosocial activist and energy sector worker. Some of you know me from previous FYEG events, Ecosprinter coordination and amazing Beyond Growth Platform, which I am also proud to co-lead. ***Feeling really happy and excited, I am submitting my candidacy for Executive Committee of our Federation of Young European Greens.***

Starting my political activist journey 6 years ago as a local anti-deforestation campaigner in my hometown- Irpin’, I had fear. A fear of being alone, a fear to be too „idealistic“ for the “mature” politics. Then I found you...my international green community - a community that defends human rights, acts in solidarity with oppressed peoples and dares to imagine and design alternative economy; my Ukrainian Member Organisation, that acts and gives hope to young Ukrainians, frustrated by the war, corruption and social injustice. I saw hope in the eyes of every activist I met! Being part of my MO and FYEG projects, I felt the strongest support for my actions and ideas from you, my international green colleagues and Ukrainian political friends. I FOUND MY FEAR TRANSFORMED TO LOCAL AND EUROPEAN ACTION.

I organised first ever event in Ukraine dedicated to Degrowth and ecosocialism, involving 25 people, Green Base webinars dedicated to the labour and New European Economy with our lovely BGP and Greens/EFA Group, organised local campaign against neoliberal policies and New Labour Code with Ukrainian civil society organisations, represented Ecosprinter at FYEG and local events, published 10 young authors throughout the year and coordinated resolution writing process for FYEG GA.

With this political background in FYEG structures and other civil society organisations, I bring:

- solid experience in event organisation;
- outreach;
- policy writing;
- presentations design;
- working groups coordination;
- imagination and practicality.

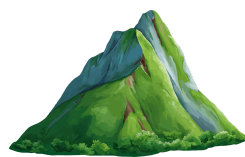
I feel super motivated and ready to continue my work on the European level. For our Green European Future. For the security and green economy in my country, for my brothers and sisters who are fighting on the frontline.

My desire is to focus this mandate on facilitating progressive political forces in Europe, fostering political education and progressive movements in Eastern region by organising digital/offline workshops, MO working groups and supporting young people in their local political actions. We will also focus on closer MO local/digital events, collaboration, policy writing on feminist economy against climate crisis. To this, I bring my expertise in degrowth, post-growth and intercultural experience I gained when studying in Cyprus. The position of the EC Member will also give me an opportunity to bring transformation of Ukrainian local politics on the new level by empowering youth in my country.

I know that we LOVE the feeling of green REVOLUTION TOGETHER! I see this motivation in the eyes of every young person, we can do it! I am ready to further FIGHT AND SUPPORT my Green political home!

Thank you for supporting my candidacy!

See you in Bolzano



Kiss





FYEG VISION LETTER



VITALIIA KILINKAROVA-TORONCHENKO

LOVE.REVOLUTION.TOGETHER.



DEAR FELLOW FYEGERS,

I am feeling really grateful and privileged while writing this letter to you from my home in Ukraine. Being a young activist girl from Eastern European country, I couldn't have dreamed earlier that I will be asking you now to elect me as your FYEG Executive Committee Member. Living and taking green action in Ukraine, a country at war is challenging but rewarding experience for me and future generations, especially ones that are dying for us at the frontline. Looking around and talking to my international green colleagues, I see that both justice and injustice are intersectional. We are all in the same boat. We, youth from around Europe and beyond, are standing together in the middle of dangerous fire created by super rich capitalists, imperialists and far-right forces. **YES, WE STILL HAVE TO STAND UP AGAINST THIS SHIT.** This is why it is a right moment for us to **LOVE REVOLUTION TOGETHER.** A green revolution, that unites young voices for a just peace, climate justice and alternative economic system. Ecosocialism. I am sure that we can do this! We are taking action. In these times, I am very proud to be a part of my Green political home, a home that dares to imagine alternatives to capitalism, protects human rights beyond European borders, intersectional feminism, advocates for climate justice and empowers youth to imagine and act for sustainable future.

We as a Federation have brought hope to thousands of young people around Europe and we will continue doing it by strengthening our movement and moving closer to green, sustainable Europe we are all dreaming of. This is why I am happy to write about my vision for our Federation of Young European Greens.

1. DEVELOPING AND SUPPORTING GREEN MOVEMENT IN EASTERN, EASTERN-MEDITERRANEAN AND SOUTHERN EUROPE.

Knowing well the political context of these regions, I am ready to bring my Eastern and Southern European perspective to the work of our federation. Apart working more

closely with Eastern- and Souther-European MOs, active youth, we should also encourage collaboration with grassroots ecology movements in the regions, progressive small research centers, which has the right capacity to form the political landscape and bring their valuable knowledge. It all can be done by fostering MO exchanges, Green Base webinars, inviting representatives from civil society, establishing thematic working groups to work on policy proposals/papers (digitally and where possible offline), organizing local campaigns, encouraging more young people from the regions to write their ideas and join the Green Base. Moreover, we should support local (especially rural) youth to take part in the decision making processes at all levels. By doing all of the above, I believe we can form and spread our green vision more effectively and overcome the evil far-right turnout in the regions and everywhere in Europe. STEP CLOSER TO THE GREEN REVOLUTION, haha)

2. UNITING AND EMPOWERING YOUNG VOICES FOR ALTERNATIVE JUST AND FEMINIST ECONOMY, RESPECTING PLANETARY BOUNDARIES: POST-GROWTH, DEGROWTH AND ECOSOCIALISM.

1 % of the richest own more wealth than 95% of humanity

Current neoliberal, growth-oriented, capitalist economic system is failing us, exaggerating further climate crisis, leaving more and more people behind, except 1% of the richest. And the richest clearly have advantage now not only by spreading disinformation and neoliberal propaganda, but holding almost all the production forces in their oligarch hands. Here our FYEG campaign, policy and movement building skills can help building a full vision of the GREEN NEW POST-GROWTH DEMOCRATIZED ECONOMY, that puts people over profit and effectively redistributes wealth, which belongs to every human being. Being co-coordinator of the Beyond Growth Platform Working Group, together with my colleagues, I've already fostered effective MOs collaboration on post-growth and degrowth and coordinated webinars on Greens Base. We will continue creating more webinars, working groups, campaigns (Instagram) thematic online MO exchanges, organizing online academies, podcasts, and some sessions on the FYEG events that inspire youth to take the idea of new economy home. By this we will strengthen both our and MO educational capacity. We will involve more and more youth to spread our IDEA OF JUST GREEN ECONOMY. JUST GREEN EUROPE. UNITED YOUTH IN LOVE WITH GREEN FEMINIST REVOLUTION FROM KYIV TO LISBON.

3. ANTI-IMPERIALISM. STANDING WITH ALL THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES.

Violation of international law by Russia, USA and Israel should face strict justice. This is why we should campaign both nationally and on the European level to increase sanction pressure on Russia and Israel and against US imperialist policies.

4. EMPOWERING YOUNG GREEN ACTIVISTS TO TAKE PART IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES (DEPENDING ON NATIONAL CONTEXTS).

We, as Federation, should support small national projects and young people, willing to influence national politics with available tools and in collaboration with MOs. This can be done by organizing joint online educational sessions discussing national policies, state of youth involvement in order to help activists to enter local/national political arena.

I am ready to bring all my political experience to support and work for our amazing Federation, every MO, every young activist. I'm not alone, I am standing and fighting together with you, my friends, my Green political home. Now, I am asking you for support.

Let's create our **JOYFUL** future through **LOVE** and **GREEN REVOLUTION TOGETHER!**

Reach Out
v.kilinkarova@outlook.com



VITALIIA KILINKAROVA

LOVE.REVOLUTION.TOGETHER

v.kilinkarova@outlook.com

Kyiv, Ukraine



Activist Profile

Young Ukrainian green activist and energy sector worker with a strong focus on social justice, sustainability, movement building, post-growth and youth peace diplomacy. Over 2 years of experience in communications, outreach and political organizing. Skilled at creating engaging digital content, event organization and campaign facilitation. Familiar with European and Eastern Mediterranean political landscape.



Experience

Green Youth of Ukraine (NGO) (August 2025 - present) Kyiv, Ukraine

Member

- Social Media Management;
- Event organization and facilitation.

Social Rukh (NGO) (October 2025 - present) Kyiv, Ukraine

Member

- Organized first event in Ukraine dedicated to degrowth transition to post-growth economies and sustainable Ukraine rebuild (gathered 25 people).
- Negotiated amendments to the law for protection of critical infrastructure workers in Ukrainian parliament on behalf of the organization.
- Contributing to the monthly organization newsletter.
- Organize official meetings and round-tables with MEPs, other European officials in Kyiv on progressive movement building in Ukraine.

FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS - THE ECOSPRINER MAGAZINE (August 2024 - present) Brussels, Belgium - online

Editorial Board Member

- Design promotional posts, article posts via social media and Ecosprinter Website;
- Design presentations for Ecosprinter external representation;
- Developed Ecosprinter's communication strategy aligned with FYEG 2025-2026 Working Plan;
- Supported FYEG's Social Justice Campaign by tailored digital outreach to young green activists and authors;
- Increased the reach of the Ecosprinter's content to the smaller national grass-roots organizations;
- Prepared 2024-2025 Editorial Board Report to FYEG General Assembly 2025;
- Improved Ecosprinter's digital outreach by attracting 200 new followers via Instagram;

- Manage communication with external stakeholders and partners: Green European Journal, Climate Vanguard and GreenFix;
- Drafting website content;
- Liaising with authors on articles publication and content;

FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS – Beyond Growth Platform (February 2024 – present)

Co-Coordinator

- Organized webinar regarding labour organization and industry under post-growth (Green Base).
- Presented BGP's results in the Young Green Forum 2026.
- Manage The Ecosprinter X BGP Collaboration.
- Manage Colaboration with Research&Degrowth International.
- Involved in a Resolution writing process for FYEG General Assemblies 2024 and 2026.
- Manage workshops organization with Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament.

JSC UKRTRANSGAZ (NAFTOGAZ OF UKRAINE) (September 2023 – present) Kyiv, Ukraine

Client (Commercial) Outreach Specialist

- Structured and negotiated commercial agreements with resident and international energy companies to establish gas storage clientship, fostering long-term business partnerships.
- Produced monthly analytical reports on European biomethane and green gas markets, including regulatory updates, to support strategic decision-making.
- Coordinated the preparation of presentations and materials for executive meetings, industry conferences, and exhibitions to enhance client engagement and identify new sales opportunities.
- Organised and facilitated meetings with international clients and partners to develop customised gas storage business solutions.
- Monitored and evaluated European climate and energy legislation to assess its impact on storage business strategies.



Education

MA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES

University of Nicosia (Nicosia, Cyprus) – (September 2021 – January 2023)

MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Kyiv, Ukraine) – (September 2021 – May 2023)

BACHELOR OF LAWS

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Kyiv, Ukraine) – (September 2017 – June 2021)



Courses

INTRODUCTION TO DEGROWTH

Research and Degrowth International (Barcelona, Spain) – (September 2025 – November 2025)



Languages

Native Languages: Ukrainian, Russian.

Other Languages: English (C1), German (A2), French (A1)

Subject: Letter of Support for Vitaliia Kilinkarova-Toronchenko, Candidate - Executive Committee - FYEG General Assembly 2026

Dear Member Organisations,

Green Youth of Ukraine, full member organization of FYEG, with the following letter, fully endorses **Vitaliia Kilinkarova-Toronchenko (she/her)** as a candidate for the Executive Committee of the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG).

Throughout her experience in FYEG bodies (The Ecosprinter Magazine and Beyond Growth Platform), Ukrainian civil society sector, Vitaliia has done a great job in advocating for green-left values such as: social justice, sustainable peace, degrowth and intersectional sustainability, decolonization on both national and European levels. Her work as an activist plays a huge role in development of progressive green movement in Ukraine, for the future of our country. Vitaliia has shown her competence throughout organizing lectures, events on climate justice, post-growth and eco-socialism in Kyiv, advocating for social rights improvement while liaising with Ukrainian MPs and authorities, organizing webinars for young greens via Green Base and effective outreach to young authors across Europe. Furthermore, while having robust knowledge of European political landscape, international relations and law, she organizes educational activities for young Ukrainians from different regions regarding EU political process and the importance of progressive change in Ukraine even in the time of war.

While living and studying in Cyprus she got acquainted with Southern-Eastern European politics, built a network of progressive students in University of Nicosia fighting with inequality and advocated for peace in Ukraine and humanitarian support.

With her passion and experience in youth politics in different regions of Europe and Ukraine, we believe, Vitaliia is extremely qualified for the position of FYEG EC member and we are pleased to support her candidacy.

Green Regards,
Head of the All-Ukrainian Youth
NGO "Green Youth of Ukraine"
Mariia Patrul
17.02.2026



EC6 Kristiāna Bruce

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Candidates for Executive Committee

Introduction

Hi, dear activist!

I am Kristiāna (she/her), and I am running to be a member of the next EC!

I am a 19-year-old fellow Green activist, with political roots in Protests, the Latvian Young Greens. I have been involved in the Green youth for exactly 4 years, and started my FYEG journey at the 2023 Barcelona General Assembly. It has been a wonderful adventure that has given me previously unimaginable opportunities: having a platform to fight against injustices, co-leading a national European election campaign, and learning from so many wonderful friends and local contexts!

I would love nothing more than to work within the EC to amplify FYEG's voice in the fight against hatred and austerity, and for a Europe of solidarity!

I wish you a lovely reading experience. I would love to hear your thoughts at bruce.kristiana@gmail.com or @kristianabruce on Discord.

See you in Bolzano!



Member Organisation:
Protests

KRISTIĀNA BRUCE

Forlì, Italy | she/her/hers | bruce.kristiana@gmail.com

Member Organization: “Protests” (Latvia)

MOTIVATION LETTER

Dear Fellow Young Green,

FYEG represents, as for many others, my political home where I have grown up. I was fifteen, passionate about defending women’s and animal rights, and I didn’t feel at home, not in Latvia, where I was born, nor in France, where I was growing up. FYEG gave me my community that cares about the same things I do, and it changed me fundamentally. I am running for the Executive Committee because I want to help build that home for others, and because I unquestionably believe I can contribute to the work of the next EC.

Over the past four years, I have devoted my capacities with care for FYEG and my member organization, Protests. As International Officer and Board Secretary of Protests, I represented our MO at the 2023 and 2024 FYEG General Assemblies, lobbied for the adoption of clauses and resolutions on the Eastern EU border humanitarian crisis, on Ukraine, and Israel-Palestine. I equally coordinated FYEG’s Get Out the Vote 2024 campaign in Latvia with a €3,000 grant, with which we mobilized 200 regionally underrepresented youth voters. In 2025, I was a preparatory team member for two FYEG events on social justice, the European Lab “Social Justice, Here and Now” in Croatia and the “Policies of Today and Tomorrow” summer camp in Poland. Within the two, I had the opportunity to co-develop the 3 and 6-day curricula for over 35 young Greens each, and facilitate various sessions, including two with the Racial Justice Task Force. Additionally, in January 2025, I was selected by FYEG to represent the organization at a Council of Europe training course on youth advocacy, human rights, and democracy in Strasbourg. What all of this means in practice is that I have never stopped showing up to give something back to FYEG and Protests.

Alongside this, I currently co-chair the Foreign and European Affairs Working Group of Progresīvie, the Green party in Latvia, where I have drafted the party’s 2026 general election manifesto chapter on EU geopolitics, as well as brought resolutions on Israel-Palestine, and the democratic crises in Sakartvelo (Georgia) and Serbia. I am also contributing to academic research on Serbian defense and geopolitics at the University of Bologna, where I study International Relations at an undergraduate level. This widespread experience has allowed me to grasp the political contexts our member organizations face, and to have the political knowledge I want to bring to the EC.

The next EC mandate will certainly not be easy: FYEG is among many facing budget cuts. But at the same time, Young Greens are winning! We see and admire the achievements of Nefertiti from the Swiss Young Greens, of Annah from Les Jeunes Ecologistes, and of Selma, the first Young Green MP in Latvia! FYEG is regaining momentum, and we must now turn electoral success into Paneuropean impact on people’s daily lives. I wholeheartedly want to contribute to the daily work of the EC, such as the current rewriting of the political platform and capacity-building activities, to allow FYEG to reinforce its work - both community-building and political influence.

The underlying nature of FYEG is to bring hope, as we promised in 2024 across Europe. Hope is what brought people to the polls in Hungary after 16 years of Orbán’s rule, it is what keeps us activists continuing to fight for justice despite the daily war crimes we witness on our social media feeds. FYEG exists not only to build a community of like-minded individuals, but to impact communities on a daily basis, thanks to the Green family and the actions of our national organizations. And, as the former link between Protests and FYEG, I recognize the vital role of smaller MOs. I know the sense of minor impact within the Greens, and the financial hardships. Protests’ financing, for instance, depends on party funding and FYEG grants only. I applaud the work of the EC throughout the years to bring MOs like mine closer to FYEG, and if elected, I will make low-capacity MOs heard.

I am running because FYEG gave me my community, a home that I want to help build for others. I am also running to be your next EC member to defend with pride the youth’s interests - by strengthening civic solidarity, and by lobbying within the Green family. I will do the work with immense gratitude for you, my friends.

Yours truly,
Kristiāna

KRISTIĀNA BRUCE

Forlì, Italy | she/her/hers | bruce.kristiana@gmail.com

Member Organization: “Protests” (Latvia)

VISION FOR FYEG

Dear Fellow Young Green,

We are living through a period of overlapping crises. My Latvian peers are among those at the forefront of them. The rise of the far-right, the shrinkage of the civic space, austerity measures, the militarization of borders, and the erosion of our basic democratic norms are all limiting our political impact, across Europe. For immigrants, especially racialized, people in poverty, and other vulnerable individuals, these crises are existential. My own experience as a migrant, and my work with asylum seekers in Latvia, have made me realize the daily impact neoliberals and the right-wing have on such social groups. We must aim at reversing this, and that is why I am running to defend an internally strong, and bolder FYEG.

FOSTERING CONSENSUS CULTURE

FYEG is among the most structured progressive youth voices across Europe, yet it is not enough to defy the current challenges. We must be courageous politically and strong structurally. With my 3-year experience within FYEG, it has become so utterly clear that with our internal fragmentation, and shrinking resources, our movement cannot effectively defend migrants' rights, climate and environmental justice, and social justice as a whole. I saw at the 2023 Barcelona General Assembly that our disagreements are a sign that we care about our movement. But what is more important is that FYEG continues building the federalist structures that bring us toward mutual trust, and ultimately – consensus. I have increasingly noticed the work of the EC toward consensus on nuclear energy, and it is truly the culture I believe is best for our community and want to contribute to strengthening it.

INITIATING CIVIC SOLIDARITY AGAINST FASCISM

At the same time, the so-called continent of free movement and democracy is raising its fortress, with blood on its hands. As the European Union is collaborating with repressive regimes, funding pushbacks, and criminalizing sovereignty, the consequences in Europe have left me heartbroken and full of rage. In Latvia specifically, left-wing activism is being surveilled, Muslims are being targeted by the right-wing and the media for celebrating Eid, and the Latvian Border Guard illegally completed 12,000 pushbacks in 2025 and continues to do so without accountability. FYEG must be clear about defending inclusivity and fighting hatred, when fascism and exclusion are being normalized. I am immensely proud that FYEG stands strong against this, by repeatedly criticizing the EPP's support for mass deportations, and by partnering up with FEMYSO. This is the direction we must strengthen. We must build alliances with likeminded youth organizations. Civic solidarity is what will make our voices louder and our impact tangible.

FIGHTING FOR YOUTH INTERESTS IN THE GREEN FAMILY

Finally, it must be tackled that certain Young Greens' interests are increasingly unheard within the Green family, as many of our mother parties face a political landscape shifting toward the right. In Latvia, this means, for instance, allowing ECR to continue spreading hate speech and not openly criticizing it, meaning that Young Greens are losing impact. However, we see that it is possible to change this - for more radical youth voices to be heard. The example of the Young Greens of England and Wales has been a recent source of hope, as the now 50,000-member youth wing is visibly shaping party direction. Through the EGP and GEF, FYEG must ensure that Young Greens are represented and heard, as we are central to the survival of the Greens.

My vision of FYEG is that of an internally strong and united federation in our times of crisis. This is exactly the period to become more creative, strategic, and courageous in our activism. Because when we fight together, we are stronger.

Yours truly,
Kristiāna

KRISTIĀNA BRUCE

Forlì, Italy | she/her/hers | bruce.kristiana@gmail.com

Member Organization: “Protests” (Latvia)

PROFILE

Young Green activist with four years of commitment within FYEG, its Latvia member organization *Protests*, and the country’s Green party *Progresīvie*. Co-developed and facilitated two FYEG work plan activities, coordinated a FYEG Get Out the Vote campaign mobilizing 200 young people, and lobbied for the adoption of FYEG clauses and resolutions on Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, and the Eastern EU border. Represented *Protests* at the 2023 and 2024 General Assemblies and FYEG at a Council of Europe training course. Currently co-leading the Foreign and European Affairs Working Group of *Progresīvie* and studying International Relations at the University of Bologna.

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Professor Roberto Belloni – University of Bologna

February 2026 – present | Bologna, Italy

- Contributing to a forthcoming academic article on rearmament and geopolitical strategy in the Western Balkans
- Coding sources and reviewing literature to identify arms industry and regional geopolitical trends

Co-Chair, Foreign and European Affairs Working Group – Political Party *Progresīvie*

April 2025 – present | Latvia (remote)

- Leading a collaborative policy process with 20 working group members on human rights-based foreign policy
- Drafting the party’s 2026 general election manifesto chapter on EU geopolitics in the tariff era
- Represented *Progresīvie* at European Green Party’s European Green Reflection Day (May 2025)

Intern – NGO *Gribu palīdzēt bēgļiem* (I Want to Help Refugees)

July – August 2025 | Riga, Latvia

- Supported UNHCR-funded advocacy campaigns for asylum seekers and refugees in Latvia
- Provided support to individuals during solidarity initiatives in detention centers
- Monitored State Border Guard practices on the Latvian-Belarusian border and reported to the UNHCR

Preparatory Team Member, Summer Camp “Policies of Today and Tomorrow” – Young European Greens

April – August 2025 | Puck, Poland

- Co-developed the full 6-day curriculum for 40 young Greens
- Facilitated, among others, a session on EU asylum and migration law with FYEG’s Racial Justice Task Force

Youth Expert Representing FYEG – Council of Europe

January 2025 | Strasbourg

- Selected by FYEG to represent the organization at a Council of Europe course on youth advocacy, human rights, and democracy

Preparatory Team Member, European Lab “Social Justice, Here and Now” – Young European Greens

December 2024 – March 2025 | Zadar, Croatia

- Co-developed the 3-day curriculum for 35 young Greens
- Facilitated sessions on social justice theory and comprehensive justice for victims of armed conflicts

International Officer – Youth Organization *Protests*

June 2023 – January 2025 | Latvia (hybrid)

- Managed partnerships with FYEG and CDN; represented *Protests* at FYEG General Assemblies in 2023 and 2024
- Coordinated FYEG’s Get Out the Vote 2024 European election campaign in Latvia, mobilizing 200 youth with a €3,000 grant
- Lobbied for FYEG to adopt resolutions and specific clauses on the crises in Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, and the Eastern EU border humanitarian crisis

Board Secretary – Youth Organization *Protests*

January 2023 – January 2025 | Latvia (hybrid)

- Served on the board of FYEG’s Latvian member organization for two years, contributing to the organization’s governance and internal coordination

Preparatory Team Member, “Just Transition in the Baltic Sea Region” Summer Camp – Youth Organization *Protests*
July – August 2023 | Sigulda, Latvia

- Organized and facilitated sessions of the 20-participant summer camp, with a FYEG EU and You! grant

Local Coordinator – Youth for Climate France

October 2022 – September 2023 | Amiens, France

- Coordinated a team of 15 activists
- Organized a public protest of 40 participants for municipal climate action
- Built partnerships with local grassroots climate collectives to ensure mobilization

EDUCATION

Joint BA in European Studies (Major in International Relations, Minor in Law)

Una Europa Alliance | 2024 - 2027

- KU Leuven (Semesters 1-3) → University of Bologna (Semesters 4 and 5) → University of Zurich (Semester 6)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- International Criminal Law Course, René Cassin Foundation – International Institute of Human Rights (December 2025)
- International Humanitarian Law Course (ACADIHMIE 2025), Belgian Red Cross (September – November 2025)
- European Green Activists Training, Green European Foundation (March 2024)

LANGUAGES

C2: English, French, Latvian (native) **B1:** German **A2:** Ukrainian, Russian

DIGITAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL TOOLS

Google Workspace, Microsoft Office, Canva, Slack, Signal, Discord, social media management, qualitative data coding

PUBLICATIONS

European Studies Gazette | October 2025

From Latvia’s Border Pushbacks to a Climate of Fear Ahead of the 2026 Elections



Jaunatnes Organizācija "Protests"

Rīga, April 28th, 2026

Dear Young European Greens!

On behalf of Protests, I enthusiastically **endorse Kristiāna Bruce** for the FYEG Executive Committee.

Kristiāna has been **a dedicated activist and leader** at Protests, serving on our board and as International Officer. She is competent and well-versed in FYEG and green spaces. She coordinated FYEG's Get Out the Vote 2024 campaign in Latvia and the "Just Transition in the Baltic Sea Region" summer camp, funded by a FYEG grant.

Kristiāna is **deeply committed to FYEG** at the European level. She represented Protests at the 2023 and 2024 FYEG General Assemblies and lobbied for resolutions on Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, and the Eastern EU border. She helped organize the FYEG Summer Camp in Poland and the European Lab in Croatia.

I and Protests are confident that her experience, work ethic, and green values will benefit the Executive Committee. We **fully support Kristiāna's candidacy**.

Best green wishes,
Sindija Mierture
Chairperson of "Protests"

EC7 Ignasi Digón Salvà

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Candidates for Executive Committee

Introduction

Dear green friends,

I am Ignasi (He/him), a 21-year-old law student from Catalonia. I work in labor law, and I love debating, hiking, and of course, politics.

I'm running for FYEG's Executive Committee because I believe the world is at a crossroads, and I've found the organization that best represents my values and that can help shape a better Europe.

Here you will see my motivation and vision letters, but I believe our vision is something we build together. For that reason, I leave my contact information below.

Feel free to message me on Discord (@ignasiidigon) or Telegram (@ignasiidigon) for any doubts, ideas or to schedule a call!

See you at the GA!



Member Organisation:
Joves Ecosocialistes

Ignasi Digón

Member of Joves Ecosocialistes

Dear young greens

I'm writing these words while returning home from the European Green Academy. I will not get into detail about the debates that occurred in the Academy, but I can share the main outcome I get. Green parties are struggling to reach society. In a world that's burning and on the brink of civilizational collapse, the voices that offer hope and solutions are not being heard. Fear and uncertainty are influencing people, leading them to choose easy solutions. With the far-right advancing, democracy backsliding, and a lost climate ambition in our continent, it is easy to lose hope. That's why I want to share how I got into politics.

It was 2023, and Spain was heading for snap elections. A government from the right and far-right was almost inevitable. But there was a small hope that the progressive government could continue and not only we could stop fascism, but that we'd be able to keep doing policies that improved peoples lives, such increasing by 60% the minimum wage a few years, making Spain one of the biggest producers of renewable energy driving the lowest energy prices of the continent while fueling decarbonisation, promoting a new set of social rights for women and trans people and offering the lead on condemning the genocide in Gaza. This was only possible because we offered people a narrative based on hope.

Many criticize my political family for either its radicalism or its realism. I praise it for both of these things: for having strong ambitions for social, economic, and environmental change, but also for the ability to compromise for the greater good, even if we don't achieve everything we wanted, because getting positive results is more important than sustaining an empty narrative.

This is what I want my contribution to be in FYEG's Executive Committee. My intention is to help build a strong narrative grounded in radical hope and to spread it through a well-connected, green base of like-minded activists and political actors across Europe.

In this journey I've done my bit by being the international secretary of Joves Ecosocialistes (Catalonia), where I have promoted deep ideological debate within the organization, and also a committed participation in FYEG mainly bringing two key topics from our internal debates: **the protection of minoritized languages and national minorities and the establishment of a green framework on security** that challenges the dominant narrative, but finds a compromise within all FYEG Member Organizations and our different realities.

Besides building firm green narrative and policy proposals, I have also focused on helping grow a strong base within FYEG by participating in Community Crew I, the prep team of the Young Green Academy and the Campaigner's team on Social Justice which helped me

Ignasi Digón

Member of Joves Ecosocialistes

better understand our organisation, our strengths, weaknesses and challenges and allowed me to shape a vision on how to make our organisation have the capacities to lead the European political agenda. Furthermore, for us to be ready for the not-so-far-away 2029 European elections, where the outcome will be decisive for our continent's future.

In addition to my political participation, I'm a law student working at a firm specializing in labor law. Studying law has given me a very pragmatic approach and has taught me to study every political proposal critically in order to better understand its effects. Helping workers who suffer all types of abuse from their employers not only developed in me a strong social conscience but also the clear determination that we must not only champion workers' rights but also that we live in a system that is unfair by definition, and we must radically transform it. In my free time, one of the most profitable things I've done is volunteer as a judge and trainer in debating leagues. One of the places I did it was in a penitentiary facility, which helped me better understand social realities and the root causes of what makes our society deeply unjust and broken.

For these reasons, I believe my political, personal, and professional experiences have equipped me with a critical perspective, social sensitivity, and the organizational capacity to be a valuable member of the next FYEG Executive Committee.

If given the trust, I will represent all the Member Organizations in the next year and dedicate my time, passion, and energy to growing an organization that I really believe can make an impact.

Green regards,

Ignasi Digón,

Ignasi Digón

Member of Joves Ecosocialistes

Vision Letter: Empowering our Grassroots, Transforming our Future

Our strength lies in our diversity, but our impact depends on our unity and the capacity of our Member Organizations (MOs). My vision consists in building a federation that doesn't just react to the current crises but proactively shapes the European political landscape through **bottom-up empowerment and radical, constructive discourse**.

1. Strengthening the Backbone: From MOs to a strong Green Base. We must address the current gap between the EC and its members. My goal is to:

- **Build a strong base:** Create a base of recurring volunteers and "middle cadres" so that the expertise gained in prep teams, campaigner teams, and events stays within the organization. It is also important to do so to be able to off-load some work from the Executive Committee and the Office, increase our capacity to build a narrative and launch campaigns, and in order to prepare our campaigning muscle for the next European elections in 2029, where we will have to reclaim the ground we lost and get the predominant position we had in the 2019-2024 mandate as greens.
- **Regional Empowerment and continued ideological debate:** Foster more fluid collaboration between MO's through:
 - Regional meetings.
 - Dedicated Discord channels to share campaigns.
 - Having a platform to share designs, tactics and experiences. Encourage MOs to gather together frequently. Study setting a couple of calls among all international secretaries during the year.
 - Make GA preparation a year-round and holistic process, integrating more informal debates in a relaxed, less serious atmosphere and allowing MO's to introduce political debates in online and in-person events.
 - Make the EC extremely approachable so MOs can push proposals during the mandate: encourage one-to-one meetings between international secretaries and regional responsables.
 - Set alignment meetings for resolution discussions.
- **Capacity Building:** Provide MOs with high-level policy briefings, organizational expertise, and materials to help them lead the green transition locally: Provide our campaigns' canvases and manuals from FYEG Office and EC as one of FYEG's main roles is to provide support to capacity-building.

Ignasi Digón

Member of Joves Ecosocialistes

2. From Summer Camps to a Green Academy. I propose a step up in our educational model. We should move toward a "**Green Academy**" approach:

- **Intellectual Training:** Encourage participants to research and prepare proposals before events, ensuring that the knowledge generated (e.g., articles, policy papers, organizational methods and political material in general) is shared back with their MOs. To avoid discouragement from participating in educational activities, I propose applying a progressive ladder of engagement for future participants.
- The first step would be **sharing materials in advance**; online preparation would be a second step, and lastly, prepare something to share in the event such as a policy brief or a presentation on experiences around the matter.
- **Critical Thinking:** Promote lateral thinking and diverse ideological perspectives to foster a generation of Greens that can tackle a broken system with innovative solutions.

3. Reclaiming the Narrative and Radical Action. The far-right is currently framing the narrative of "freedom", while we are often portrayed as restrictive and surreal. We must change this:

- **Combative Politics:** We need to be the ones proposing transformative changes, rather than just "patching up" the current system, which is clearly not working to create prosperity nor responding to the current needs of society.
- **Rapid Response:** Create a campaign team ready to seize political momentum and coordinate responses across Europe instantly, along with the EC, so we can keep growing our audience and political impact.
- **Global Justice:** Our commitment to peace must be firm and we have to be the ones calling out European leaders for our complicity in all the vulnerations of Human Rights around the world.
- **Contact with social movements:** Let's keep building connections across Europe. It is important to map, with the collaboration of MOs, important actors in civil society with which we can foster alliances by being a door for them to institutions and using them to enrich our vision and build a better political platform and stronger base.

4. A Diverse and Inclusive Europe. My vision for Europe is one of regions and peoples, not just nation-states:

- **Worker's perspective:** we must champion workers rights and create a framework that allows wealth redistribution and a better work-life balance, especially in the times of AI. In this field it is essential to defend women's, migrants and LGBTQIA+ people's rights and keep putting an intersectional approach to our proposals.
- **Climate and Economy:** We have to put together a narrative for our economic vision that shows we represent the 99%, including farmers, workers from sectors affected by the green transition and others. If people who are affected negatively by the right's policies are still voting for them it's the progressives' failure and we must solve it.

Ignasi Digón

Member of Joves Ecosocialistes

- **Social Inclusion:** We must promote security models that integrate and resocialize rather than marginalize, ensuring that no one is left behind in our society.

In conclusion, I want to be an EC member who is truly available, fostering a culture of **transparency, proximity, collaboration and shared knowledge**. Together, with joy, we can turn FYEG into a powerful laboratory of revolutionary ideas and force action at all levels, so we can challenge the status quo and build a new, emancipatory future.

IGNASI DIGÓN



Work Experience

- NGO Fundraiser
Impathize
- Private tutor
Self employed 2024-2025
- Intern at law firm 2025.-Present
Col.lectiu Balmes i Associats

Participation and Extracurricular Activities

- Group delegate for two academic years
- Member of the UPF Student Council
- Participant Xarxa Vives Debate League
- Team leader in Quatre Camins prison debate league
- Participant in EUTOPIA Environment and Migrations interdisciplinary project
- Jury in High School Xarxa Vives Debate League
- Participation in university commissions: commission on language policy, commission against sexist and LGBT-phobic violence
- Delegate to the Barcelona Youth Council (CJB) and Catalonia Youth Council (CNJC)
- Volunteer in UPF legal clinic
- Democracy Lab Barcelona

Education

High School Diploma
Escolàpies Llúria

Bachelor's Degree in Law
(in progress)
Universtitat Pompeu Fabra

Skillset

- Collaboration & Teamwork
- Public speaking & communication
- Hosting Meetings
- Active Listening

Politics

- International Secretary Joves Ecosocialistes
 - Responsible of Joves Ecosocialistes - Pompeu Fabra University grants and activities
 - Community Crew 1
 - Prep team Green Academy
 - Campaigner's on Social Justice Team
 - European Green Activist Training
 - European Green Academy 2024 & 2026
 - FYEG Summer Camp 2025
 - FYEG Lab Zadar 2025
 - Democracy Lab Barcelona
-

Languages

English: C1.2

French: (intermediate level)

Dear Federation of Young European Greens,

We are writing to express our full support for Ignasi Digón's candidacy to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Young European Greens.

Ignasi is currently serving as International Secretary on the board of Joves Ecosocialistes, representing the organisation in its relations with international partners. In this capacity, he has demonstrated a solid grasp of European green politics, alongside the reliability and political responsibility that complex multilateral spaces demand. He also coordinates the International working group, providing structured oversight and ensuring coherent collaboration across different policy areas.

Ignasi has played a key role in several strategic initiatives. He was part of the "Get Out the Vote" campaign in Catalonia during the 2024 European elections, leading the main event and contributing to youth mobilisation, message framing, and outreach strategies. He also led the development and adoption of the security resolution at the most recent FYEG General Assembly, showing his capability to navigate sensitive political debates and forge shared ground around actionable outcomes.

Beyond his formal responsibilities, Ignasi brings competencies highly relevant for the Executive Committee. He has strong negotiation skills and a proven ability to bring divergent positions into alignment across organisations, political cultures, and ideological differences within the European green movement. He approaches disagreements in a solution-oriented way, combining firmness in his values with flexibility in method, which helps him bridge divides and foster constructive dialogue.

He also demonstrates strong strategic and analytical capacity, particularly in understanding organisational structures and improving internal processes. This is complemented by his ability to manage multiple responsibilities, maintain attention to detail, and ensure follow-through, key skills for EC-level work.

Ignasi also excels in communication and interpersonal dynamics: he listens actively, communicates with clarity, and adapts naturally to different audiences and contexts. He is equally at ease in multicultural

and multilingual settings, where he actively contributes to building collaborative and trusting team environments.

Finally, his international representation experience has strengthened his diplomatic sensitivity, political judgment, and ability to work under pressure while maintaining a constructive approach. These skills make him well suited for the collective leadership and strategic responsibilities of FYEG.

The FYEG Executive Committee needs people who combine political depth with the practical ability to hold diverse voices together. And Ignasi is exactly that. We have seen him grow into this role, and we know what he brings to a room. We endorse his candidacy with full conviction and genuine enthusiasm.

With kind regards,

Marina Rodríguez Parpal – Arnau Morales Soley

Joves Ecosocialistes National Coordinators

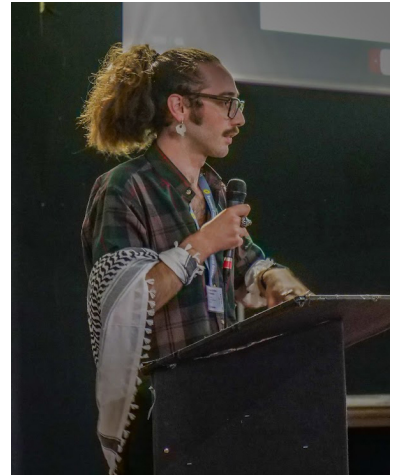
EC8 Ángel (Léo) Villabona

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Candidates for Executive Committee

Introduction

Hi! I'm Ángel, or Léo, (He/They) from Madrid, Spain, but I've been working since late last year as an APA for MEP Jaime Asens. I'm passionate about communication, what isn't communicated doesn't exist. I'm 28 years old, a former FYEG communications intern, former FYEG's Green Vision member, former Ecosprinter Editorial Board and I spent quite a few years working as a bartender. I love reading, or to be honest buying books and letting them in a pile. My favorite flower are the daisies, and my favorite cocktail are margaritas (which is "daisy" in Spanish). I'm also vegan and deeply anti-bullfighting.



Member Organisation:
Juventud Verde

Ángel (Léo) Villabona

Candidate to the Executive Committee



Motivation

Dear fyegers,

My name is Ángel, or Léo, and I am running for the Executive Committee because I believe I can contribute something useful at this moment for the federation.

We are living through an important international moment. The world as we knew it is changing fast, and many of the certainties we took for granted are no longer there. This pushes us to position ourselves better, organise better and act with more determination.

My path within the green movement has been quite transversal. I have been involved in the Spanish Young Greens for years, first as an activist and later as co-spokesperson, learning what it means to organise, take decisions and sustain a political project day to day. I have also worked in political communication in Sumar, within the coalition government in Spain with Pedro Sánchez and Yolanda Díaz, and now in the European Parliament. This has given me a clear perspective on how messages are built and what makes them connect.

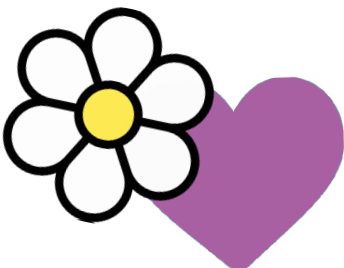
I have also been involved in FYEG through the Green Vision Campaign Team and as a trainee in the office, where I understood both the federation's dynamics and its potential. When there is direction and coordination, we are capable of delivering at a very high level, the kind of level that many parties and organisations would aim to reach.

Now working in the European Parliament, I believe having someone inside that space can be useful. Many decisions that affect us happen there, and understanding how it works and activating contacts at the right moment can make a difference.

That is why I am running: because I believe this experience can help FYEG better connect what our MOs do, what happens in campaigns and what takes place in broader political spaces.

I also believe I can bring a slightly different perspective, combining experience inside the federation with insights from other political spaces.

I am running because I want to help FYEG make better use of what we already have, be more connected and act with more clarity.



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a flourish.

Stay woke,
Ángel (Léo) Villabona (He/They)
leo.villabona@juventudverde.org

The European elections are approaching and we need to get ready, but between now and 2029 many of our MOs will face challenges and elections in increasingly difficult contexts. The far right already governs in many places, and where it does not, it is growing. Moreover, it is setting the playing field and dominating the narratives.

And that forces us to be honest: We have energy, we have people and we have ideas, but sometimes direction is missing.

Hope is important because it moves us, because it keeps us here. But to generate hope in people, something more is needed: having a clear sense of where we are going.

I know we can do better, I am convinced because I know well our federation.

That is why I believe FYEG should focus on four priorities:

1. Direction: deciding what is strategic

We often do many things, but it is not always clear what we want to achieve with them. We need to stop more often and ask ourselves: what is working, what is not working and where are we having real impact.

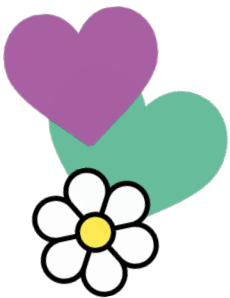
But above all, we need to be strategic. And being strategic means that what we do makes sense as a whole.

Our campaigns, our political priorities and our organisational work should reinforce each other. When they move in different directions, the impact gets diluted. When they are aligned, it becomes much more visible.

That is the level we can and must aspire to.

2. Coordination: turning network into power

We have a huge network, but we do not always use it as such. The federation is going through a complicated economic moment and even so, there is something we have in abundance: people and knowledge, but we are not always making the most of it.





Our MOs face very concrete challenges, electoral campaigns, membership, mobilisation, while within the federation itself there are very valuable experiences, experts, that could help much more.

That knowledge exists, but sometimes it stays where it is and we can do much more to share it better, not everything has to go through one-off trainings. Perhaps we need more continuous spaces, more useful in day-to-day life, where we can talk about what is happening and truly support each other between organisations.

If we achieve that, we will build a very useful collective intelligence. I think it is much easier to do than it seems.

3. Position: making better use of the tools we already have

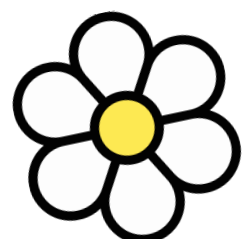
We are part of a broader political ecosystem, with connections at local, national and European level that open many possibilities.

We have access to networks, to institutional spaces and to information that can strengthen our work if we know how to use them well. There is room to better connect what we do with what is happening in the European Parliament, where many of our priorities are also being decided. From the inside, it is quite clear that when those connections are activated at the right moment, the impact changes. Sometimes it comes down to knowing who to reach out to, when to act, or how to open a door, but also to understanding how those spaces actually work and how to move within them. One of the things working in the European Parliament has taught me is precisely how to do that in practice.

I think we can do more on that as a federation, especially when it comes to advocacy, negotiation and using the spaces we already have access to.

4. Narrative: building our own political direction

If we want to contest the political space, we need more than reacting. We need our own direction: clear, recognisable, understandable.





And we know it is possible. Projects like those of Mamdani have managed to connect with people through clear proposals. And processes like those represented by Polaski show that, when there is coherence and direction, it is possible to reorganise political forces and change dynamics.



You can tell when there is a clear idea behind it.

It has to do with how the message is built, how it is sustained over time and whether it truly connects with people.

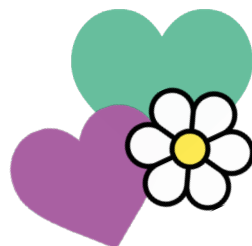
The way we tell what we do matters more than it sometimes seems, we can generate hope, but it has to be accompanied by a clear direction that does not leave hope empty.

That is why I believe this is a moment to focus, to make better use of what we already have, to organise ourselves with more direction and to act with more clarity.

The context is difficult but it is not decided, and if we know where we are going, we can change it.

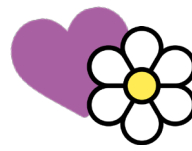
Stay woke,
Ángel (Léo) Villabona (He/They)
leo.villabona@juventudverde.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and curves.



ÁNGEL/LÉO

ESTEBAN VILLABONA



He/They



✉ leo.villabona@juventudverde.org

CONTACT

- 📧 leovillabona
- ☎ +32455181905
- 🐦 leovillabona
- 📷 leo.villabona
- 🎵 leovillabona

EDUCATION

Degree in Translation and Interpreting.
Universidad Autónoma. Madrid, 2019

TOOLS

- Adobe Package
- Notion
- Canva
- Trello
- CapCut
- WordPress

EXPERIENCE

- APA to Green MEP
Accredited Parliamentary Assistant to Greens/EFA MEP Jaume Asens | NOV - 2024
PRESENT
- Multimedia Officer
Sumar, Madrid | NOV - 2023
OCT - 2024
Social media management for the party and parliamentary group, including content creation and digital strategy development.
- GREEN VISION
Campaign Team, Young European Greens. | NOV - 2023
JUL - 2024
- Communications Intern
Greens/EFA & FYEG, Brussels | FEB - 2023
JUL - 2023
Video editing and graphic design.
- Electoral Multimedia Officer
Sumar, Madrid | MAY - 2024
JUN - 2024
Social media management for Estrella Galán, candidate for the European Parliament.
- Co-spokesperson
Juventud Verde | DIC - 2021
JUL - 2025
- Ecosprinter Editorial Board
EEB Member | AUG - 2024
MAY - 2025

LANGUAGES

- Español
- English
- Français
- Catalá

JUVENTUD VERDE EXPRESSES TOTAL SUPPORT FOR LEO'S CANDIDACY

On behalf of Juventud Verde, we are writing to express our support for the candidacy of our ex-cospokesperson, **Ángel "Léo" Esteban Villabona**, seeking a position on the EC of FYEG.

Léo has gathered huge experience in the organization, serving **two terms as co-spokesperson** and playing a vital role in strengthening our political project through his **strategic eye** and commitment to green and social politics; not only in Spain, but also at the european level. He has consistently embodied the **"politics of care"** as a daily practice.

Léo brings an exceptional level of **institutional expertise** to this mandate, as he currently works within the **European Parliament**, providing him with a direct perspective on the spaces where our most critical decisions are made. His professional background includes working in **political communication** for Sumar within the Spanish coalition government, alongside Yolanda Díaz, which has given him a clear understanding of how to build effective messages that connect with the youth. Having also served as a **FYEG trainee** and a member of the **Green Vision Campaign Team**, Léo uniquely understands the federation's internal dynamics and its potential to act as a powerful international force.

His vision is focused on establishing a **clear strategic direction** and a **recognizable political narrative**. Léo believes that having someone "inside" institutional spaces like the European Parliament is a vital tool for the federation, allowing us to **activate the right contacts and open doors at critical moments**. We are entirely confident that his ability to **bridge the gap between MOs and broader political ecosystems** will make him an invaluable addition to the EC team. We strongly urge your support for Léo to help FYEG lead in these critical times.

On behalf of Juventud Verde's EC,
Saúl Lara, International Secretary.

