

## SG1 Cinta González Sentís

Agenda item: 1. Candidates for Secretary General

### Introduction

Please find below Cinta González Sentís' application for Secretary General



# Cinta González Sentís

Brussels, Belgium

## MOTIVATION LETTER

Dear Member Organisations, dear reader,

I am excited to run for Secretary General of the Federation of Young European Greens for a second mandate. I am thankful for and deeply moved by the trust that was put in me three years ago when I was elected for this position. I am also grateful to all the inspiring people I have encountered during the first fifteen years of involvement in the Green movement, a commitment that I can only see as a lifelong engagement and a central pillar of my way of understanding what it is to be in the world. My first mandate comes to an end amidst increased instability at the European and global levels, as well as with a shrunk capacity for the European Green family as a whole, and for FYEG in particular, compared to the previous EU mandate. While this presents specific challenges, it does not change one bit my motivation to continue contributing to our movement, which I consider I can best do as Secretary General. In this letter, you will find my reasons for running, why I think I still have more to give to the Young Greens, and a humble invitation to support my candidacy at the General Assembly.

By being politically active, we explicitly embody and implicitly announce our commitment to building a system that does not let anyone behind. This is something we want to do by breaking the cycles of exploitation of each other and of the environment, and by never allowing profit to be above the planet and all that dwells in it. We are in FYEG brought together by a shared vision of a society of equal and free people combined with the conviction that being involved in political activism brings us closer to making this vision a reality. This was what I had in mind as I was considering whether to run again, reflecting on what would best serve the movement. **After seeing that I am motivated to continue in the role, my conclusion is that continuity in this function can be very valuable, conferring organisational continuity in a moment when it is needed, and ensuring the follow-up of ongoing processes, like the Strategic Plan 2025-2030.** I already had the required skills and assets for the job when I ran for the position three years ago. Many of them were acquired through my participation in my Member Organisation and in other civil society organisations (among others, student union, labour union, and local and national youth councils), and later perfected and adapted to the European level first as FYEG intern and next as EGP Projects Coordinator. Of course, the past three years in this position are the most immediate and clear demonstrable proof of how my profile matches the requirements.

The very long list of tasks of the Secretary General can be summarised into **supporting and accompanying the Executive Committee while ensuring continuity, institutional memory, and implementation beyond individual mandates.** I consider this is something I have been able to achieve during my tenure, not with a magic formula to bring each task to an end destination, but as a way of approaching every single item. The state in which I received the organisation (thanks to my predecessor Özgecan Kara, previous EC and Office members, and others before them) allowed for the prioritisation of strategic work alongside urgent tasks, which is a luxury. Even in times of crises, hardships, and creative out-of-the-box improvisations, more often than not we could find a way to ensure continuation and contribution to structured and long lasting impact: from internal learnings, to external actions or organisational takeaways for the future. As a result, I find myself during handovers and onboarding processes, as well as in the moment of initiating any long or mid-term task (setting up timelines, dividing tasks, etc.) including takeaways of previous educational activities, referencing positions and rules approved in GAs, using templates that are both flexible and reliable, drawing inspiration from outcomes and learnings of collaboration with partners... The value of this lies in the fact that this is not the result of a personal working style, but a shared organisational practice that enables continuity and coherence across mandates.

A second term as Secretary General will mean the end of my journey in youth activism. It began in my beautiful hometown, Tarragona, in early Spring 2011. At that time, my country was going through a deep expression of social conflict caused by the combination of the global financial crisis with our own flavour of the commodification of the housing market; and I chose to become a Green. I was full of energy, eager to climb up to the highest spot to drop a banner calling to join the next strike, willing to take part in civil disobedience actions to stop evictions after receiving the proper training, ready to join the labour unionists picketing through sleepless nights, looking forward to meeting with my comrades of the young greens to go leafletting... In the Catalan Young Greens, my restlessness was put in order and channeled to fit into steady and fruitful organisational processes and strategically designed political activism. Today, I am still full of energy and still motivated to do all sorts of things. These three years are full of anecdotes (some only to be told if they become fun and harmless by the action of time), and I am looking forward to continuing to grow through unexpected situations. My heart can still skip a few beats for all and any reason: good, bad, or just weird and surreal. Beyond my energy or motivation, the priority is of course the organisation, which I can but conceive as

something above and beyond me. Then, personal growth aside, my satisfaction comes precisely from establishing lasting and long-term structures to ensure that all young people willing to answer the call of activism have a place to do it, come what may. In this job, I started to embrace the adjective “solution-oriented” as something beyond a soft skill. **On a calm day or amidst the busiest of periods, I am ready and honoured to facilitate the activist journey to all of you, with the ultimate aim that you too will squeeze your youth activism until the very last drop.**

Hoping to be more specific, I need to make it explicit in this letter that I am particularly excited to be in the frontline of FYEG during the EU elections 2029. The 2024 election campaign was as demanding and tiring as inspiring and energising. I have a long experience in campaigning, I've been in countless campaign teams, one of the most special was the campaign team of Ernest Urtasun when he was first running for MEP in 2014. I was the youngest (in age and in lack of experience) member, and this was the first moment in which I realised that the European project does not have to be far away from the daily grassroots activism. Even when it was so easy to just blame all the social cuts, the evictions, the poverty, the lack of solidarity within the EU, the depiction of Spaniards and other fellow Southerners as lazy, I had the hunch to reject Euroscepticism, and this is truly what brought me to the Greens. In 2014, with the European elections campaign, the hunch turned to certainty. All that, blaming the ~~crisis~~ scam on the EU, was actually just benefitting those who want the EU to fail so that they can dismantle this potential and most tangible network of solidarity, leaving the working classes even more unprotected against an unruly market. **Now that I got to see the potentialities of FYEG during EU elections, I want to bend and transform our structures, focused on being a decision-making machine, and turn them to the best campaigning machine FYEG can be.** I want to ensure we are complementing the task of the Member Organisations (including those from outside the EU), supporting young candidates, influencing other actors inside and outside the Green Family to bring our priorities to the centre of the debate... The EU elections 2029 will be our moment to shout from the rooftops that we are not done resisting and claiming this project as ours, and I think that my personal and political resilience, my knowledge, and my understanding of the different stakeholders within and outside FYEG can contribute to doing the best campaign possible. Once the campaign is done, of course, I will make sure to bring FYEG back to its core decision-making work, ready to govern the increased affluence of activists, connections with stakeholders, and the preparation of our role in the European arena.

Finally, taking some steps back, I had everything planned to confess that my most valuable source of motivation is You: a dedicated delegate of a Member Organisation who is getting ready for the General Assembly; a curious member of one of our partners wondering what the Young Greens are up to; a hopeful candidate to a FYEG body, committed to our internal functioning and processes; an enthusiastic young green who won't be joining for the General Assembly but wants to be well informed; a motivated representative of an organisation that is applying to join FYEG, eager to know more about what comes next; a much appreciated member of the outgoing Executive Committee or the Office, generously dedicating time to my words and thoughts (as if you don't have enough of those in your daily life!); even you, the one who will never read this: whether I would beg for you to do it because you are a delegate, or wish you'd at least skim through it because we will cross paths in some way sooner or later.

You motivate me when your commitment, contribution and inspiring actions are successful, well organised, impactful and are an enriching addition to our movement. You inspire me when all my expectations are exceeded because, even in these difficult times, your creativity and perseverance make a difference. But you also motivate me when I feel you let me down. When you don't show up, when there is no interest. When I deliver and you are not there. When we drop the ball on each other, we fight, we turn agreements to disagreements even if, in these difficult times we live, we can't afford it.

You motivate me because there is always someone on the other side, in whatever capacity. Because I want to encourage you to make the best and the most of your youth engagement. I want to be here when you need a hundred reasons to take action because I found them for myself... and also I want to be vulnerable and tell you that over a decade of engagement did not teach me something that you may need, but that it does not matter and we can discover it together.

I hope you can trust me to be FYEG Secretary General for three more years. I am very motivated to do it. I am convinced that there is still more I can give, certain that a lot has been invested in me by extraordinary people during crucial times, and a lot of it will be extremely valuable for FYEG.

See you in Bolzano,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JWB', written over a light blue grid background.

# Cinta González Sentís

Brussels, Belgium

## VISION

*The year is 2030, there is still an increased interest from the Member Organisations, organisationally and at the level of the membership base, in being active at the European level, as usually happens in the Federation of Young European Greens around and immediately after the period of the EU elections. While managing the allocated channels put in place to integrate said interest into the regular activity of the organisation, FYEG is positioning itself within the European Green family and the general civil society ecosystem at the European level according to the new arena that has been established with the new configuration of the European Parliament. FYEG was able to turn into a campaigning machine for the EU elections 2029 with a clear message and with the participation of many volunteers. This was done drawing inspiration from a clear and updated vision and theory of change reflected in the renewed Political Platform adopted in 2028, and through the optimised management of the network aligned with the health and capacities of the members of the Network as per the Strategic Objective of the Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and a strong and structured Community of activists beyond those that come from MOs. Despite its relevance, the configuration of the European Parliament will change again in 5 years, but what will for sure remain in the organisation (as is, or as its evolution and adaptation through the years) and within its structures is the skills that have been developed, the bridges that were built, an increased outreach and diversified audience, countless learnings, and the overall confirmation of FYEG as a relevant actor at the European level.*

*Through regular connection across borders and exchanges, the Member Organisations have been able to increase their awareness of the interconnection of their struggles. Even the Young Greens that are active outside EU member states took part in setting up the base of the campaign, and took on the task of raising awareness about the relevance of the EU, and who takes decisions in its institutions, within their communities. Of course, we are all inspired by the Young Candidates that we got to support and know during the campaign. We are also impressed by the great work of the volunteer campaigners, led by the Campaign Team and the Executive Committee, and many of the outputs are available for MOs: templates, designs, ways to easily coordinate with each other, team management tips and tricks...*

*We are contributing to the analysis of the results and evaluation of the campaign together with the rest of the European Green family, both in countries where we got amazing results and in those where fewer European citizens than expected trusted us with their votes. Amidst the mixed emotions, we allow ourselves to celebrate each other's work and achievements. As Young Greens, we also bring to the table our considerations on how successfully we could bridge our mother parties with youth demands and priorities and the visibility of our Young Candidates.*

*2030 seemed a remote idea to the FYEG of 2026, an organisation going through challenges while having lots of aspirations based on the increased capacities without precedent that we enjoyed in the previous years. The boldness of the Young Greens, paired with our creativity and trust on each other will be instrumental to navigate the next few years.*

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It is you, the MOs, the ones agreeing on FYEG's political positions and setting its strategies and priorities by participating in the process of the General Assembly. With this vision letter I want to outline the organisational and political aspects that I see as the foundation to develop my task of Secretary General for the next three years, a frame to contribute to the task of the EC to, among others, setting up the structures and plans leading to the finalisation of the Strategic Plan 2025-2030, including the horizon of the next EU elections. Ultimately, I aim to outline the ways in which FYEG can continue to be a clear representation of its dual nature: a common ground across borders for Young Greens organised at regional and national levels across the continent, and a relevant youth organisation in the Greens and at the European level.

## **FYEG as a Network and as a Community**

The value of this project, FYEG as a whole, lies in its Member Organisations. After the time of expansion, that also took place at the level of the EGP, and having started a process of capacity-building for MOs, the last General Assembly approved a Strategic Plan that calls on a process of optimisation and review of the Network. FYEG needs to look at all its parts in the mirror, in an exercise of honesty in which democracy and real representation are clear shared objectives, in order to ensure the inclusion of all Member Organisations and that we are able to align the geographic extension we claim to represent with the actual collective analysis and experiences taking place at the national/regional level that are shaping our movement. This is also a requirement in order to ensure that we have enough capacity to continue investing in expanding in those areas where it is appropriate. In the past

years, we have examples of successful development of groups of Young Greens, and we are experiencing a regular flow of groups of young activists, with or without a clear Green referent in their national realities, that connect with FYEG.

Another key aspect for the health of the Network is beyond each MO individually, and the way that FYEG establishes connection with and between them. The MOs are able to grow in relevance, particularly developing principles of internationalism and solidarity, through the connection with other Young Greens with different or similar realities. The interconnection of the current struggles that dominate political action and debate is more obvious than ever, and FYEG must facilitate and, above all, promote these exchanges.

In an idealistic scenario, I would dream of FYEG's role shrinking to the minimum expression in these experiences, with MOs being able to independently and proactively set up their regular connections without our intervention. In order to achieve this, MOs should have sustainable structures and an unchallenged understanding of how international connections increase their political relevance, with the inclusion of European and international affairs in their work, and an interest that goes beyond the usual suspects (that includes, beyond the international officer, and depending on the MO, its leadership, the European affairs and international policy enthusiasts, and/or the few who just happen to speak English) for what other Young Greens in other countries are doing, and the conviction that exchanging experiences will also impact the quality of their work. The vision of said connections between MOs happening without the intervention of FYEG is a very aspirational goal, but should be a horizon that can inspire and motivate our work to coordinate and steer the Network coordination, including the regional responsibilities. The management of the MOs in regions (which I think first happened around 15 years ago) means that a set of MOs are meeting more or less regularly. I see this system as the perfect base for the connection with and between MOs, but there is some potential that can still be developed, including a calendar of topics that should be made sure to be included in all the agendas of all regional meetings, invitations to extra participants beyond international officers, and maybe cross-regional spaces. These are some ideas that I would consider exploring to enhance the experience of regional coordination. While I was satisfied with the regional coordination when I was an international officer myself, I think that I would have found it interesting to have a less vertical approach to it, and go beyond knowing what each MO and FYEG are up to. In any case, this should be considered keeping in mind that FYEG should never come at the expense of taking away too much capacity from MOs (unless extremely necessary, like in the GAs or other clear milestones).

During my tenure, I had the chance of challenging my understanding only as a Network, and now I also understand it as a Community. Organisationally, the most obvious sign of this is our interest to connect Young Greens at the individual level, beyond the statutory governance based in a federative system. This is what I understand as the FYEG Community, that today has as a physical (online) manifestation in the Green Base. This space is also what gives a space to those non-affiliated Young Greens to call themselves FYEGers. Setting up ambitious horizons, the engagement of these activists should turn into membership to our MOs; the best way to contribute to FYEG is by joining a Young Green organisation at the national level. The other benefit of this space is that activists aiming to contribute to the movement in places where we don't have an affiliated organisation, could establish one. This should be done by ensuring that these projects are sustainable and long-lasting. Therefore, FYEG should encourage, facilitate, and support in a measured way, the establishment of new youth organisations, always prioritising that the structures established focus first and foremost on being active at the national level, creating strategies for recruitment, and consolidating generational change pathways.

### **The Young European Green ideology and leadership in a hostile world**

The development of our ideology is not only useful for the creation of sound policy proposals, but it is also what fuels our activity. In case of eventual setbacks (bad elections result, losing a vote in a legislative process, lack of outreach or impact of a campaign...) it is the trust in our joint proposals, rooted in our values and ideology, that keeps our chin up. As Greens, we aim to have the opportunity of implementing our political programme, but the institutions are not our only field of action; we are constantly in dialogue with other political actors and Civil Society Organisations of all kinds that share part of our priorities. Civic mobilisation on the ground and democratic activism are symptoms of healthy and thriving democratic communities within our societies, from which people are dismantling the structures that isolate us and threaten our happiness and our very existence. As Young Greens, we are passionate about our values and how they can be useful to drive change. Today, FYEG counts with many tools to ensure the relevance of its ideological contribution to the Green family and the European level. At the same time, the management of the organisation and procedural focus, and also the overload of news and need to "react" to a general hostile world, is taking away our capacities, stealing our motivation, and overall contributing to a loss of focus (or focus on issues that are not particularly benefiting us as an organisation or as an actor for progress).

As presented above, we Greens are eminently a dual force: we take to the streets and are present (or aim to be) in formal institutional politics and in positions of power. Today, we see how we are drawn to understand that our values are also rooted on the principle of combining the preservation of the Green identity and the Green way of doing politics with establishing alliances to avoid the complete decadence of the valuable victories by which most of us have been able to get where our parents and grandparents would have never dared to imagine. I agree with this principle. Precisely in difficult times and with the European project under threat at many levels, ideology is the main way to decide our actions. As Secretary General of FYEG, I want to see the whole organisation, and particularly the EC (as, by principle and definition, is in charge of the daily positioning of the organisation), continuing to have political and politicised discussions, making conscious and enthusiastic choices to ensure that FYEG does not become what would be the least useful at this moment: stagnant or, what would be even worse, self-referential. Being stagnant is a real risk for organisations that are going through what we are experiencing in terms of capacity (as I will discuss in the next section) and, more particularly, when it is difficult to endure the harsh political atmosphere we have to operate in. The upside of it, is that this also inspires different people to be engaged in politics and to take part in our actions, as we have seen in our digital mobilisation opportunities, and this is why we must be clever in establishing FYEG's priorities and flagships, which will draw more people to our movement. Regarding self-referentiality, I consider that the best way to avoid it is by finding pleasure in uncomfortable positions: daring compromises, unlikely partnerships, and creative consensus. All this is only possible when the actual aim of our political action is clear and understood, and when there is a clear link between the tools we use (even when uncomfortable) and the goals we aim to achieve. This should be understood as the base of our advocacy work (directly lobbying decision-makers, designing and implementing campaigns and digital mobilisation actions, being present defending our spot as the number 1 Political Party Youth Organisation on social media), and ultimately inform how we organise it around the biggest example of this task during the EU elections campaign.

### **An organisation navigating a crisis**

The specific situation that FYEG is facing, with reduced financial stability threatening the quality and quantity of our activities and opportunities, is not a scenario that we (the EC, the Office, myself) did not contemplate. At the same time, I consider we did not have all the skills to face it from the beginning. In any case, we have been able to reach a certain speed and finally develop an overall clear approach to the issue combining the creativity we always aim to put in our work with the necessity to make things work. Combining different alternatives like a patchwork, with democracy, participation and transparency at its base, we are able to see the way out of some situations, and clearly identify other challenges that will be more difficult to tackle. This would have never been possible without the trust and help of Member Organisations. Therefore, this point is very connected in many ways to the aspect of the coordination of the Network. As Secretary General, the weight I have been feeling on my shoulders since we knew that our preferred option for revenue for the years 2026 – 2028 will no longer be possible has not increased; but it has changed in nature and in urgency. Some years ago, my own MO also saw its capacities drastically reduced when external factors left us without any staff members for a while, after having three people employed for many many years. In FYEG we are far from this situation, as we are successfully securing other funds, but the main point I want to make is that I am sure we will be able to continue offering enough spaces to develop our skills and have valuable exchanges even with limited resources, because I have seen it happen before.

In order to reach a more stable situation, the next mandate should focus on achieving a clearer understanding of our fundraising strategy and principles. The EC, led by the Treasurer and with my support, should work on a comprehensive understanding of where we want to get money from; at the same time, I would not advise any change in the practical and daily financial and operational management of FYEG as it is now (therefore, it should remain solely in hands of the staff and the coordination of the Treasurer and audits from the FCAC). I consider that precisely being able to ensure that the EC can exclusively focus on our politics is what keeps our work relevant, with a quality and outreach unmatched, and an organisational development that continues to advance despite the economic situation. Some of the easiest boxes to check are, not necessarily in this order: first, a greater collaboration with MEPs (which should become more structural); second, a better embedding of our activities with the EGP to optimise costs; and third, increasing the capacities of MOs to fundraise. These are three preliminary ideas that I consider should be discussed, in parallel to the challenge of increasing the pool of small donors in general and the engagement and amount of recurrent donors in particular, for which there are already plans but has not yet started to develop. This second source of income can be particularly valuable, as it would allow us to better estimate our economic resources when setting up each annual financial plan. In a few months, we have been able to develop a very good strategy to increase our financial capacity with small-donors contributions. This is not only a good tool to bear the costs of our activities, but also a proof of how many people want to be engaged and somehow have a role in our actions. This circles back to the necessity of ensuring the quality of our work,

with an EC (also inspired by MOs and volunteers) able to identify relevant topics to make FYEG stand out, and connect our values and priorities with specific calls to action that are engaging and appealing to our audiences.

### **Inclusive and diverse Young Greens**

As a cross-cutting approach, FYEG must continue to foster diversity and inclusion. This is something to be taken into account at many levels of what our organisation is, granting centrality to geographic peripheries and those realities that are less present in the European level, and also ensuring the appeal of our proposals to those individuals that are often left outside political engagement. This is not a matter of ensuring inclusivity, but also a matter of prioritising the relevance and quality of our political work, as I consider that in order to create better alternatives and further entrenchment of democratic values and proposals, we must work on diversifying our structures, our members and our audiences and on amplifying the voices of those communities that are traditionally silenced. As a feminist organisation, FYEG counts with specific measures to ensure and support the presence of women and queer members in its structures and the inclusion of a feminist angle in its proposals. We encourage women and gender dissident people to be in decision-making processes and participate in our structures not (only) in order to be a better representation of the real world, but also in order to balance the dominance of men in politics and positions of power around the whole world and throughout centuries. FYEG is still not a reflection of the society we say we aim to represent in other aspects: we need to build an FYEG (or FYEG has to support the MOs to become) more appealing for young people from racialised communities, with disabilities, living in rural areas, and outside university and higher education. Being aware of our deficiencies is for sure the first step to overcome them. There are practical ways of ensuring that we firstly continue but mostly strengthen our diversity, and also political aspects to it.

In the practical sense, regardless of the economic situation we are going through (or precisely because of it), we must continue to prioritise keeping economic support to those who need it. Prioritise does not mean only keeping them, but also putting in place other ways in which this can happen. Besides including the development of fundraising skills within the MOs, that has been introduced already, this is also the moment to identify how to strategically spend money. Another thing that should be prioritised, as it is the best investment for the development of the MOs of Eastern Europe, is the financial support to CDN. In that sense, we also have some things to consider regarding our work with them that still needs to be properly encompassed and more strategically streamlined, including periodic meetings between ECs or more explicit coordination between the offices. Regarding the political aspect of increasing the diversity and inclusion of FYEG, and particularly focusing on the ongoing Inclusion Plan 2024-2027, we need to start focusing on how we will work to bring to the MOs the takeaways of its implementation. FYEG will never be less white than the least white of its Member Organisations, this is sure, but it can support increasing the diversity of its MOs, for example by contributing to highlight the relevance of topics that are relevant to those communities that are less present in our movement. This is not just a matter of strategic tasks to recruit more people from different backgrounds, but also a key aspect of the relevance of our proposals, because those who are first and foremost affected by the brutal backlash that our democracies are enduring are precisely racialised people and people with lived experience of migration, particularly those who do it outside the regular channels. Given the transnational and European angle of the topic, FYEG has the possibility to meaningfully bring visibility to its topics. The other aspect that makes this a key issue is its connection with the climate crisis, both due to the impact that the climate instability already has on migration and due to the fact that climate change is disproportionately affecting the global majority in terms of geography and in terms of social class.

Finally, we must cherish and celebrate the work of other organisations. In the past years, we have been supporting and collaborating with organisations that are enriching our work, while we connect their demands to the Greens at the European level, or we include their work multiplying their outreach, in other ways. This is not only a practice that should be maintained in FYEG, but also strengthened by targeted coordination with the other members of the European Green family. At the level of the Member Organisations, the promotion of these practices could for example be embedded in topical regional meetings or by means of MO exchanges that include organisations working on anti-racism, anti-ableism, increasing the visibility of youth from rural areas, etc. at the local level in their initiatives, and potentially connecting them with organisations of the same field that are active at the European level. In any case, this could be a complementary measure to the work done during educational activities and in the creation of political positions in Statutory events.

# Cinta González Sentís

Brussels, Belgium

## SUMMARY

Solution-oriented political leader with experience in project management, grant application and reporting, and financial and team management. Green activist with proven experience in advocacy, policy-making, and organisational management.

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Secretary General** | Federation of Young European Greens. Brussels, Belgium *May 2023 – present*

- **Governance, compliance, and statutory affairs:** FYEG legal representative. Responsible for the organisation of its statutory events and handovers between boards. Assist board members, including leading the design, facilitation, and follow-up of its in-person meetings. Ensure transparent programme, financial and strategic reporting to MOs, funders, institutions and partners.
- **Oversight of operations and workflow management:** Oversight of organisational structure and internal processes, streamline of daily operations of FYEG. Establishment of updated organisational structure (organogram) aligned with staff roles and seniority levels. Oversight of HR processes, well-being of the staff, and support and assistance to all team members.
- **Coordination of fundraising efforts,** successfully securing over 300,000€ per year in 2024 and 2025 through different grants of the EU and the CoE, and over 150,000 € in 2025.

**Projects Coordinator** (EGP/EGP Joint projects) | European Green Party. Brussels, Belgium *May 2021 – May 2023*

- **Design and implementation of educational events:** international training programmes for young activists, with budgets up to 60,000 €, direct participant engagement, compliance with funding requirements, and evaluation frameworks.
- **Creation and implementation of capacity-building programmes for youth:** Multi-month hybrid training programmes for youth organisation leaders, contact with external trainers, and full cycle project management.
- **Financial and narrative reporting in line with the financial and compliance authority of the European Parliament:** Ensure traceability of events through comprehensive financial files and narrative reports aligned with visibility rules.
- **Support in various events and activities of the European Green Party and FYEG.**

## ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Communications Intern** | FYEG and Greens/EFA Group in the EP. Brussels, Belgium *Feb 2020 – Feb 2021*

Media monitoring; short and mid-term comms planning; basic graphic design and web management; copy-writing, translation, proof-reading; support to FYEG Activity Plan; liaison with press in Greens/EFA targeted campaign.

**Policy Advisor and Programme Manager** | Joves d'Esquerra Verda. Barcelona, Spain *May 2019 – Feb 2020*

Preparation of amendments and legislative monitoring of the Commission on Youth of the Catalan Parliament; daily operations management of the office; organisation of National Councils, board meetings, meetings with partners; design and implementation of educational events (thematic workshops and annual Summer Camp).

First job: **Summer Camp Counselor** | Fundació Casal l'Amic. Tarragona, Spain *June 2011 – Sept 2011*

Design and implementation of recreational and non-formal educational activities for children aged 3-5; periodic contact with service providers, families, and local social services.

## VOLUNTEER, ACTIVIST, and POLITICAL EXPERIENCE

**Commission for Guarantees and Democratic Quality** | Joves Ecosocialistes *Apr 2025 – present*

Mandated to provide guidance in disputes and internal conflicts upon request, ensuring due process in line with members' rights and obligations. Responsible for issuing reports to the National Council and the National Assembly.

**Co-spokesperson** | local chapter of Joves d'Esquerra Verda in Barcelona *Mar 2018 – Dec 2019*

Co-led Joves d'Esquerra Verda in Barcelona with a mandate to ensure the orderly dissolution of the local chapter and transfer of its sovereignty to the youth wing of Barcelona en Comú.

**Board member** | Various political and civil society organisations in Catalonia

- Joves d'Esquerra Verda / Joves Ecosocialistes (2016 – 2023)
- Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds Barcelona (2017 – 2019)
- Amical de les Brigades Internacionals de Catalunya (2018 – 2021)
- Espai Jove de Barcelona en Comú (2018 – 2019)

**National Council member** | Various Catalan political and civil society organisations

- Esquerra Verda (2020 – present)
- Joves d'Esquerra Verda / Joves Ecosocialistes (2016 – 2025)
- Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds (2016 – 2020)
- Associació d'Estudiants Progressistes (2014 – 2016)

## Young candidate

- Elections to the European Parliament 2024: Sumar (Spain)
- Local elections 2019: Barcelona en Comú (Barcelona)

## Member

Various political and civil society organisations

- ECOLO. Belgium (2025 – present)
- Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds / Esquerra Verda. Catalonia (2011 – present)
- Comissió Obrera Nacional de Catalunya (CCOO Catalunya). Catalonia (2015 – present)
- Joves d'Esquerra Verda / Joves Ecosocialistes. Catalonia (2011 – 2025)
- Student's Committee of the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (2014 – 2015)

## Media, publications, and speaking engagements

- **Public speaking engagements:** Panelist at the event "[Ecosocialisme o Barbàrie](#)", organised by Fundació Nous Horitzons (January 2026); panelist at the event "[75th anniversary of the liberation of Paris](#)", organised by the Catalan Government (June 2019); host of the [presentation of the book](#) *Uno entre tantos. Memorias de un hombre con suerte* by Lluís Martí Bielsa (March 2019); panelist at the event "[Cállate y déjanos bailar](#)" organised by La Trivial and Jove Associació de Musicologia (March 2018); speaker at the [presentation of the book](#) *L'Arbre de l'eriçó* compilation of short tales by Antonio Gramsci (March 2018)
- **Various articles:** "[Militants, Joves i Veterans](#)" (Butlletí Catalunya resistent, 2024); "[Folleu al metro, o amb Twitter ja feu?](#)" (Revista Jovent, 2024); "[De viure per sobre de les nostres possibilitats a possibilitar-nos la vida](#)" (Revista Jovent, 2023); "[Garzón, de la granja a la polèmica](#)" (Revista Treball, 2022); "[A bord del Brexit](#)" (el Triangle, 2020); "[Nino. Idees i organització des de la presó](#)" (Cultius Culturals, 2018) "[La llibertat es viu, no \(només\) es recolza](#)" (Revista Jovent, 2017)

## EDUCATION

### Postgraduate Programme | Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona 2017 – 2018

- Programme: Transformative Political Ideas and Experiences (Idees i Experiències Polítiques Transformadores)
- Thesis: Gramsci and the Youth Issue (*Gramsci y la cuestión de los jóvenes*), supervised by Professor Joan Botella
- Credential: Certificate of Achievement

### Undergraduate Programme | Universitat de Barcelona 2014 – 2019

- Programme: Modern Languages and Literatures in English
- Partial completion of the coursework towards degree

## Training and courses

- French language: B2 certificate. Institut de Formation Continue d'Etterbeek. Brussels, Belgium (2022 – 2023)
- Mystic literature. Universitat de Barcelona summer school. (2018)
- Political Economy: Tools for Critical Political Analysis. Universitat Rovira i Virgili. Tarragona, Spain (2013 – 2014)

## Performing arts

- Head of 2nd violins. Orquestra Simfònica del Conservatori de la Diputació de Tarragona (2012). *Carmina Burana* (C.Orff)
- Concertmaster. Ensemble of Estudi de Música. (2010 – 2012). Various performances
- Assistant to Concertmaster. Ensemble of Estudi de Música. Tarragona, Spain (2009 – 2010). Various performances
- Soprano. Universitat Rovira i Virgili Choir (2014 – 2016). Various performances

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Languages

- Catalan (Native)
- Spanish (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- French (Intermediate)

### Skills

- Grant management portals (CoE's EYF, European Commission's funding and tenders and E+ / ESC)
- IT: Google Workspace; basic digital graphic design (canva); basic Action Network navigation and management;
- Legislative monitoring and political analysis;
- Public speaking and internal facilitation, including Non-Formal Education formats and methodologies;
- Familiarity with Belgian labour conditions and Human Resources management.

### References

- **Mar García**, co-director of the European Center for Digital Action and former EGP Secretary General (2014 – 2022)
- **Ernest Urtasun**, Minister of Culture of Spain and former Greens/EFA MEP (2014 – 2024)

# GA 2026: Secretary General Selection - Assessment Report by the Selection Committee

## Background

The Secretary General of the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) is a highly demanding position that requires excellent organisational and leadership skills, as well as substantial knowledge of Green politics, the EU, and youth policies. The Secretary General reports to the FYEG Executive Committee and is responsible for managing the FYEG Secretariat, which currently includes three full-time office members, three part-time office members and one intern. The Secretary General's tasks include facilitating and supporting the work of the Executive Committee, managing human resources and finances, supervising educational and capacity-building activities, coordinating statutory activities, and maintaining good contact and coordination with member organisations, partners, and stakeholders.

Considering that FYEG's Secretary General is both a political and an administrative secretary of the organisation, FYEG's Internal Rules of Procedure (IRPs) foresee a combination of political selection process and a professional recruitment procedure. The Secretary General is officially elected by FYEG MOs during their General Assembly (GA). In accordance with section 5 of Annex 1 of the IRPs, a committee for pre-selection is established prior to the GA in order to assess the candidates' experiences and skills. This Selection Committee shall consist of a current Executive Committee (EC) member, a former Secretary General, one representative of a full Member Organisation (MO) and one NGO professional worker. The Selection Committee assesses the received applications and if possible conducts a written assignment and an interview. This process ends with a recommendation to the GA, which presents an endorsement of the candidate by the EC. In case a candidate is not recommended by the committee, they will still be able to apply for the position and present themselves at the GA, but the candidacy will not be endorsed by the EC. Candidates will be given a month to campaign and are expected to present themselves at the GA. The final decision on the Sec-Gen of FYEG lies with the final vote of delegates at the GA of the Federation.

## Process

Considering geographical and gender-balance, the **Executive Committee has appointed the following Selection Committee:**

- **Andrej Zlatović**, current FYEG Co-spokesperson and Executive Committee Member;
- **Liv Onkelinx**, member of Jong Groen and former Co-spokesperson;
- **Özgecan Kara**, former Secretary General of FYEG;
- **Hiba Latreche**, President of the Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations.

The call for Secretary General was published on the 4th of March alongside the other calls for the GA and it was open until the 15th of April. Two candidacies were received. The selection committee confirmed their participation and started the process on the 27th of April. Both candidates' documents were thoroughly reviewed, and determined to be sufficient to partake in the process. On the 4th of May, the Selection Committee met and agreed upon a selection process and scheduled interviews with both candidates. The Committee determined that they would only conduct an interview, and not give a written assignment to the candidates.

This assessment is based on the applications and interviews of Cinta González Sentís and Serdar Şengezer.

## **Assessment**

### **Cinta González Sentís**

Cinta possesses clear knowledge of the complexities of FYEG, the details of the position and the organisations FYEG collaborates with. Her knowledge of FYEG's position in the context of EU politics is strong and rooted in experience, both from her previous experiences in an MO, and long term office experience as showcased in her application and interview. She shows great awareness of the current state FYEG is in financially and administratively and aims to tackle it with concrete steps. We also recognise the steps Cinta has already put forward in her current mandate as the Secretary General.

She is clearly motivated for the position and interested in organising FYEG ahead of the 2029 European elections with clear steps. Her hope is that in her words FYEG can become a 'campaigning machine' with clear goals and efficient organising of both the office, the EC and the MOs. Within her application and interview we recognise that Cinta already has plans and processes in motion to achieve this. She has additionally showcased her learnings from the previous mandate and was very reflective of the previous three years. The Selection Committee recognises the clear commitment, hard skills and years of experience Cinta has presented in her application and interview.

We do note that there are still areas where we believe Cinta has room to further grow and develop. In particular, we would encourage her to continue building confidence in her own judgement and experience. Cinta is clearly eager to support her staff and volunteers to the greatest extent, yet sometimes leadership is also about making decisions that are not favourable by all. Cinta could benefit from coaching and support on assertiveness in professional settings, but we are also mindful that these dynamics can often be shaped by gendered experiences and expectations. Finally, we recognise that another mandate by Cinta would lead to FYEG finding itself with the same Secretary General for 6 years, which for youth organisations can be seen as quite a long time. Cinta has already addressed possible ways to handle this handover during her interview, which should be worked on alongside the EC.

### **Serdar Şengezer**

Serdar possesses strong political and legal knowledge of the EU and its various institutions, in his application and interview he emphasised different avenues to campaigning and lobbying. He also wishes to bring more activism into the position and to utilise the knowledge which he gained as a member of the Executive Committee and a member of the Beyond Growth Platform to the position of Secretary General.

It was noted that in the scenarios given, Serdar acted with pragmatism and transparency. He has shown confidence and has experience in conflict management from his role as student ombudsman. He understands the precarious position that FYEG has and desires a different approach to the one FYEG is currently taking, focusing on risk management.

Serdar has presented several fundraising ideas, yet the steps to realise the fundraising efforts were not clearly explained or presented and he does not have concrete fundraising or financial management experience.

However, Serdar's motivation for running for this position is currently not clear or not well-developed, and aspects of his vision for the next three years of FYEG are left unclear. His ideas at times lack clear steps and can be seen as more in line with the position of political leadership than Secretary General. When mentioning alternatives in the past years of FYEG, Serdar was clear on wanting a different approach, but how these approaches would look in practice was insufficiently explained and presented. He currently lacks project management experience, and while he is eager to learn, our concern is that the demands of the position of Secretary General pose too high a barrier of entry to learn them at a sufficient enough pace for the position. We also recognise that while he has ideas for management, he does not have professional or volunteer experience in this field and he does not have the HR or staff management experiences that are currently expected of a Secretary General.

While we acknowledge the political knowledge Serdar possesses of the EU and FYEG, the Selection Committee is cautious about their recommendation given the high learning curve of the position, even for candidates with previous experience, as well as the professionalisation FYEG has undergone in the previous period.

### **Conclusion**

With the information given, the Selection Committee has decided to endorse Cinta González Sentís for the position of Secretary General in FYEG.

**SG2** Serdar Őengezer

Agenda item: 1. Candidates for Secretary General

## Introduction

Please find below Serdar Őengezer's application for Secretary General



Dear Green Family,

I am writing to apply for the position of Secretary General of the Federation of Young European Greens. Having served on FYEG's Executive Committee for two years, contributed to the Beyond Growth Platform, co-organised a General Assembly, and am currently organising the upcoming one, I bring both deep institutional knowledge and hands-on operational experience to this role. I am convinced that this moment calls for a Secretary General who can consolidate FYEG's strategic direction, strengthen its member organisations, and translate green values into concrete political action across Europe.

### **Deep Institutional Knowledge and FYEG Experience**

My engagement with FYEG began before joining the Executive Committee, through over a year of active participation in the Beyond Growth Platform. As an EC member, I have monitored political developments at the European level, contributed to advocacy and communications strategy, coordinated regional work for the South region, represented FYEG at numerous events, and overseen both the Beyond Growth Platform and the Ecosiprinter. I have also supported statutory processes and digital communications. This breadth of involvement means I do not need time to learn FYEG's structures, I am ready to lead from day one.

The General Assembly is among FYEG's most complex statutory undertakings, requiring precise coordination of agendas, stakeholder communication, and democratic processes under tight political timelines. I have organised one GA and am currently overseeing the preparation of the next, gaining direct and transferable experience in exactly the kind of governance and logistical management that the Secretary General must master.

### **Legal, Political, and Advocacy Expertise**

As a qualified lawyer, I have worked on cases involving freedom of expression, discrimination, and excessive use of force, areas central to the values FYEG upholds. This professional background has sharpened my ability to navigate complex institutional frameworks, identify risk, and develop strategic responses. My expertise in fundamental rights and institutional mediation translates directly into the diplomacy and communication skills required to represent FYEG before EU institutions, the Council of Europe, and partner organisations.

At the EGP Congress in Lisbon, I served as a FYEG delegate responsible for two resolutions, drafted amendments and briefings, and co-initiated the first FYEG–EGP joint Instagram collaboration. I understand the importance of structured information flow, concise briefing, and message alignment across teams, skills essential for a Secretary General coordinating the Office, the EC, and external stakeholders simultaneously.

### **Academic Foundation in EU and Green Politics**

My Master's degree in International Relations from Eötvös Loránd University, completed with a perfect 5/5 GPA as top student, focused on the European Green Deal and its regulatory impact on Germany, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom, directly strengthening my understanding of EU legislative processes, green industrial strategy, and regulatory convergence. I am simultaneously finalising a Master's thesis in International Law on climate justice and climate migration. These academic pursuits are not peripheral to my candidacy;

they inform my political vision and my capacity to engage meaningfully with FYEG's positions on the green transition.

My study period at Heidelberg University through Erasmus, my work as a teaching assistant, and my publications in academic journals and platforms reflect an ability to synthesise complex material and communicate it effectively, a quality indispensable for overseeing FYEG's communications calendar and drafting advocacy materials.

### **Leadership, Human Resources, and Organisational Management**

As Student Ombudsman at Maltepe University, elected and re-elected annually, I represented the student body before the university senate, mediated disputes, and chaired international conferences. This experience developed my capacity to lead within democratic structures, manage competing interests diplomatically, and maintain accountability to a broad constituency. These are precisely the qualities required of a Secretary General who reports to the EC, coordinates an office of six staff and one intern, and represents the organisation to the outside world.

I also assisted Young Greens of Turkey in successfully applying for CDN's local action funds, and organised a resulting local action, demonstrating experience in grant processes, donor relations, and on-the-ground programme delivery that aligns with the financial management responsibilities central to this role.

### **My Commitment to FYEG**

FYEG is at a critical juncture. The green movement in Europe faces unprecedented political headwinds, yet also an urgent necessity to expand its reach among young people across the continent. As Secretary General, I would bring institutional continuity, having already been embedded in FYEG's daily political and organisational life, while pursuing a proactive agenda of member organisation capacity-building, stronger EU institutional engagement, and deepened regional coordination, particularly with underrepresented southern and eastern member organisations.

I am fully prepared to relocate to Brussels, commit to the demands of this full-time role, and bring the energy, discipline, and political vision that FYEG deserves. I am more than eager to contribute to FYEG, our member organisations, and our Green Family.

Loves and Green Regards,  
Serdar Şengezer

# FYEG Vision 2026–2029

## ***Brave, Dynamic, Winning:***

### *Building a Federation That Leads*

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## **Preamble: The Moment We Are In**

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I know that for a long time we Greens have not been having our best time. I know that many of you are afraid, anxious, or furious, and rightfully so. You look at the future and you see only dark clouds. Rising authoritarianism, climate inaction, shrinking civic space, wars tearing at the fabric of the international order. That is not a new feeling for me either.

**But the future is not written. We can change it — together.**

This document sets out a vision for what the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) can and must be over the next two to five years. It is not a manifesto of despair nor a catalogue of vague aspirations. It is a practical, political, and organisational roadmap, rounded in the challenges we face and inspired by the victories we know are possible. From Zac Polanski's breakthrough in London to Zohran Mamdani's historic campaign in New York, from the Green wave in local councils across Germany and Denmark to youth-led climate movements reshaping the political conversation, we have seen what brave, dynamic, proactive leadership can achieve. FYEG must bring that same energy to the heart of Europe.

*For two years, you trusted me with the leadership of this federation. I did everything I could to deserve that trust. Now I stand before you and ask for it one more time, not for my sake, but because the next three years will define the trajectory of green politics in Europe for a generation.*

## **1. Understanding Our Crisis — And Our Opportunity**

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FYEG is losing member organisations en masse, in every region. Shrinking membership bases, strained finances, reduced capacity: these are not problems we can wish away. They are structural, and they demand structural answers. Yet there is a clear pattern in our data: the regions where FYEG is holding better, where member organisations are stable or even growing, are precisely the regions that have strong, well-resourced, politically active green parties.

This is not a coincidence. It tells us something profound: our organisational health is inseparable from the political health of the broader green movement. FYEG cannot

simply be a service provider for its member organisations, a conference-organising body that meets once a year and issues resolutions nobody reads. We must be a political actor in our own right: capable of shaping debate, winning campaigns, building power, and demonstrating to young people across the continent that green politics is not just principled, but effective.

The question before us, then, is not whether to change our approach. The question is how, how boldly, how quickly, and in what direction.

## 2. Political Vision: Proactive, Not Reactionary

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The defining failure of European progressive politics over the past decade has been its reactive posture. We respond to crises instead of generating agendas. We defend achievements instead of building new ones. We let our opponents frame every debate, and then scramble to offer a "reasonable" alternative that satisfies nobody.

FYEG must model a different politics, one built on three pillars:

- **Boldness in framing:** We set the agenda. We speak first, loudly, with confidence, on climate, on democracy, on housing, on migration, on social justice. We do not wait for permission from parties or institutions before we name what is wrong and propose what is right.
- **Discipline in strategy:** Boldness without strategy is noise. We must be selective, focused, and disciplined in choosing which battles to fight, and fight them to win. Not every campaign, not every issue. The ones where our voice makes a decisive difference.
- **Courage in victory:** When we win, and we will win, we celebrate it, we own it, we build on it. Green politics is not a politics of perpetual opposition. It is a politics of transformation, and transformation requires accumulating wins and showing that they are possible.

### The Electoral Landscape Ahead

The next three years will bring a wave of consequential elections: from the European Parliament cycle and its aftermath, to pivotal national contests in Turkey, Georgia, and Serbia. Each of these elections will test whether green and democratic forces can hold ground, or whether authoritarian and nationalist movements continue their advance. FYEG must be present in all of them: not as a detached observer, but as an active supporter of young democratic activists on the ground, regardless of whether they are in EU member states.

On peace: we will push for a fair and lasting peace in both Ukraine and Palestine. These are not abstract foreign-policy positions. They are existential questions for millions of young people, including many in our own member organisations, and we must speak to them with clarity, moral seriousness, and political courage.

## 3. Organisational Vision: A Federation That Works

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Political ambition without organisational capacity is a fantasy. If we want FYEG to punch above its weight politically, we must build the infrastructure that makes that possible. This means honest conversations about what is not working, and concrete proposals to fix it.

## Using the Tools We Already Have

There are instruments available to us that we are simply not using, tools that would give FYEG enormous visibility, democratic legitimacy, and institutional leverage if we deployed them systematically.

### Two deserve particular attention:

- **The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI):** This mechanism allows citizens to place items directly on the European Commission's agenda with one million signatures from at least seven member states. FYEG, with its network spanning dozens of countries and hundreds of thousands of young people, is ideally positioned to lead or co-lead ECI campaigns on climate, housing, or democratic reform. We are not using this tool. We must start.
- **Access to Information and Document Requests:** Requesting documents from the European Commission, meeting minutes, correspondence, the background to key decisions, is a powerful tool for accountability journalism and democratic scrutiny. FYEG should be actively using transparency mechanisms to expose the gap between official rhetoric and actual decision-making, and to arm our member organisations and allied journalists with evidence they can use.

## Opening the Federation to Whole Europe

FYEG's membership stretches far beyond the European Union. We have member organisations in countries that are candidate states, neighbourhood partners, and beyond. Yet our office functions in a way that systematically excludes people from those countries.

The issue of work permits has been raised for two years. Nothing has changed. We are directly turning away remarkable candidates, from roughly one third of our member organisations, simply because of administrative barriers we have the capacity to resolve but have chosen not to prioritise. This is not just an HR problem. It is a political statement about whose participation we value, and it contradicts everything we claim to stand for on inclusion and Pan-European solidarity.

In the next three years, FYEG must secure the legal and administrative framework to hire staff from all member organisations, regardless of their country of origin. This is achievable. It requires political will and organisational resources. We will provide both.

## Rebuilding Membership and Deepening Regional Roots

We cannot reverse membership decline by issuing statements or discussing it during the meetings. We reverse it by being useful. FYEG must ask every member organisation the same question: what do you actually need from us? And then we must build the capacity to deliver it.

In practice, this means: training programmes for young green activists in campaign skills, digital organising, and media communication; peer-learning networks so that the successful innovations of one member organisation can be rapidly shared with others; and a dedicated regional support function within FYEG's secretary general, so that weakened or newer organisations receive mentoring and practical help rather than being left to sink or swim alone.

## **4. Leadership Vision: Brave, Dynamic, Winning**

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Leadership in a federation like FYEG is about inspiring confidence, confidence that something is changing, that our collective effort is building towards something real, that we are not just going through the motions.

I believe that leadership in this moment requires three qualities above all else.

### **Courage**

Courage to name what is wrong inside our own movement, not just what is wrong with our opponents. Courage to make difficult decisions about priorities and resources. Courage to speak clearly on contested issues, Ukraine, Palestine, migration, the future of the EU, rather than retreating into the safety of procedural language. Our members deserve leaders who tell them the truth, even when it is uncomfortable.

### **Dynamism**

FYEG must move faster. The political landscape changes in days and weeks, not months and years. Our internal processes, decision-making, communications, campaign responses, must be built for speed and agility. This means investing in digital infrastructure, empowering working groups and regional structures to act without always waiting for executive approval, and building a culture where initiative is rewarded rather than bureaucratically smothered.

### **A commitment to winning**

We must stop treating moral consistency as a substitute for political effectiveness. Both matter. But a movement that is always right and never wins will not change the world. FYEG should study victories closely, in our own family and beyond, and rigorously extract the lessons. What made the Green surge in local elections across Northern Europe possible? What enabled Zac Polanski to become the most popular leader in the country on an unapologetically radical programme? What gave Zohran Mamdani the credibility to connect with working-class voters while maintaining a thoroughly Green programme? These are not rhetorical questions. They are strategic questions, and answering them should shape how we train our members, communicate our politics, and allocate our limited resources.

## **5. The Horizon: 2027 and Beyond**

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By 2027, I want FYEG to be an organisation that its member organisations are proud to belong to, not simply out of tradition or political affiliation, but because membership delivers real value and makes their work more effective. I want us to be

an organisation that the European institutions take seriously as a political actor. I want us to be an organisation that young people in Tbilisi, Belgrade, Ankara, and Kyiv look to as a source of solidarity, training, and hope.

None of this is guaranteed. All of it is possible. The future, as I said at the outset, is not written. But it will be written by someone, by the decisions we make in the next few months and years, by the courage we are willing to show, by the trust we are willing to extend to each other.

***Dark clouds are real. But so is the wind that moves them. Let us be that wind.***

***Loves and Green Regards,***

***Serdar Şengezer***



# Serdar Şengezer

**Date of birth:** 20/01/1998 | **Phone number:** (+36) 703912626 (Mobile) | **Email address:**

[serdarsengezer01@gmail.com](mailto:serdarsengezer01@gmail.com) | **Address:** Budapest, Hungary (Home)

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

11/09/2023 – 04/07/2025

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MA** Eötvös Loránd University

14/10/2024 – 01/03/2025

**ERASMUS EXCHANGE SEMESTER** Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg

16/08/2016 – 15/06/2020

**BACHELOR OF LAWS (FULL SCHOLARSHIP)** Maltepe University

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS (FYEG)** – 21/08/2024 – Current – BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

- Monitored political developments at the European level and contributed to advocacy and communications strategy.
- Coordinated regional work for the South region and represented the organisation at numerous international events.
- Oversaw key bodies, including the Beyond Growth Platform and the Ecosprinter.
- Supported statutory processes, including preparation and implementation of organisational and political procedures.
- Contributed to digital communications and external outreach.
- Led communications strategy, including social media and digital campaigns.
- Organised one General Assembly and currently oversee preparations for the next, ensuring coordination of agendas, stakeholder communication, and statutory processes under tight timelines.

**TEACHING ASSISTANT – EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES** – 11/03/2024 – 05/08/2024 – BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

- Supported lecturers in delivering courses in international relations, political science, and public law, ensuring academic materials were clear and accessible.
- Facilitated seminars and group discussions, encouraging critical thinking and active participation among students.
- Mentored and advised students on academic projects, research methods, and study strategies.
- Graded assignments and exams, providing constructive feedback to improve performance.
- Participated in student admissions interviews, assessing candidates for international relations programs.
- Evaluated academic potential and soft skills to support admission decisions

**INTERN LAWYER – ŞENEL LAW FIRM** – 02/07/2020 – 12/07/2021 – ISTANBUL, TÜRKIYE

- Conducted legal research, case law analysis, and contract drafting for civil and commercial law cases.
- Prepared trial materials and attended hearings, depositions, and client meetings.
- Authored articles and booklets on legal topics, including legislative history.
- Managed case files, client correspondence, and administrative operations in a high-volume legal environment.
- Assisted with finance and accounting tasks, including invoicing, expense reporting, and client billing.
- Delivered customer service support, liaising with clients to ensure clear communication and smooth case management.

**OMBUDSMAN – MALTEPE UNIVERSITY** – 16/09/2018 – 02/07/2020 – ISTANBUL

- Appointed by the university rector and senate following recommendation from professors and dean to serve as student ombudsman until graduation.
- Acted as a mediator between students and university administration, evaluating complaints and facilitating constructive dialogue.
- Resolved conflicts through negotiation, problem-solving, and consensus-building, ensuring fair treatment and compliance with university policies.

- Proposed and implemented solutions to student grievances that balanced academic requirements with student needs.
- Enhanced governance and communication within the university by fostering transparency and accountability.

## ● LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Mother tongue(s): **TURKISH**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
<b>GERMAN</b>	B1	B1	B1	B1	B2
<b>HUNGARIAN</b>	A1	A2	A1	A1	A1

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

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## Process

Considering geographical and gender-balance, the **Executive Committee has appointed the following Selection Committee:**

- **Andrej Zlatović**, current FYEG Co-spokesperson and Executive Committee Member;
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This assessment is based on the applications and interviews of Cinta González Sentís and Serdar Şengezer.

## **Assessment**

### **Cinta González Sentís**

Cinta possesses clear knowledge of the complexities of FYEG, the details of the position and the organisations FYEG collaborates with. Her knowledge of FYEG's position in the context of EU politics is strong and rooted in experience, both from her previous experiences in an MO, and long term office experience as showcased in her application and interview. She shows great awareness of the current state FYEG is in financially and administratively and aims to tackle it with concrete steps. We also recognise the steps Cinta has already put forward in her current mandate as the Secretary General.

She is clearly motivated for the position and interested in organising FYEG ahead of the 2029 European elections with clear steps. Her hope is that in her words FYEG can become a 'campaigning machine' with clear goals and efficient organising of both the office, the EC and the MOs. Within her application and interview we recognise that Cinta already has plans and processes in motion to achieve this. She has additionally showcased her learnings from the previous mandate and was very reflective of the previous three years. The Selection Committee recognises the clear commitment, hard skills and years of experience Cinta has presented in her application and interview.

We do note that there are still areas where we believe Cinta has room to further grow and develop. In particular, we would encourage her to continue building confidence in her own judgement and experience. Cinta is clearly eager to support her staff and volunteers to the greatest extent, yet sometimes leadership is also about making decisions that are not favourable by all. Cinta could benefit from coaching and support on assertiveness in professional settings, but we are also mindful that these dynamics can often be shaped by gendered experiences and expectations. Finally, we recognise that another mandate by Cinta would lead to FYEG finding itself with the same Secretary General for 6 years, which for youth organisations can be seen as quite a long time. Cinta has already addressed possible ways to handle this handover during her interview, which should be worked on alongside the EC.

### **Serdar Şengezer**

Serdar possesses strong political and legal knowledge of the EU and its various institutions, in his application and interview he emphasised different avenues to campaigning and lobbying. He also wishes to bring more activism into the position and to utilise the knowledge which he gained as a member of the Executive Committee and a member of the Beyond Growth Platform to the position of Secretary General.

It was noted that in the scenarios given, Serdar acted with pragmatism and transparency. He has shown confidence and has experience in conflict management from his role as student ombudsman. He understands the precarious position that FYEG has and desires a different approach to the one FYEG is currently taking, focusing on risk management.

Serdar has presented several fundraising ideas, yet the steps to realise the fundraising efforts were not clearly explained or presented and he does not have concrete fundraising or financial management experience.

However, Serdar's motivation for running for this position is currently not clear or not well-developed, and aspects of his vision for the next three years of FYEG are left unclear. His ideas at times lack clear steps and can be seen as more in line with the position of political leadership than Secretary General. When mentioning alternatives in the past years of FYEG, Serdar was clear on wanting a different approach, but how these approaches would look in practice was insufficiently explained and presented. He currently lacks project management experience, and while he is eager to learn, our concern is that the demands of the position of Secretary General pose too high a barrier of entry to learn them at a sufficient enough pace for the position. We also recognise that while he has ideas for management, he does not have professional or volunteer experience in this field and he does not have the HR or staff management experiences that are currently expected of a Secretary General.

While we acknowledge the political knowledge Serdar possesses of the EU and FYEG, the Selection Committee is cautious about their recommendation given the high learning curve of the position, even for candidates with previous experience, as well as the professionalisation FYEG has undergone in the previous period.

### **Conclusion**

With the information given, the Selection Committee has decided to endorse Cinta González Sentís for the position of Secretary General in FYEG.