



ACTIVITY PLAN 2018-19

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
#FYEG30 UTRECHT
HOSTED BY DWARS

POLITICAL PRIORITIES

For the last few years, we focused on the pressing issues that we are facing in Europe; migration, climate change and the kind of Europe we want. We want to continue with having 3 political priorities the coming year, but we want to expand our vision for Europe and come to concrete proposals to fight for after the European elections. We will develop and advocate for ideas for an open society and against climate change and focus on what Europe can be for young people's welfare and social rights. After the elections we want a social, welcoming and inclusive and sustainable Europe.

We have a holistic, radical political vision on Europe, where we show the interlinkages between different issues. When it comes to radical political visions, we are already a progressive think tank within the Green movement. With the capacities of the Executive Committee but also a campaign team and several active Working Groups, we will continue to come up with radical ideas and push for change, both to our partners in our conversations as to the world, through state-of-the-art communication and impactful actions.

Social justice and inclusion - Social Europe

Young people are having a hard time in Europe. Youth unemployment rates are still high in a number of countries. And even where the unemployment rate is low, internships are mostly unpaid and flex- or zero hour-contracts, while erasing people from unemployment statistics, do not provide a solution to their situation. In many countries, young people who as fresh graduates did not have the chance to contribute to the system remain excluded from unemployment benefits and other forms of social protection or income support. Young people are also more likely to face housing poverty or to spend more than 60 % of their income on housing. At the same time we see enormous tax evasion schemes and corruption being an everyday reality. This has to change. We know that many of our Member Organisations work on topics such as youth precarity, basic income and minimum youth wage and during our SPM this was the main mentioned issue. Therefore we want to include work and income into our Working Group, where we will discuss these issues and work towards their re-politicization. We want a Europe where everyone can thrive, no matter their starting point in life. Stopping precarious situations for youth and promoting solutions towards this will be a priority.

Migration, inclusion and diversity - Welcoming and Inclusive Europe

With a great summer camp on how to smash the borders we now have a much clearer vision on a Young Green approach on migration. While we see and propose solutions to this difficult and painful reality, we also observe a growing tendency towards outsourcing this policy area outside of Europe and outside of democratic control of the European and national Parliaments. With the Mediterranean turning into a mass grave and the Member States doing shady backroom deals with dictatorships in Europe's neighborhoods and beyond, the need for change is growing as a democratic and a moral imperative. We will keep pushing for a Europe where everyone is welcome, where freedom of movement is seen as a fundamental right and where we overcome difficult situations through empathy, solidarity and cooperation.

We want to take the topic a step further and discuss ways to overcome the ongoing toxic migration debates in Europe. The rise of fascism doesn't only affect refugees and migrants. Everywhere in Europe the fear of people that are different is increasing. Beside an increase in Islamophobic and anti-Semitic attacks, we are seeing more homophobic attacks as well. On top of that, the fascists that are preaching hate to others, are also trying to stop the liberation of women. Fascists, promoting (white) male superiority use the same analogies against women and LGBTQIA+ as to migrants and refugees or Roma, or against any imagined or constructed "other". Therefore the Gender and Inclusion Working Group will be integrated in the Working Group working on this topic.

Fighting fascism and promoting humane migration policies will stay a top priority by demonstrating that positive alternatives for an open and diverse Europe exist. We will show that these are realistic by linking with and show-casting everyday heroes in our societies who are already making this reality in their daily practice - people blocking deportation flights, saving refugees at sea or welcoming them in their homes, as well as gender and LGBTQIA+ activists fighting for their rights every day. Lastly, we will show our solidarity with young people outside of Europe by continuing to speak truth to power and by demonstrating that the current EU asylum and migration policies are nothing short of a politics of letting die.

Fair Sustainability - Sustainable Europe

The Paris agreement was signed, the energy transition has started, but much still needs to be done. Not only the pace of the transition to a sustainable Europe will be defining for the future of the planet. The way we decide who will benefit and lose with this transition is political. Much has to be done, but when we decide who gets the subsidies for renewable energies, we make important choices. We can choose to give subsidies to small collectives of citizens, who want to have their own local renewable projects and promote energy democracy. Or we give them to the big corporations that started the problem. Other important questions are, how to promote safety nets for people currently working in the fossil fuel industry, especially in the coal regions, and making sure their regions won't become ghost areas. Fighting for climate justice and thus a fair transition will therefore be a priority..

ACTIVITIES

Our activities will be empowering and will aim at decentralizing the knowledge within the movement. Everyone that joins a workshop or seminar will then be able and encouraged to train others to maximise the impact of our events.

Commons Work Plan

To increase the capacities of our Member Organisations to advocate for Commons, we will organise three international activities - seminars on Social and Digital Commons and a Summer Camp on Environmental Commons. The topical outcomes will be documented, among others in a Dictionary of Commons that will, together with an Ecospinter edition on the topic, be a valuable resource for our MOs working on Commons. Further discussions and follow-up activities will be carried on by the initiative for a Commons Working Group.

Study session on Demasculinisation of Politics

After a successful DOP I, we are happy to announce that this year, in cooperation with our sister network CDN, we will again organize a study session for non-males aiming to to strengthen capacities of young women and non-male leaders to tackle structural challenges and obstacles for gender-equal leadership. With a view to the upcoming elections, there will be a particular focus on empowering more non-males to actively engage in politics.

AlterCOP

COP 24, the coming climate summit in Katowice, Poland will be extremely important for the future of our planet. We will see what the Paris agreement will mean in practice and what the different countries are doing to do to stay below 1.5 *C degrees warming. This COP will be crucial and it will be the last COP before the European elections. Therefore we aim to mobilise together with other European youth organisations working on sustainability to have a strong youth voice towards the COP 24. We will collaborate with other youth organisations to have a broad coalition and try to be present with as many Young Greens as possible.

Recruitment day

We have, as requested by MO's, begun the process of planning a recruitment week for late summer. Bolstering our numbers will benefit us greatly, not only in the form of new ideas, but also for our volunteer force who help our representatives get elected. We will have a session on recruitment at the GA, and all MO's will be given the opportunity to share their best practices in due time, to make this a success!

Social Rights Work Plan

In 2019, we intend to organise a series of events related to social rights. The work plan will kick off with a festive conference on the status of social rights and the different struggles around them, together with representatives of various organisations

working in this field. The Summer Camp will train participants in organising hackathons locally in order to find creative solutions to concrete problems. These hackathons will then take place around Europe. The project will result in a handbook on what the status of social rights is in Europe right now and on different creative types of activism and advocacy that Young Greens and other organisations can use to fight for their social rights.

European Election Campaign

We will put a lot of resources from the organisational structures and the Office into the campaign. The campaign plan is outlined in detail in a separate document.

PARTNERS

EGP

We have a very positive relationship with EGP and hope to continue this. We will stay the progressive voice in the back of their head, when deciding on the priorities and narratives for the European election campaign and work together with them towards making Green solutions heard across the continent. We want at least one Committee Member elected next year to be a Young Green. We will approach these elections holistically to make sure that the Committee as a whole is committed to a strong youth movement within the Greens.

GGEP

FYEG will continue its positive cooperation with the Green Group. We hope we will be able to collaborate for the COP. This collaboration will also take place with individual MEPs before and after the European elections.

European Youth Forum

FYEG will actively participate in the European Youth Event and the YO!Fest. Here, we will prioritise gender and climate change, two topics that are not as self-evident amongst all Youth Forum members as for our members. Safeguarding an open and diverse youth forum and bringing climate change and sustainability consistently to the table will be of our priorities in our continuing collaboration. FYEG will stay in close contact with the Board and office of the Youth Forum, to monitor the talks with possible new members whose ideologies, internal structures or aims contradict the aims of an inclusive, open and rights-based pan-European youth organization. We aim to have a Board Member nominated by FYEG in the YFJ Board 2019-2020.

Global Young Greens

Working together with the Global Young Greens, continues to be important for us in the upcoming year. By having members of FYEG within the Steering committee, different subcommittees and the upcoming working groups, we hope to be able to continue supporting the development of the Global Green Movement.

FYEG AS...

A movement

As always, FYEG will put as many resources as we can into supporting our Member Organisations. We want to facilitate our MOs to become stronger, be it through trainings, giving opportunities to activists to join bodies such as prep or campaign teams and by giving individual support when needed. We will also follow up on the adopted resolution at the 2017 autumn EGP council, by promoting it and ensuring that parent parties give adequate space and resources to our MOs.

We realise that, due to the increase in capacities in the Office, FYEG now has more calls than ever. That we are sometimes not able to find enough activists is an issue that we will actively work on together with the MOs. Ensuring good communication with MO representatives, spreading our calls more efficiently and being clear about the benefits of activists participating in FYEG events and bodies will be a priority for the coming year.

A resource

Strengthening our MOs is and will stay a priority for the years to come. FYEG will invest time and effort into creating a platform where all FYEG's educational, topical and capacity-building resources can be available - from campaign-manuals to how-to-fundraise-tips. The platform will include a section for MO's resources as well. In this manner we think that the organisational learning will be facilitated the best.

An inclusive organisation

Our work on inclusion will continue. We will expand the scope and aim at being even more inclusive. Our ambition is to connect with more organisations that work on this matter on a European level, such as disability youth groups and other emancipatory groups that are also members of the European Youth Forum .

WORKING GROUPS

FYEG is determined to tackle the challenges that Europe is living everyday and propose strong solutions for them. Social Europe, Welcoming and Inclusive Europe and Sustainable Europe will be priority working groups. We will also have a Commons Working Group and a Food System and Animals Right Working Group for next year where activists from our Member Organisations can discuss and debate together with FYEG's Executive Committee and carry out educational projects as well as political campaigns.

OFFICE

This year, the Office will dedicate a significant amount of time and resources on the campaign. To prevent overload of the office, we aim to find the funds for a campaign manager to assist the Office and Campaign Team during the height of the campaign.

Without our volunteers FYEG is nothing, so improving volunteer management will stay a priority. Ensuring and supporting a well functioning EC, EEB, CT, FCC, SPC and Working Groups is crucial and will be at the core of the work of the office.

One of the key tasks of the Office will be to secure funds required to uphold and develop FYEG's organisational structures also after the European elections. This needs to be done in close collaboration with the EC and with Green partners.