

Dear Member Organisation delegates,

Allow me to express my motivation for taking on the position of the Executive Committee member of the Federation of Young European Greens.

As someone who got politically active relatively late in life (23 years old), compared to most of the activists from Western and Northern Europe, I am beyond grateful for FYEG and all the fantastic activities the people behind it organise. Since getting engaged with FYEG through Green Youth of Serbia in 2018, I have learned and continue to learn about the Green Ideology, the various challenges we face globally, and about innovative approaches, our diverse green community has to offer. I have grown professionally and personally and I got the opportunity to keep falling in love with many faces of greens all over Europe. This is why I want to give back.

I held a position on the Executive Committee in the year 2020 - 2021 and was responsible for relations with the Eastern Member Organisations. I am proud to say that I have led the **integration of a new eastern member organisation** into our network, the youth wing of the most progressive party in the Balkans with the first green Prime-minister ever! I have also been the lead on FYEG's **#FreeBelarus campaign** in an effort to raise attention to the deterioration of the rule of law in Belarus and growing authoritarian tendencies in the region.

After a year of a peculiar and exhausting mandate during the Covid pandemic, I have decided not to run again, with the intention to start an internship with the Greens and FYEG. After 5 months of **internship with the Green group in the European Parliament and FYEG**, where I continued to learn and expand my understanding of the Green politics on the institutional European level and Civil sector respectively, I got the opportunity to **work in FYEG office for 4 more months as an administrative assistant**. This enabled me to get to know our member organisations and also to understand the other side of the coin and the immense importance the office has in running our federation smoothly.

I believe this experience is a valuable asset and that I could confidently contribute to the work of the newly elected EC and the Federation as a whole. Additionally, I believe that I could contribute to the regional diversity and Eastern representation in the EC.

In this mandate, I would **focus on the relations with the Eastern Member organisation** and help mediate our different approaches to the burning questions in Europe. I believe this is where our strength lies. We have witnessed tensions between regions within the greens and in these emotional and scary times this poses an opportunity to understand each other better and **stand united in our diversity**. Lastly, acting in the EC would enable me to give back to the organisation and this beautiful community and help amplify the green wave until we soak entire Europe.

Thank you for taking the time,
Green cheers!
Milan Zlatanović