



Emil Schenkyr

/ FYEG EC Candidacy

Dear Green friends,

I am very excited to be running for FYEG's Executive Committee. My relationship with FYEG has been intense and all-encompassing from the beginning, which is why I will share with you my motivation in these next paragraphs.

FYEG is the best space I have operated in throughout my political and activist life. I experienced this first hand and most intensely during the Mental Health is Political seminar in Podgorica, Montenegro, earlier this year. The way the prep-team, but also the participants, looked out for one another was something very new and extremely meaningful to me. But this does not mean we are perfect. There is room for improvement. While we try to be inclusive, we are a very white and geographically imbalanced (sometimes even Brussels-centered) organization. This needs to be addressed in a strategic and structural way.

While I have been very active in FYEG over the past year, I also bring a fresh perspective to the table, motivating me to make use of my skills and push for necessary changes in our federation.

Throughout the past year, I participated in events both online (MO-MO training) and offline (AlterCOP26), participated in and lead the Working Group Democracy & Inclusion, contributed to the Ecosprinter (interview on Community Supported Agriculture), and acted as a prep-team member for the Mental Health is Political seminar in Podgorica, Montenegro and the This Oppressive System and Our Mental Health summer camp in Rouen, France. In all these different activities, I strive to include a strategic, long-term perspective.

Before my time in FYEG, I was active in and built up a youth exchange organization, developing national and international structures from the ground up. Main responsibilities of mine were the introduction of capacity building for smaller MOs, as well as enabling membership growth. In this time, the organization both grew in size and depth, enabling 5.000 yearlong exchanges a year.



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Having been a political person all my life, I shifted my focus of engagement from international youth exchange to political activism two years ago. Through my studies and a focus on European policy, it became clear to me, that there is high need for change. And where best to pursue this change, if not in a political organization? This leads me to my understanding of FYEG. As a European political youth organization, I see us as a political actor that must put all its power behind the fights worth fighting – for a just, feminist, diverse, democratic, sustainable Europe. As a youth organization based in political activism, we are in the unique position to act as a force within established politics, while pushing for revolutionary change on the streets at the same time. This makes our input more credible and valuable, and it strengthens our movements. This leads me to my second understanding of FYEG, that of our role as a federation. As such, we are responsible for our MOs and our members. Strengthening our movements, growing MOs, learning from and supporting each other are crucial for a federation capable of achieving change. In my understanding, FYEG must act both outwards and inwards, in order to be able to achieve the change we all long for.

FYEG has undergone structural changes through and during the covid pandemic. In order for these changes to have their best possible impact, it is important that people with a fresh perspective shape and lead our federation. As a prep-team member of the first in-person event after the pandemic-induced break, and given my relevant experience in international youth organizations, I feel both competent and capable to take on this responsibility.

I am incredibly excited to shape the upcoming years of FYEG with you together and look forward to working in this federation with you in a new role!

Lots of Green love,

Emil