



FEDERATION OF YOUNG
EUROPEAN GREENS

Budoucí's application for candidate membership Executive Committee Assessment

Context

For several years, FYEG had a member organisation in Czech Republic called Mladi Zeleni and who was collaborating with the EGP member party Zeleni. In 2019, Zeleni decided to run for the European Elections as part of a coalition with 2 center-right political parties, TOP09 and STAN, both affiliated to the EPP. As a result, Mladi Zeleni decided to revoke its memorandum of cooperation with Zeleni and stopped cooperating with them.

After the elections, a new leadership got elected in Zeleni, including former members of Mladi Zeleni and FYEG structures. This new leadership wanted to rebind ties with Mladi Zeleni. The members of the organisation were split between some who wanted to start working again with Zeleni and some who wanted to work on building a new green-left political movement. The organisation agreed to split and finally decided to dissolve itself and to create two new organisations, one of them being Budouci, founded by those who didn't want to work with Zeleni anymore.

Budoucí (The Forthcoming) identifies as a political movement founded based on the ideals of economic justice, the rights of the working class and environmental policies. They are a youth wing of Budoucnost, a left-wing progressive political movement and are in the process of becoming a registered association according to Czech law. They currently have 25 members with plans to expand, and intend to join FYEG's sister organisation CDNEE as well as FYEG.

Several members have previously participated in FYEG activities such as the FYEG GA (2019), MO Forum (2019), Summer camp (2018) and Study sessions (Glass ceiling is not your limit) when they were members of the former Mladi Zeleni organisation. Some members are or have been active in FYEG Working Groups. They have started cooperating with Ostra Zielen and Grüne Jugend in Dresden. Their planned future actions include international conferences and actions; fielding candidates; and national cultural events and actions.

Analysis

Membership criteria

The analysis of the documents submitted by Budoucí for their application shows that Budoucí overall meets the Membership Criteria outlined in Article 1.1.2 of FYEG Internal Rules of Procedure.

Budoucí aims at being active on the national level in Czech Republic and have members in several cities.

Budoucí's priorities include climate justice and a just transition that includes the rights of working class people and the northern region of the country, ending the for-profit debt collection mafia in the Czech Republic, solutions for the housing crisis in cities, tax reform, agricultural reform, fighting against the oligarchy present in the state and the economy, and accessible healthcare and education. They appear to be in line with FYEG values and political platform.

Budoucí s appears to be functioning based on democratic principles, even if concerns have been raised regarding the lack of autonomy towards the political party Budoucnost on account of a significant overlap of membership. The supreme body of the association is the General Assembly which elects the Executive Committee for one year terms. The EC is composed of 5-9 members, including two co-spokesperson, and must respect gender balance. The supreme inspection body is the Overview Committee, and there are individual Local Organizations to carry out activities locally. Working groups carry out the tasks specified for them according to the GA and EC and are advisory bodies.

Finally, Budoucí is undoubtedly a youth organisation. Most of its members are in their early twenties and they have introduced an age limit at 30 y.o.

Political Criteria

The FYEG Executive Committee views Budoucí as an organisation with eco-socialist values, and that takes pride in its activism. We welcome its quickly formed structures that aim to be as inclusive as possible, with the use of working groups to engage more young people. While Budoucí is feminist in that it promotes gender balance in its structures and promotes intersectional feminism, its political platform does not offer a concrete feminist position, this could be further developed. We believe Budoucí's members can bring a lot to FYEG, as many of them have done in the last years

The Executive Committee wants to bring MOs' attention to the fact that accepting Budoucí as a full member organisation an organisation whose parent party is the political opponent of a EGP member party could harm FYEG's relations with the EGP and therefore have negative consequences on FYEG a whole and potentially hinder FYEG's future efforts to support building the Green political presence in the Czech Republic. It is important that the political activity of an organisation whose parent party is not aligned with the EGP does not compromise the political work of FYEG and its member organisations. We want to bring the MOs attention to the precedent it could set, meaning that it could be happening in other countries as well.

Recommendation

FYEG Executive Committee believes that the status of candidate member is not suited to Budoucí as it doesn't represent a step towards full membership. **The status of observer organisation is more suited to Budoucí as it intends to be politically aligned with a political party that will compete with an EGP member party.** This status would allow Budoučni's members to take part to FYEG activities and contribute to our work.