

APPLICATION FOR FYEG MEMBERSHIP

Are you applying for candidate membership, observer membership or full membership (you need to be a candidate member to apply for full membership)? Full membership
Name of the organisation (in native language): Protests
Name of the organisation (in English): Protest
Postal address: Stabu iela 2-8, LV-1010, Riga, Latvia
Website: https://www.protests.eu
Organisation's contact email: protestsjaunatne@gmail.com
Main social media channels (links): Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/protestsjaunatne/?__tn__=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARBkEhjDsPksOarXUfaVlpy8R6Hqn2YinpLoWv2k7P6iEfjemreBDuX7qhvJHUuPq0tSill393HVLIK7 Twitter: https://twitter.com/protestsyouth?lang=en Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/protestsjaunatne/ Other:
Is your organisation officially registered? (if yes, indicate the legal act and attach the proof)
Date of founding of the organisation: 10.01.2019
Geographical region (e.g region, country) where your organisation is active: Latvia
Is your organisation, officially or unofficially, the youth wing of a political party, of an NGO or is it an independent organisation? (please elaborate): NGO with ties to the social-democratic and green party "Progresīvie" (the Progressives)
Is your organisation based on direct membership of individuals or an association of organisations? Direct membership
How many members does your organisation have? If applicable, how many groups or member organisations does it have? We have 17 members with voting rights and around 100 official volunteers.
What is the average age of your members? Does your organisation have an official age limit? 13- 35, most members are in their early twenties
What are the conditions (if any) in order to become a member of your organisation?

<p>By filling out an online application you can become a volunteer. You can become a member by formally expressing the notion via email. The decision falls to the collective meeting which is the lower level decision making body after General Assembly.</p>
<p>Do you have employed staff? If yes, how many?</p> <p>No</p>
<p>What was your annual budget last year and what is your planned budget for this year (in €)?</p> <p>2019 we had total income of 880 EUR. We expect the same amount for this year.</p>
<p>Is your organisation a member of other national or international structures (e.g. CDNEE, Youth Councils, Political Coalition, etc.)? If yes, which ones?</p> <p>Partner organization of CDNEE, associate member of Latvian Youth Council</p>
<p>Have members of your organisations taken part to FYEG Activities in the past or been members of an FYEG structure?</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>Can you tell the history of your organisation, indicating its mission, its political priorities and main goals? (max. 1 page)</p> <p>“Protests” main goal is to always be alongside/near/there to support young people and actively fight against injustice. “Protests” was officially established on 10.01.2019., but it took around 3 months before that to establish the main principles and values. We have been active since then working with our mission and goals (see Activity overview).</p> <p>Our main topical and political priorities are LGBTQAI+ issues and rights, climate change and climate justice, democratic governance locally and internationally.</p> <p>Our goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Educate young people about important and actual issues, for example, political processes, inequality, protection of the environment, protection of your rights etc. ● Encourage young people to fight for themselves and others and actively oppose injustice. ● Find solutions for the problems that concern young people: social and economic inequality, discrimination, lack of youth representation etc. ● Protect the rights of different social groups, for example, women, LGBTQ+, ethnic minorities etc. ● Organize campaigns, discussions and other kind of events about topics important to young people. ● Become an organization that protects the rights of young people and is a loud voice in Latvia. ● Create a safe and supportive environment for every young person, where one does not need to fear to express themselves, strengthen their identity and individuality.
<p>Can you describe your activities in the last few years and give an outlook of your upcoming activities? (max 1 page)</p> <p>After being founded in the beginning of 2019, the first event organized by Protests was a</p>

demonstration at the Embassy of Russia in Riga against the violations of LGBTQ+ rights in Chechnya.

Members of Protests also took part in the Women's March in Riga on March 8th, 2019.

The same spring, several discussions were organized by Protests in collaboration with professionals on youth mental health.

Also in March 2019, Protests organized the first youth climate strike in Latvia, together with Fridays for Future Latvia. A second demonstration was held in May, with simultaneous demonstrations in Tallinn and Vilnius, referencing the 20th anniversary of the Baltic Way, this time for the climate.

Members of Protests also took part in their first FYEG event- unconference "Social Europe Now!". On IDAHOT, a protest was organized in front of the parliament, which gained lots of media attention.

We organized another protest in summer 2019 against ICE and the detainment of children in prisons in the United States.

In June, Protests marched in the largest-yet Baltic Pride in Vilnius. Later, we took part in the Latvian parliament's annual NGO forum on topics such as sustainability and media policy. On June 20, a civil partnership draft law was once again rejected, to which Protests immediately answered with a demonstration.

Protests organized a discussion on youth participation in politics at the annual democracy festival "Lampa" and several members of Protests took part in other discussions on democracy, sustainability, green and left-wing politics and LGBTQ+ rights.

Members of Protests also attended FYEG Summer Camp in Serbia.

In September 2019, the largest climate strike in the Baltics was held- organized by Protests and Fridays for Future. Events such as discussions were also organized leading up to this event, which gained large media attention and led to an acknowledgement of the climate crisis by the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

Later last year, Protests took part in a discussion organized by the parliament for the voting age to be lowered to 16 in local council elections, where we argued for this proposal.

We also became members of Youth Council of Latvia, the largest umbrella organization for youth groups and are currently working on several law proposals there, including amendments to youth and family law and volunteer work law.

On HIV awareness week, personal experience stories were shared by Protests online.

We have expressed out solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community and feminist movements in Hungary, Poland and Russia.

During the initial outbreak of COVID-19, members of Protests helped organize a network of volunteers and distributed information in Latvian, Russian and English, moderated a support chat for youth and raised awareness about domestic violence on social media and provided tips for youth to deal with these situations and seek professional help.

In May, we participated in a flag-raising ceremony at the US Embassy on IDAHOT and held an online event about LGBTQ+ rights and history in Latvia together with the most influential Latvian LGBTQ+ public figures.

In June, we organized an action in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, a protest at the

Embassy of Poland for LGBTQ+ rights and at the Embassy of Russia against constitutional amendments that allow Putin to rule until 2036.

Our future plans include continuing the anti-racist campaign in collaboration with POC and Roma communities in Latvia, campaigning for climate action (including a petition to develop rail networks instead of the current plan to invest millions into highways), projects on LGBTQ+ rights such as organizing an art contest about rainbow families together with MPs and other NGOs. We plan to extend out work in the field of mental health too. Members of Protests are also Prep Team members for CDNEE's online course on gender and an event on Smart Cities that will be held in Riga. We plan to organize more local actions and events such as summer camps in the future and further develop out network both in Latvia and abroad.

Who takes decisions in your organisation? Can you describe your internal functioning (board, Assemblies, etc..)? (max ½ page)

A 5 member board is elected once a year via General Assembly. The board elects the chairperson. The GA is the main decision making process, and it can be held multiple times a year. More administrative, day to day decisions are made via collective meetings as per our Internal Rules. They state that we make a unanimous decision in every collective meeting with quorum of Board being present.