

Plans-1

Author(s):

Concerning: 5) Plans

Activity Plan 2016/2017

- 1 Dear Young Greens all over Europe!
- 2 We would like to introduce you our activity plan. What is an activity plan in
- 3 FYEG? It is an important document to outline political, educational and
- 4 internal activities, which are embedded in a mid- and long-term strategy.
- 5 The activity plan we introduce to you is supposed to be readable- we do not
- 6 want to get caught in details. Nevertheless, we do not want to leave you
- 7 alone
- 8 with this short outline. For further explanations, you will find attachments on
- 9 the timeline, partners, communication and further concepts. The activity
- 10 plan is supposed to be a framework for the work of the Executive Committee.
- 11 The frame itself is set by the General Assembly and thus the Member
- 12 Organisations, yet the Executive Committee may make modifications to the
- 13 priorities and plan itself shall the political situation in European require it,
- 14 which would then be discussed with the Member Organisations.
- 15 The 2015-2016 Executive Committee
- 16 Cengiz, Iryna, Johannes, Laura, Marie, Morgan, Teo, Tornike
- 17 Aims, Analysis, Narratives
- 18 The Crisis of Europe: the old is dying and the new cannot be born

19 Today's Europe is in upheaval and despair. We all experience a multiplicity
20 of crisis. Beyond the economic, social and environmental crisis, Europe
21 experiences a political crisis which threatens our democracy. It is necessary to
22 understand how this multiplicity is intertwined, such as how the economic
23 crisis leads to nationalistic and racist fear-mongering on the one hand and to
24 economic dictatorship by neoliberal and conservative governing politicians
25 on the other hand. Neoliberalism is pouring oil into the fire. The result is even
26 stronger far right political movements.

27 Since the 70's the dogmas of neoliberal capitalism have haunted Europe, such
28 as austerity, the destruction of the welfare state, the deregulation of
29 finance markets, outsourcing public infrastructure and crushing labor laws and
30 social rights. The results of this ideology are not more freedom and
31 opportunities for all of us, but increasing inequality, poverty, unemployment,
32 instability and fear. The rich have become richer, the poor have become
33 poorer. Inequality has grown on a national and global level.

34 But the World Crisis does not just describe the state of the economy caused by
35 an insane profit orgy, which has been organized by Europe's political elite.

36 It also describes our daily life. In these confusing and troubling times people
37 feel isolated and ignored by far away media, political campaigners and
38 politicians, who are not able to grasp the people's needs, especially young
39 people's need to make a decent living. There is an absence of strong,
40 progressive anti-establishment politics and of a lively democracy, which is more
41 and more reduced to elections every few years and filled with empty
42 phrases and stupid soundbites. This corrupted democracy creates a huge void.
43 This void is unfortunately filled by the racist and nationalistic imaginary
44 created by the far right.

45 Framing the Future of Europe

46 We need to experiment and create a new paradigm, which feeds peoples' hopes
47 and needs for a better living and strengthens the imagination, for the
48 struggles for a good life for everyone, and not just for a few. We need to create
49 a positive and effective alternative project for Europe, that brings

50 people together and not separates people who are branded to be different. We
51 want a Europe, where nobody has to fear to be different.

52 Thus, we as Young Greens want to provide a progressive compass in these
53 times. Present-day Europe is not our responsibility as young greens, but
54 changing

55 it is our shared responsibility. Such a compass entails a strong voice for social
56 rights, for democracy and dignity of all people.

57 We should do this by developing the European wide Young Green community.
58 This means to spread a common narrative, through going to our member

59 organisations, tell our story, imagine a political community which is not just
60 local but transnational. We act locally, but our struggles are connected

61 through our ideas. Second, we do this by connecting our struggles with the
62 struggles of other civil society movements and initiatives. This means to

63 develop networking strategies and be present at different kinds of mobilization
64 as FYEG.

65 Parties rightfully do not inspire trust anymore, neither of the broader public
66 nor of activists. However, they are still the necessary instruments for

67 progressive institutionalised politics. We therefore have to listen to the di-
68 versity of local movements, learn from them, support them and be part of
69 them.

70 As a political youth organization, occupying the in-between space between
71 grassroots civil society organisations and activists, and institutional politics,

72 it is our responsibility to support and create bottom-up politics and democra-
73 tize Europe.

74 FYEG's political priorities in terms of communication and events from June
75 2016 to December 2017 will be migration and refugees' rights, the "Future of

76 Europe", and climate justice. The Future of Europe will entail the question of
77 the Brexit as much as gaining momentum against Austerity and the fight to

78 renew Europe's democracy. Migration and Refugees' rights, as well as climate
79 justice, will be covered on the road to COP22 and our event in Marrakech.

80 Activities: Events and Communication

81 2016/2017 will be a year of trial and error. We will experiment with new
82 formats of political outreach and events but also intensify and enhance what
83 we

84 are good at and what we successfully established.

85 Going beyond traditional campaigning

86 We will focus on media activism. This entails, for instance, reporting about the
87 Brexit referendum, visiting Member Organisations and telling their stories

88 to the rest of the MOs, struggles against austerity, decisive elections in Europe,
89 and last but not least, solidarity with refugees and activism against

90 borders. Beyond that, this format also creates flexibility for ad-hoc devel-
91 opments. We will create temporary media teams for each mission and send
92 these

93 teams to relevant activities about these issues. However it is not just about
94 reporting, but also about creating progressive story lines. The key of our

95 media activism is to internationalize political debates and struggles, and by
96 doing so connecting them. For creating better outreach we will enhance our

97 social media performance to reach more and more professional standards of
98 communication. We will also invest time for investigation and trials of di-
99 verse

100 social media channels. We will continue to work with our current visual design
101 and will enhance it. The Executive Committee, and especially the

102 co-Spokespersons, will be tasked to develop a general communication plan,
103 which emphasizes to not just publish European-wide topics but frequent

104 developments in countries. This communication plan also involves the en-
105 hancement of the external communication of events of FYEG (social media,
106 website

107 reporting), and the media strategy of the Federation.

108 Seminars

109 Seminars will focus on the COP, on empowerment non-male actors in politics,
110 the cooperation with the Global Young Greens and on Sex Education. In
111 September

112 2016 there will be a study session in the European Youth Center on the latter
113 topic. We are going to gather our member organizations to educate youth
114 workers and educators within our partner organisations and beyond to increase
115 skills and knowledge to deal efficiently with those social and political
116 opponents who deny the youth the right to sex education. From COP22 to
117 global solidarity: November 2016 to April 2017 will be marked by our effort
118 to
119 connect Climate Change, Migration and Global Justice through our activities
120 around COP22 in Marrakech and a global seminar that we will co-organize
121 with
122 the Global Young Greens at the European and Global Greens Congress in
123 Liverpool in April. We aim for organising an event targeted at women and
124 none male
125 actors in politics' in Turkey. This event would allow the young greens move-
126 ments at national and European level to advance on objectives of inclusion,
127 gender equality and female and non-male empowerment and participation.
128 Going beyond small events
129 We want to balance smaller events and bigger events in the future. After the
130 organisation of the summer camp in Serbia in July 2016 with 60 participants,
131 we aim to hold another, larger, more ambitious summer event with around 100
132 participants in 2017 . We will also retain the possibility of organising a
133 Twinning Cities networking and training activity in late 2016 or in 2017, ac-
134 cording to the interest expressed by MOs.
135 Picking up from the idea that emerged from the strategic planning meeting in
136 February 2016, of creating the possibility for bigger gatherings of young
137 Greens, 2017 will constitute the first step of what we hope will become a
138 practice. In 2018, we could even aim for greater number of activists based on
139 the
140 gained capacities and experience, as well as on the necessary longer preparation
141 process that would allow a preparation such in advance Considering that
142 building a young green community is one of our fundamental priorities, such
143 events in 2017 and 2018 will carry this spirit to the 2019' European

144 Parliamentary elections. We want to establish the tradition of summer camps
145 and put effort in fundraising them on a sustainable basis and not just

146 depending on flexible financial regimes. In terms of big events, we will evaluate
147 after the 2016 camp the possibility to extend the 2018 summer camp to a
148 political summer festival of 300-400 participants.

149 In 2016/2017, we will also test European Action Days. As a federation we
150 want to create our own action days. We suggest one or two of these to unite
151 on one

152 single day our activists all over the continent to take action under one topical
153 umbrella. The idea is to organize street actions and local events in many

154 European cities on the same topic and telling the same story adapted to the
155 local context.

156 Pan-European Panel Series

157 The Executive Committee will evaluate the possibility of pan-European Panel
158 debates together with MOs. The idea of the project is to have similar

159 discussion on the same topic in many European cities. These discussions will
160 be documented and will be put on a web platform (such as FYEG's Youtube

161 channel). The topic will be determined by the Executive Committee in col-
162 laboration with selected and interested MOs and resemble around FYEG's
163 political

164 priorities in 2016/2017.

165 Internal Events and internal communication

166 In Fall 2016 we will organize our traditional Working Group Meeting. The
167 Ecosprinter Editorial Board is encouraged to meet then and/at FYEG Summer
168 Camp in

169 July 2016.

170 In early 2017, we will hold another Strategic Planning Meeting. We want to
171 establish a new tradition of internal events. We see the necessity of

172 pre-General Assembly planning within the federation, involving especially the
173 Member Organisations. This Strategic Planning Meeting will evaluate the

174 implementation of new formats in our activities and does the political planning
175 for the following General Assembly.

176 In May 2017, we will hold our traditional General Assembly and the Spring
177 Conference. The Spring Conference besides the Summer Camp, is one of the
178 major

179 educational events of the Federation. We will further enhance the quality of
180 workshops. We want to engage with major European intellectuals, Green
181 politicians, activists and representatives of other political families. The 2017
182 Spring Conference will have a more educational dimension than in previous
183 years, the topic being political communication.

184 The Executive Committee aims to meet at least 5-6 times physically, including
185 one or two planning retreats during its mandate.

186 Internal communication should not be overloaded, but Member Organisations
187 should be frequently updated. The Secretary General takes on the responsi-
188 bility

189 for the general Member Organisations coordination. The Organisations will
190 be divided by regions among Executive Committee Members. The office and
191 the EC

192 will facilitate communication within regions in Europe, bearing in mind that
193 coordinating this chiefly depends on the MOs themselves. This also applies
194 to

195 platforms for MO to MO communication.

196 The office together with the Executive Committee will provide a newsletter
197 once a month and a Member Organisation-letter (once a month). The MO-
198 letter will

199 focus on formal announcements. There will be also one or two general MO-
200 Skype calls. One should be between the Strategic Planning Meeting and the
201 General

202 Assembly.

203 Membership

204 FYEG recognizes different styles of working, places, national/regional contexts
205 and aims among the Member Organisations. The Executive Committee will

206 evaluate local situations and support smaller Member Organisations in their
207 growth. Bigger Member Organisations will be supported by FYEG with

208 international input, networking opportunities and europeanization of their
209 struggles to produce more impact and learn from each other. FYEG will
210 also

211 establish contacts in regions and countries without Member Organisations and
212 it will evaluate potential Member Organisations. The Executive Committee
213 will

214 do its best to be present at General Assemblies of Member Organisations and
215 it will try to perform as many study visits as possible from a financial and
216 timely point of view.

217 The Executive Committee will support and encourage Member Organisations
218 to enhance regional cooperation, such as creating regional events of 2 or more
219 MOs.

220 Such regional events could entail supporting MOs to organize skill training,
221 such as speakers trainings.

222 Skill Trainings

223 We need skilled activists, coordinators and speakers in political struggles. The
224 executive committee will conceptualize and negotiate with possible funders

225 to expand and establish frequent trainings and potentially a training program
226 that could benefit Member Organisations' activists. The EC will also

227 investigate the possibility to set up an FYEG Pool of Trainers. Priorities are
228 speakers, campaign and communication trainings and training capacity

229 builders in a train-the-trainers program that would develop into this potential
230 'FYEG pool of trainers' available within FYEG and for MOs. The Executive

231 Committee will organize also a training session for itself for the purpose of
232 team building and a professional task division.

233 Ecosprinter

234 We aim for more space for the Ecosprinter to become the most necessary place
235 for critical thinking and assessment of green politics, political news and

236 contexts, and MO/FYEG activities in the coming year. Therefore, the
237 Ecosprinter aims to enhance its partnership with the Green European Journal
238 and further

239 professionalize its work including rebuilding the website, establishing a network
240 of Young Green publications and, if possible and deemed useful, creating
241 a printed edition of collected articles from Young Greens.

242 Office

243 FYEG will strive to a part time office administrator. The Executive Committee
244 will evaluate if the office administration should include accounting, which
245 is partially provided by an outsourced service at the moment.

246 The office in co-work with the Treasurer will enhance the controlling and will
247 provide every EC meeting and the strategic planning meeting with an up-
248 dated

249 budget report.

250 The office will develop project timelines for the year and is responsible for
251 webpage and general event reporting.

252 The responsibility of the office is to assist the Executive Committee and other
253 volunteers as much as possible to make their political activities as solid,

254 transparent, professional and valuable as possible. This includes responsibili-
255 ties such as travel arrangements, reimbursements, non-political EC meeting

256 preparations, accommodation. The Secretary General is centrally responsible
257 for the preparation of the structural meetings.

258 Working Groups

259 Priority will be put on specific Working Groups of FYEG responsible for the
260 development of specific campaigns related to one of three topics determined
261 in

262 this Activity Plan. We thus aim at streamlining the following: political prior-
263 ities, topics of Working Groups, campaigns, and activities.

264 While other Working Groups might continue to exist in the future, the accent
265 will be set by the Executive Committee and the Office to support these

266 specific Working Groups on political development, organisation of activities
267 and communication, as well as on practical, logistical and administrative

268 aspects.

269 Inclusion Audit

270 We believe it is healthy to conduct an investigation on how inclusive FYEG's
271 structures, activities and atmosphere. With inclusion we specifically mean
272 the

273 inclusion of groups that are traditionally marginalised in decision-making, such
274 as women, transpersons, minorities, disabled persons, migrants, and other

275 groups. The Inclusion Audit (IA) will investigate whether FYEG's structures,
276 rules, procedures and working methods make our Federation as inclusive as
277 a

278 Green organisation should be, namely that it counters structural discrimina-
279 tion that certain groups face in society in general as well as within

280 organisations. Furthermore, it will investigate whether there are instruments
281 (such as event monitoring, project planning and others) that FYEG has not

282 used, or is not extensively using, that could serve the purpose of better inclu-
283 sion. The Investigation will be conducted by a team set up by the Executive

284 Committee.

285 Commitment to Open-source tools

286 As following the instructions in our IRPs, we will actively investigate potential
287 tools for a more open-source based work within the Federation this year;

288 investigation that should come out with concrete budget/organisational pro-
289 posals for the next GA. This will include the experimentation of an indepen-
290 dent

291 server, safer and encrypted mailing services, and training(s) of activists on
292 such issues within the frame of already existing events.

Author(s)