

AP Activity Plan 2024-25

Proposer: Executive Committee
Agenda item: 4. Reports and Plans

Motion text

1 The activity plan is designed to cover the period from January 2024^[1] to April
2 2025, is presented and adopted by the General Assembly 2024.

3 **We will Empower progressive changemakers by:**

4 **Tailored Project - Strengthening Youth**
5 **Organisations: Catalysts for Democratic Change**
6 **(Pending[2])**

7 With the new Strategy, we are adding new type and format of activity and will
8 organise tailored, mentoring project for progressive youth organisations which
9 will for 16 months (June 2024 - September 2025). The project activities will
10 include several digital and in-person activities. Namely, one-to-one interviews
11 with selected progressive organisations, three in-person event, four mandatory
12 online workshops, and individual work within each organisation to apply and
13 share learnings.

14 Youth Organisations are critical actors, advocating for progressive change and
15 mobilising the younger population. However, these organisations face challenges
16 compromising their sustainability and long-term impact: operating in a
17 restrictive environment, dealing with fluctuating levels of activist engagement
18 and motivation, and, most significantly, lacking a solid organisational
19 foundation.

20 As a result, youth movements tend to be reactive and prone to fading once the
21 initial urgency of the issue subsides. Unfortunately, this plays into the hands
22 of the illiberal movements who take advantage of the sporadic nature of youth
23 activism. To address this, it is crucial to fortify the organisational strength
24 of youth movements, enabling them to sustain their long-term influence and build
25 a resilient civil society that contributes to participatory democracy.

26 This 16-month lasting project aims to provide participating youth organisations
27 with necessary skills and knowledge to enhance their impact and sustainability.
28 It will focus on the following key areas:

- 29 • Strategic Planning will address the issue of short-term mobilising and
30 reactionary aspect of youth activism. Develop their forward-thinking and
31 impactful approach.
- 32 • Organisational and Project management will focus on the basics of properly
33 functioning organisation such as structure, transparency and finances,
34 internal democracy, planning and designing projects aligned with strategy.
- 35 • Fundraising will focus on two aspects: 1. grants and donors, 2. micro-
36 donations that also link with digital mobilising. These will help
37 organisations to upgrade financial situation.
- 38 • Digital Mobilising will explore the potential of activism in digital space
39 specifically focusing on utilising Newsletters and micro-donations as well
40 as basics of social media engagement.

41 These efforts will contribute to more resilient youth organisations capable of
42 active engagement in political processes and influencing decision-making, and
43 advocating for democratic values, equality, solidarity, and environmental
44 protection. Thus, fostering a more vibrant and inclusive democratic landscape in
45 Eastern Europe.

46 **Annual Work Plan: Unite-Think-Act: Political** 47 **Participation of Green Youth of Eastern Europe**

48 The Work Plan (WP) aims to enhance political participation of young people of
49 Eastern Europe through strengthening the political vision and strategic
50 approaches of green youth organisations of the region, and to empower them to
51 engage in negotiations and diverse forms of social dialogue with different
52 stakeholders on local, regional and cross-regional levels.

53 The WP will incorporate two phases and will consist of an international Re-
54 focusing Camp as the first phase, followed by Local Actions (LAs). Both
55 activities aim to provide knowledge, skills, space and resources for members of
56 youth green organisations of EE to refocus their vision to clear political
57 goals, develop concrete strategies for achieving political aims, and empower
58 them to engage in diverse forms of social dialogue with different stakeholders,
59 thus contributing to the objectives of the WP as a whole.

- 60 • Summer Camp

61 The first phase, Refocusing Summer Camp, will on one hand provide the space for
62 young people who are politically active in countries of EE to rethink key
63 aspects of their political contexts and share with each other their visions, and
64 on the other, offer them with skills and knowledge of different tools for
65 defining their vision, conducting political action, creating strategy for
66 achieving specific goals, and engaging in social dialogue with different
67 stakeholders. Moreover, it will set the stage for the second phase of the WP and

68 provide them with an overview of the analytical and action tools they can
69 utilise in order to better understand different contexts they are in and
70 subsequently choose the right methods for negotiations and political action.

71 • Financial Support/Subgrating (Local Actions)

72 After the Summer Camp there will be a call opened for MOs, whose members
73 participated in the first activity to conduct LAs, which will be conducted in
74 two phases: contemplative and action phase. MOs will apply with their ideas, and
75 after selection, they will receive one on one support in realising their LAs. In
76 the first phase, LA organisers will utilise the knowledge produced, and skills
77 gained during Summer Camp to produce action plans, strategies or negotiation
78 approaches to achieve their specific political action. In the second phase, they
79 will execute their vision.

80 Regional Meeting

81 This year, we will incorporate Regional Meeting as part of Summer Camp. After
82 the initial work on getting to know each other, our specific political contexts,
83 and our collective vision of more democratic, fair, and peaceful Eastern Europe,
84 we would dedicate a day for work with participants in regional groups.
85 Reinforcing the notion that Eastern Europe in itself is not a homogenous region
86 and that different sub-regions have their own unique histories, context,
87 challenges, and opportunities, we would allocate participants in South Caucasus,
88 Balkan, East Central groups. During three sessions of the day, participants of
89 each group would work together to analyse their sub-regional strengths,
90 weaknesses, threats, and opportunities, all with the aims of reaching a
91 collective sub-regional vision and specific strategy for achieving the common
92 (Eastern) European goals of upholding democracy and green values. On session
93 four, regional groups would present the results of their work in plenary and
94 discuss them all together.

95 As an outcome of these sessions, we would have three separate strategic
96 approaches specific to the regions of Eastern Europe that would feed into our
97 Strategy 2024-2028 and would serve as a guidance for CDN and our MOs alike when
98 working on strengthening democracies and upholding green values.

99 Study Session

100 The Study Session will gather 40 young activists from Eastern Europe for 6 days
101 in EYCB in late November 2024. During the Session, participants will have the
102 opportunity to learn about and discuss the main topics related to economy, the
103 way it interacts with politics on personal, State, and international levels as
104 well as how and why economic factors play a major role in our social and
105 political lives. Main issues with the current economic models of Eastern
106 European States will be assessed based on personal experience of participants,
107 after which Green solutions will be proposed, thought about, and assessed on
108 their applicability to the Eastern European context. Furthermore, once problems
109 and potential solutions have been identified, participants will reflect on the
110 interrelation between economic factors and the political participation of youth

111 in this region, focusing on overcoming economic barriers for political
112 participation, but also formulating messages and advocacy strategies for driving
113 political change into a more sustainable, fair, and just use of resources,
114 wealth, and capital.

115 **Conference**

116 As part of “Green Visions on European Security” project, in collaboration with
117 Green European Foundation and Heinrich Boell South Caucasus Office [\[3\]](#), we will
118 organise one-day conference in Tbilisi in August. During the event we will focus
119 on EU enlargement, Green perspective on European security especially in the
120 context of European Elections happening before our event as well as discuss the
121 GRIP Study and our articles. We will combine Panel Discussions and Non-Formal
122 Education methods to gather input from the audience through reflection walls,
123 group work, menti interactive presentations, etc., ensuring high engagement
124 levels. The conference would be held in Tbilisi with tentative date as 11th of
125 August.

126 **We will Strengthen the Network by:**

127 **General Assembly**

128 The General Assembly (GA) the highest decision-making body of our network that
129 will take place on 27-28 April in Vilnius, Lithuania hosted by Belarusian Young
130 Greens. The GA will elect the new Executive Committee (EC), debate and vote on
131 resolutions, and amendments to internal documents, hear and adopt reports and
132 plans; and most importantly discuss and adopt 2024-28 Strategy Paper; as well as
133 approve/reject candidate members of the Network. The General Assembly will
134 include public conference with delegates, activists and partners to discuss
135 Fight Against Authoritarianism in Eastern Europe and Influence of EU elections.

136 Tentative dates for 2025 General Assembly are end of March/Early April. Call for
137 host organisation will be published in October 2024 and be selected by December.

138 **Executive Committee Meetings**

139 The Executive Committee will convene five times per year with different
140 priorities and agendas: in February and April 2024 for the 2023-24 EC mandate,
141 and tentatively in May, August, and October 2024, as well as in February and
142 March 2025 for the 2024-25 EC mandate. Between the in-person meetings, the EC
143 will have online calls on a bi-weekly basis.

144 **Regional Calls with MOs and Feedback**

145 The Executive Committee will organise quarterly online calls with the members of
146 the network in the regional format. Besides the calls, responsible EC persons
147 will try to arrange in-person meetings during the events to discuss important
148 political and organisational developments, as well as receive feedback.

149 By late November, the Secretary General will send evaluation form to Member
150 Organisations and other stakeholders to assess CDN's work throughout the period.
151 Based on the input, Sec-Gen should prepare report to the Executive Committee and
152 discuss on the live EC meeting, thereby incorporating analysed feedback into the
153 planning for 2025.

154 **Study Visit**

155 Study Visit will be organised one of the countries where we currently lack
156 representation. These are the priorities: 1. Lithuania, Greece, Hungary 2.
157 Estonia, Bulgaria, Romania. 3. Slovenia. It will be decided later by the
158 Executive Committee. Tentatively in September 2024.

159 **Strengthening Internal Capacities**

160 As mentioned in Strategy, CDN needs to strengthen internal capacities to be able
161 to effectively deliver its work and achieve objectives. These are focus areas
162 for 2024-25 activity plan: 1. Develop a comprehensive governance handbook; 2.
163 Improve delegation order and reinforce in practice; 3. Optimise office structure
164 and positions; 4. Establish quarterly newsletter using "Action Network"
165 platform; 5. Revise secretariat contracts 6. Clarify salary range policy; 7.
166 Reinforce intra-organisational financial procedures and rules.

167 **We will Bring Eastern European Perspective by:**

168 **Digital Events**

169 Throughout the period, we will organise informative and engaging webinars on
170 relevant political developments in Eastern Europe. These digital events will
171 serve as a platform for discussions, analysis, and insights into various topics,
172 including but not limited to Elections (in the format of existing
173 ElectionVision).

174 **Statements**

175 CDN will actively monitor and respond to important political developments in
176 Eastern Europe by publishing our positions and statements through social media.
177 The procedure is defined in communications strategy and includes involvement of
178 relevant Member Organisations.

179 **Newsletter**

180 CDN will launch and maintain a quarterly newsletter to disseminate essential
181 updates, valuable insights, and informed perspectives on key political
182 developments, current events and ongoing issues in Eastern Europe. Besides, this
183 newsletter will serve as a platform for sharing contributions from Member

184 Organisations and other progressive actors, further enhancing engagement within
185 the network.

186 **Networking**

187 We will maintain and strengthen cooperation with our sister-organisation Young
188 European Greens with a particular focus on the institutionalisation of our
189 partnership through ensuring implementation of revised relations paper.
190 Consequently, taking part in each other's General Assemblies as well as other
191 events, and having close communication through contact persons from EC. The Sec-
192 Gen and EC member(s) will participate in the congresses organised by the
193 European Green Party (EGP), even though our role is primarily that of an
194 observer. Moreover, we will seek involvement in various other activities hosted
195 by EGP, Green European Foundation, and Greens/EFA, with the added benefit of
196 being able to organise side-meetings with key stakeholders during these events,
197 thereby further deepening our relations within the Green European community. In
198 addition, CDN will engage, seek partnerships and collaborations with other
199 Progressive and Green actors across Europe such as Heinrich Boell Foundation
200 offices in our region.

201 [\[1\]](#) In the previous years, CDN had Activity Plans presented work from January-
202 December. However, we have decided to transition to a new approach in order to
203 enhance transparency, democracy, and allow for a better planning. Our Activity
204 Plans will now align with the timeline from one General Assembly to the next.

205 [\[2\]](#) In collaboration with Green Forum, we applied for funding from the Swedish
206 Institute for the project in February 2024. The results will be announced by
207 late May 2024.

208 [\[3\]](#) To be Confirmed