EC2 Anja Zlatovic

Proposers:
Agenda item: 6. Executive Committee Candidates

Introduction

Hello, darlings!
My name is Anja Zlatović, and I am a 31-year-old girl (she/her) living in Serbia. I work at the University at the Department of Anthropology (I studied the process of death on the internet, and now I study video games). On the side, I freelance in the digital marketing field.

For the last two years, I have dedicated a lot of my time to the green cause, activism, and politics, where I found my space in our big family. My candidacy is a way of wanting to contribute with all the experience I have gained, but also to learn more and broaden my knowledge and capabilities. The safe space I have found in CDN as a network has been truly amazing and unique – I have made friends for life, all while fighting capitalist regimes from our Eastern European context! Therefore, I want to work to develop what we have here further and expand and strengthen our bonds.

When I have free time (and I still manage to find it), my biggest passion is reading. I also enjoy walking, biking, listening to music, travelling, playing video games, and getting heavily and unhealthily involved in pop-culture memes. Hopefully, my motivational letter and CV will provide you a glimpse into my capabilities, ambitions, and inspirations.

I look forward to meeting you all in Vilnius!

Anja Z.

Age:
31

Gender:
female

Organisation:
Zelena Omladina Srbije

Your E-mail Address:
anja.zlatovic@gmail.com

Anja Zlatović

Green Youth of Serbia

Dear members of the Green family,

With this letter, I wish to express my motivation for becoming an executive committee member of CDN. My main interest in applying for this position comes from my previous participation in CDN events and my connections with the members of its member organisations. CDN GA 2023. was the first international event I have ever participated in in the field of Green politics, but it has enabled me to realise the strength and value of this network in the Eastern European context. I have witnessed the ways that politics is made directly on these events and learned a lot about ways of organising around the region, in all its diversity. It became clear to me how important it is to strengthen the bonds among Eastern European members of our green youth organisations as we all share the specific context of the region, which isn't always well translated when connecting to the Western context. This is why I would very much like to work on building up a stronger community that can advocate for politics that concern us directly. Additionally, the people I met through CDN motivated me to give my best for our unified causes, created a safe space for discussions, and inspired me with their work to further my activist and political actions. Later on, I was a co-spokesperson for Green youth of Serbia and the one that kept in touch with the CDN office for some time, which deepened my wish to work with it more closely.

I was also part of the prep team for the Cross-regional Meeting organised by CDN in September last year, which was aimed at women and non-binary political activists. Not only did I enjoy the experience of organising and participating in such an event aimed at the feminization of politics, a topic I am greatly interested in, but I also developed more skills regarding the organisation of such events that helped me greatly in further projects. Through this work, I showed that I have the skills to execute an event like this, develop a program for it, work in a team, and tackle the obstacles that can happen in these moments.

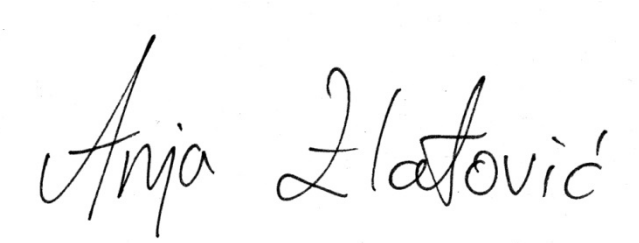
My wish is to work on the realisation of other similar projects and events that can help out members of CDN and member organisations. As someone who has advanced not only activist and political experience but also academic knowledge, I believe I can contribute to CDN work and possible improvements. Background is social sciences would matter a lot in

making important political decisions, while formal and informal work with youth, and now also students, can prove to be beneficial for communication and people coordination. y main aim would be to help out other member organisations with their political work and to encourage youth participation in politics, even when the situation in Eastern Europe is as difficult as it is currently. As someone who started actively participating in organisational work in their later youth, I believe I can share my experience and help out both those in similar situations, but also younger people who want to join the cause earlier. I want to help in the development of even more diverse projects, especially when it comes to the subject of social justice, feminism, and LGBT+ rights. I also wish to work on developing stronger bonds between member organisations as I believe in these current times we need all the encouragement from our green communities to work together, we need to support each other, learn from different contexts, and create safe (but still fun) spaces.

It would be my honour to contribute to the network as CDN, to work with youth from different backgrounds (but similar ideals), and to build up to a better future through the amazing platform that we have created together.

Kind regards,

Anja Zlatović



Anja Zlatović

Born: 1st of October, 1992.
Lives in: Belgrade, Serbia
MO: Green Youth of Serbia
e-mail: anja.zlatovic@gmail.com

EDUCATION

PhD studies of ethnology and anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade (2017. – 2022.) Disertation: "Rest in internet – virtual survival of the personal identity as postmortem dying or digital immortality"

Erasmus + program PhD studies – The Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences in Athens (summer semester 2019.)

MA studies ethnology and anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade (2015. – 2016.) Dissertation: "Mourning on the internet of celebrities and fictional characters".

Erasmus + program during MA studies – The Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences in Athens (summer semester 2016.)

Bachelor studies of ethnology and anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade (2011. – 2015.) Disertation: "Using the elements of Irish culture in a process of identity construction among the youth in Serbia".

Art high school Tehno Art in Beogradu, department for stylish tailoring and costume **(2008. - 2011.)**

WORK EXPEREINCES - the most relevant ones

Research Associate, Institute of ethnology and anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade (started as Junior Research Assistant in 2018; currently employed) Helps out on the subjects concerning alternative and world religions. Helps out with promotion of University.

Customer success and sales manager in Bento, digital marketing platform (February 2023. – currently)

Participated in the project Anthropological research of Serbia – from cultural heritage to modern society (177035) RS. (2018. – 2020.)

Sales delegate, Belgrade Karizma (July 2017 – April 2018.) Event telesales, in English.

Tutoring of children (2014. –2017.) Freelanced and worked for some private schools as teacher and tutor, mainly of English language, to children ages 5 to 14.

Founder, editor, author and PR manager at online magazine Kultur!Kokoška (2013 – 2016) Editor of the column "Disturbances" focusing on true crime, death rites, and macabre customs and beliefs; wrote texts on the topics of true crime, anthropology, history, feminism and culture.

ACTIVISM, AND POLITICAL AND NGO EXPEREINCE

Green-left front (ex Don't Drown Belgrade) (2020. – currently). Active member, part of Autonomous Women's Front; former co-president of New Belgrade local committee.

MP member of city council of Belgrade (February and March 2023.) MP from Serbia against violence coalition.

Green Youth of Serbia (2022. – currently). Active member, former co-spokesperson and former main board member.

Prep team for Cross-regional Meeting for Women and Non-Binary Political Activists (September 2023.)

Participated in making of the Femgloss with Feministization of Politics collective (FoP) (summer of 2023.) Publication in process.

Volunteer at "Free Zone" film festival of documentary and socially engaged film (on and off 2011. - 2017.) Working in organization department, PR and writing press material about the festival.

Volunteer at Asylum Info Centre with KlikAktiv initiative (January – March 2016.) Providing help and psycho-social aid to refugees in Belgrade

Founders, author and director of strategic development at Art Initiative Kravatisti (September 2012. – December 2014.) Organized and produced the performances, performed with own stories and worked on strategies for collaborations.

Member of student organization ESN BelUPgrade (May 2014. – September 2015) Part of the Buddy team and Card and Partnership Team.

Volunteer at National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer (2012. – 2014.)

SEMINARS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

ALPI seminar for political youth leaders (February 2023. – currently) Organized by IRI.

***9th International Konitsa Summer School in Anthropology, Ethnography and Comparative Folklore of the Balkans* in Greece (July – August 2014.)** Attended various lectures based around ethnology and anthropology. As part of the school, did fieldwork in Albania that explored topics of cultural and national identity and was presented at the summer school conference.

Seminar by Women in Black about security and protection of women (May 2014.)

Seminars of anthropology, psychology and history at Petnica Science Center (different times from 2008. to 2011.)

SYLP (Serbian Youth Leadership Program) in Minneapolis, MN. (April – May 2010.) Themes about youth activism, leadership and education

ALBILITIES AND INTERESTS

Excellent with the computer work and have great knowledge of program such as Word, Excel and Power Point, as well as decent knowledge of Photoshop CS5.

Has vast research experience in the anthropological field. Main interests of study include digital anthropology, studies of popular culture, alternative religions, and thanatology.

Participated in and presented at various academic conferences, as well as in international anthropological fieldworks.

Languges:

Advanced level of English; *Cambridge ESOL: First Certificate in English (FCE).*

Basic knowledge of Italian.

Zelena Omladina Srbije
Dr. Dragoslava Popovića 24, Beograd

Letter of support

On behalf of the Green Youth of Serbia, we are excited to share and elaborate our support for Anja Zlatovic's candidacy for the position of CDN's Executive Committee member for 2024/25!

Anja, a former Co-spokesperson of ZOS, has been one of the most active, dedicated and passionate people our organisation has had the chance to welcome. She has demonstrated great time management skills, as well as ability to work under strict deadlines, many times throughout her engagements in ZOS. Apart from her conscientiousness, she has also proved to be an eloquent and considerate communicator. Anja has been supporting the organisational culture, mainly through ensuring the necessary consistency within the organisation, and outside, nurturing a professional image towards our partner organisations. One of her responsibilities as a Co-spokesperson included participating in party board meetings on behalf of ZOS, but also, previously, supporting the foundational work of becoming a youth wing of the Green-Left Front in the first place.

Anja had been elected into Belgrade city council in December 2023, and we believe this experience will nurture the work within CDN in respect to bringing young Greens closer to institutional politics, where the context allows for it. We also know that Anja's energy and dedication would secure smooth EC operations for the rest of its mandate.

We warmly encourage you all to vote for Anja!

Belgrade, 08.03.2023

On behalf of Green Youth of Serbia,
Secretariat

Elena Petrovska