SG1 Igor Skórzybót

Proposers:
Agenda item: 7. Secretary General Candidates

Introduction

Dear Green Friends,
my name is Igor, I am from Poland and I am active in Young Green Movement since 2015, last year serving as CDN Executive Committee. Before, I have been EC member and project manager in Ostra Zieleń, intern in FYEG/GGEP, as well as many times in prep-teams.
I run for the Secretary General to fully focus on developing CDN in accordance with the new strategy. My vision focuses on improving three things: well-being of all structures, transparency and accesibility within the network and political impact of CDN. You can find more details in my motivation and vision documents.
Looking forward to see you in Vilnius!

Best,
Igor

Age:
26

Gender:
Male

Organisation:
Ostra Zieleń

Your E-mail Address:
i.skorzybot@gmail.com

Igor Skórzybót

Secretary General Candidate

Warszawa
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+48 514 939 065

WORK/ORGANIZATION HISTORY

Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe – *Executive Committee Member*

2023-03 – 2024-03

Stowarzyszenie Ostra Zieleń – Polish Young Greens

EC Member / International Secretary

2022-03 – 2024-02

Spokesperson/Co-Spokesperson

2018-06 – 2020-03

Wrocław University of Technology – *CLARIN-PL Independent Officer*

2022-02 – 2022-09

Federation of Young European Greens/Greens/EFA in the European Parliament – *Project Intern/Rights&Democracy Intern*

2021-02 – 2021-07

Laboratory of Experimental Philosophy, University of Warsaw – *Student in the research project "Processing of word order in Polish".*

2019-07 – 2020-07

Institute of Computer Science Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw – *Corpora annotator in project "Quantifiers in language: use and meaning"*

2019-07 – 2020-02

Stowarzyszenie Dialog, Lębork – *Board Member*

2019-09 – 2021-03

SKILLS

people management skills including knowledge of useful software

organizational skills acquired by organizing offline and online workshops, including three international and one scientific conference

non-formal education background gained by conducting several workshops, also online, and participation in several international green events

good contact skills with pupils and students gained by conducting workshops for schools and participating in the "Leader of global responsibility" course organized by the Instytut Globalnej Odpowiedzialności (EN: "Institute of Global Responsibility")

excellent communication skills in social media, basic knowledge of Python and R acquired at the university

scientific experience in researching political communication

EDUCATION

University of Warsaw – *M. A., Language and Society*

2021-10 - 2023-12

Master thesis "Analysis of the discourse on Europe in the posters of political parties in the 2019 EP elections"

University of Warsaw – *BSc. in Cognitive Science*

2017-10 - 2020-07

Bachelor thesis "The impact of the word order in Polish on the processing of information contained in a sentence."

SOME IMPORTANT PROJECTS

Green Perspectives on European Security - Preparatory Team Member
2023-10

Just Transition in the Baltic Sea Region Summer Camp by Protests and Ostra Zieleń - Preparatory Team Member
2023-08

Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe (CDN) General Assembly 2023 (XX Years of CDN) - Local Preparatory Team Member
2023-03

"Young Green Local Government II: Movement organisation plan for future local government officials" local action as a part of CDN workplan – Project Manager

2022-08 - 2022-12

"Why to Participate" CDN event in Skopje – Prep Team Member

2022-04

Democracy & Gender Camp by Green Youth of Ukraine with cooperation with young greens from Belarus, Latvia and Poland - Preparatory Team Member

2021-08

"Young Local Green Government" event organized as part of FYEG's Young Greens Recovery Program – Project Manager

2020-08 - 2020-12

"Turning Chaos into Progress" Hackathon, Katowice – Project Manager

2019-08 - 2019-11

LANGUAGES

Polish: Native
English: C1
German: A2

Igor Skórzybót

Secretary General Candidate

Motivation

Dear Green friends,

Over the last year in the Executive Committee, we have made significant improvements in the functioning of the CDN, primarily by creating a real division of tasks in the EC and task delegation, improving workflow, as well as by improving working conditions in the Office (reducing weekly working time to 35 hours and significant salary increases). We also created a framework for improving CDN communication, which has been reflected in the adopted communications strategy as well as in the Strategy for 2024-27. We aim to rewrite our political platform in 2024 and possibly IRPs in 2025.

As defined in IRPs, it is a Sec-Gen who oversees implementation of strategy, activities, and daily operations. Due to the constraints inherent in volunteering as an Executive Committee Member, such as limited time and the ability to attend all the important events, the position of Secretary General is crucial to ensuring proper implementation and visibility of positive changes, while maintaining the green, Eastern European spirit of CDN.

Therefore, wanting to fully use my skills, qualifications and political knowledge for CDN, I am applying for the position of Secretary General. My competences to the extent required for the position of Secretary General include:

- Many years of experience in the (Young) Green movement, from various positions at Ostra Zieleń (Polish Young Greens) since 2015, through an internship at Federation of Young European Greens and Green Group in EP in 2021, to being a part of prep-teams of local and international activities and serving mandate as CDN Executive Committee Member (2023/24);

- Additional political knowledge gained in other social organizations (Dialog Lębork) and during scientific research on political discourse;

- Experience in administrative work, strategy implementation monitoring and team-management, as well as the basics of project management gained both within the green movement and other jobs, and unfinished master's studies in administration;

- Ability to use open-source software, proved while working as an independent referent officer the CLARIN-PL program at the Wrocław University of Technology, very good knowledge of graphic programs (Photoshop, InDesign, Canva Pro, Gimp) and video and sound processing programs, as well as basic knowledge of data analysis and presentation in Python and R acquired during studies.

And finally, knowledge of CDN and the pan-European young green movement from the inside and awareness of the responsibility and challenges facing the Secretary General, that allows me to ask you for the trust and strong political mandate needed to perform the tasks and represent CDN in the green movement and beyond it.

I encourage you to read the attached vision statement.

Igor

Igor Skórzybót

Secretary General Candidate

Vision

Dear Green friends,

I'm writing these words on a train, of course on a laptop covered with green stickers, so during the talk with my fellow passengers about a traditional Eastern European train delay, I was asked "What is CDN?". A standard formula for describing our activity is enough for an answer in such small talk. But over the last year I have heard this question many times within the network, we have asked ourselves this question at EC meetings. The standard formula is not enough here. We are not just a capacity-building network of young green organisations,

CDN is a network not only of and for Member Organisations but also for progressive-minded young people. For many of us, it was the first place where our voices were heard internationally, it was an inspiration for activities within CDN and for the actions we took beyond it, in our local communities.

CDN is an experienced and well-established organisation. We have years of experience and well-rooted structures. CDN workflows and documents are, to some extent, and should be a model for green activists from Eastern Europe.

CDN is the core of the green political movement in Eastern Europe. While green parties in Eastern Europe are mostly weak, CDN voice has and can have greater clout in the green movement. Realistically, by influencing the discourse in the pan-European green movement, facilitating local actions, and educating the next generations of activists, we have a relative impact on politics in Eastern Europe.

The new strategy allows us to move forward and reach beyond the green movement while sticking to our core values, as well as to have goals tailored to an unfavourable political landscape of Eastern Europe. The events planned for 2024 and 2025 will allow us to strengthen our capacity-building potential. With that, we can finally realise that CDN is a carrier of change in all aspects of its activity. My vision is to continue our current work and make it more visible by overcoming obstacles that have accumulated over the years in CDN structures.

CDN as an organisation needs to take care of the well-being of people from all CDN structures.

Over the last year, working conditions at the CDN Office have improved significantly: we reduced the weekly working hours from 40 to 35 hours and increased salaries. I would like to continue these steps. Regarding the restructuring of the Office, I support the vision of a three-step management ladder proposed by the current Secretary-General. The specific division of tasks depends largely on the grants received, and I would also consider a new communication strategy in a broader group: whether it requires a person dealing with it permanently, or whether temporary contracts to perform specific tasks (such as conducting a 2-months campaign) will be enough.

The Secretary General also coordinates the work of the Executive Committee. A term at EC comes with exciting opportunities, but also with a lot of free time taken

from your live. Changes in recent years have allowed the EC to be transformed into a real decision-making body with a clear division of tasks and reduced the amount of time needed, but we still see that the EC elections are not as popular as we would like to. We should discuss the role and workflow of EC. I want to create a space for EC members to be more visible and more heard, at the same time more sustainable, without forcing anyone to devote most of their vacation days to CDN meetings.

CDN as a network needs to be more transparent and accessible.

One of my priorities will be to write new Internal Rules of Procedure to make them short and understandable to everyone. People also deserve broader and more understandable information about the current activities of the CDN (something between a short chat post during the event and the entire protocol posted after some time). With the better-created progress indicators and strengthened monitoring required by the new strategy, we can also increase transparency, setting an example for Eastern European political organisations.

The priority should be to increase the network, both formally: by increasing the number of member organisations with green youth organisations and other progressive NGOs, and by strengthening member organisations.

CDN should also be supportive and inclusive for more experienced activists from the network, hence I intend to continue the discussion on new forms of activities within the competence of the Secretary General.

CDN as a core of the green movement in Eastern Europe needs to have clear methods to increase its political impact.

To do that, first of all, I will continue the steps that are planned in digital organising: creating the newsletter, defining the engagement ladder, and online

fundraising. Second of all, the external communication needs to be reevaluated and its goals adjusted. A new political platform will allow us to have more political external communication and following it, we can start our first real advocacy campaign.
Within the green movement, we should be open to new forms of cooperation with partners, primarily FYEG, e.g. through a joint resolution at the congress of the European Green Party, as well as wider use of common communication channels to spread Eastern European issues.

To sum up, I want to devote a two-year mandate to continue current activities, develop CDN following the new strategy and decisions of the Executive Committee, get the most out of this strategy and raise awareness of the enormous importance of CDN and the positive change it brings in the political landscape of Eastern Europe that is unfavourable to green movements.
When asked about vision, I see that in two years, CDN has at least two new member organisations, including at least one we have not talked about yet as a "potential MO", having strongly contested elections to EC and indicator-based discussion on the progress of the strategy.

Feel free to ask me any more questions: private e-mail i.skorzybot@gmail.com, TG: @iskorzybot.

Igor

Reference letter

Dear General Assembly, Presidency, Executive Committee, Office of CDN,

With this reference, I wish to provide a wholehearted recommendation for Igor Skórzybót who is running for the position of the Secretary General of CDNEE.

I had the pleasure of working with Igor for 2 full years in the same board. Igor is a dedicated and highly effective person. Among many, I wish to highlight three features he possess that I deem crucial while fulfilling the role of a Secretary General (having the experience of working under one currently). Igor is dutiful, open in his communication and experienced.
Most of all, I could always rely on his dutifulness and care when delegating tasks or asking for support with mine. Igor cares about the mission of the projects he is part of. He does not wish to see the projects fail and he does not wish to see people waste their potential on tasks that are either futile or unnecessary. At the same time, he possess a great deal of compassion and understanding for the people's situation and dispositions, which is very uplifting on a personal level.
Igor is an open communicator, clearly stating his opinion, delineating boundaries but also providing considerate feedback. He is honest about what he can and cannot deliver, which I always took as a sign of respecting others and their time.
And lastly, Igor has taken charge of many projects; his CV and long-term, various experience within the Polish Young Greens are the very proofs of that. He has vast experience in NGO and societal work, which is complimented by his curiosity and eagerness to learn. He is very well informed about the recent affairs, political comploxites in Europe and beyond. This I find very important for an inspiring and working Secretary General, as they need to always see the bigger picture, no matter what the topic of the work is.

There are very few people I would give my recommendation for without hesitation, yet Igor is one of them. I know that anybody working with him will be satisfied and cared for. Igor has a great future ahead of him, and I believe this chapter in CDNEE not only will be an enriching episode for him, but for the organisation at large.

I am very happy that I will be present during the elections, and will be extremely thirlled to answer any questions about Igor's profile either prior to the General Assembly or during the event itself.

Lena Anna Kuklińska
Co-chair of Ostra Zieleń - Polish Young Greens (2022-2024)