

AR Activity Report 2024-25

Organization: Executive Committee
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Resolution text

Activity Report 2024-25

The activity report covers the period from January 2024¹ to April 2025, is presented and adopted by the General Assembly 2024.

We Empowered progressive changemakers by:

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

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

The WP consisted of two phases and will consisted of an international Refocusi Summer Camp that happened in Tbilisi, Georgia (5-10th August) as the first phase, followed by Local Actions (LAs).

- Summer Camp

The first phase, Refocusing Summer Camp ,will on one hand provide the space for young people who are politically active in countries of EE to rethink key aspects of their political contexts and share with each other their visions, and on the other, offer them with skills and knowledge of different tools for defining their vision, conducting political action, creating strategy for achieving specific goals, and engaging in social dialogue with different stakeholders. Moreover, it will set the stage for the second phase of the WP and provide them with an overview of the analytical and action tools they can utilise in order to better understand different contexts they are in and subsequently choose the right methods for negotiations and political action.

- Financial Support/Subgrating (Local Actions)

Refocus Local Actions aimed to provide resources and space to young progressive organisations in Eastern Europe to refocus their political vision by creating strategies, policy documents or campaigns.

We facilitated and supported 7 Local Actions (Note: One of the local actions took place in an authoritarian country and due to security risks, we are not publishing its details nor results):

- Democratic Politics for Youth by Green Youth of Ukraine
- Mobilisation for Transformation by Young Greens of Georgia
- Sowing Season by Green Youth of Serbia
- Rising Voices - Shaping the Future Political Agenda by Protests (Latvia);
- Animal Liberation in Local Authorities by Turkish Young Greens;
- Green Youth Academy by Youth for a Green Future (Bulgaria)

Regional Meeting

In 2025, we incorporated the regional meeting into the Summer Camp. We dedicated additional day for work in regional groups (South Caucasus, Balkan, Centre-East) to facilitate intercultural dialogue and create sub-regional visions for the collective Eastern European aim of upholding democracy and green values.

As an outcome of these sessions, we developed three separate strategic approaches specific to the regions of Eastern Europe that would feed into our Strategy 2024-2028.

Study Session

During the six days of the Study Session “Breaking the Barriers: Green Economics and Youth Political Participation in Eastern Europe” that was held in the European Youth Center in Budapest in November 2024, organised by the Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe (CDN), in cooperation with Youth Department of the Council of Europe, we discussed, exchanged experiences, and generated knowledge about human rights, economy, and proposed ways of overcoming economic barriers to political participation. The intersection of these topics and the overarching theme of inequality were incorporated to discuss a variety of issues. The study session fostered an exploration of the systems in which we live - patriarchy, capitalism, and colonialism/imperialism - and the ways these systems impact social and economic rights of people. Another key aspect was the focus on intersectionality and the ways in which all these topics interact with one another. The study session also aimed to show different perspectives and alternatives to the most prevalent issues related to economy and political participation, giving the participants the chance to discuss solutions and steps towards a greener, more sustainable future. Finally, participants had a chance to gain practical experience in using advocacy tools which they will be able to use in their local, country, and regional contexts.

Tbilisi Security Conference

As part of “Green Visions on European Security” project, in collaboration with Green European Foundation, we organised one-day conference in Tbilisi on 11th August after the Summer Camp. During the event we spotlighted and dived deeper into the work on the security and defence policy that CDN and GEF worked on during 2023 and 2024. The discussed topics included: non-violence principle,

72 environmental and energy security, peacebuilding and defence policy (with
73 representative of Latvian Ministry of Defence). We also provided the space for
74 authors of articles created in the previous part of project to present their
75 findings. We gathered experts both from within our network, and beyond. We
76 followed-up the conference with the series of quotes from speakers on our social
77 media; the findings were also useful in creating Foreign Policy & Security
78 chapter for new political platform.

79 We Strengthened the Network by:

80 General Assembly

81 General Assembly (GA), took place in Vilnius, Lithuania on 27-28th April, hosted
82 by Belarusian Young Greens. GA - the highest decision-making body of CDN – was
83 the biggest one in CDN history and brought together over 60 people: the delegates
84 from Member organisations and other friends from the Green political movement to
85 share, network and debate. We elected Executive Committee, adopted activity and
86 financial plan for the next year, amended documents and adopted three resolution
87 concerning the internal governance of CDN. All the documents adopted are
88 available on the [website](#). In 2024, we also discussed and adopt new Strategy for
89 the upcoming four years, accepted new Member Organisation Mladi zeleni (Czech
90 Young Greens). All the adopted documents. During the Political Conference that
91 was a part of GA, we debated about importance of election in fighting the
92 authoritarianism with delegates from Georgia, Serbia, Poland and Latvia (to
93 underline the importance of EU elections). Thanks to cooperation with Green
94 Forum, we also hosted the special guests from Young Greens from Africa and
95 Americas.

96 Executive Committee Meetings

97 The Executive Committee met live five times during the reporting period: in
98 February and April 2024 for the 2023-24 mandate, as well as in May and July 2024
99 and February 2025 for the 2024-25 mandate. Thanks to introduction of the
100 delegation order, the EC Meetings were shorter and more productive, and there
101 was no need for additional meeting. We decided that the minutes from the live EC
102 Meetings that are published on the [website](#) should be more detailed and
103 transparent than previously.

104 Moreover, the regular bi-weekly meeting were happening on regular basis, 15
105 times during the 2024-25 EC mandate.

106 Regional Calls with MOs and Feedback

107 The regular online regional calls with Member Organisation happened only in the
108 Balkans region. It proven to be a success than should be continued next year in
109 other regions. Regular calls were not conducted in other regions due to
110 resignations or inactivity of EC responsible members, and lack of additional
111 capacity to replace them fully. Besides the calls, responsible EC persons
112 arranged in person meetings during regional meeting to discuss important
113 political and organisational developments.

114 In February 2025, the MO Survey was sent to Member Organisations to assess CDN
115 work and gather input for planning future activities.

116 Study Visit

117 The Study Visit were conducted to Croatia on 6-8th December 2024. The decision
118 on the study visit was made by Executive Committee following the political aims
119 that arose during the year: to facilitate cooperation between our MO Zeleni
120 prozor and Možemo! Youth Group and research on how potential cooperation between
121 two Member Organisations from the same country would look like in the future.

122 The study visit succeeded, as Možemo! Youth Group are applying for membership in
123 2025, with the explicit consent for that from Zeleni prozor.

124 Strengthening Internal Capacities

125 CDN started its strategic work on strengthening internal capacities to be able
126 to effectively deliver its work and achieve objectives. We developed Office
127 guidelines (adopted in February 2025) defining the working conditions of the
128 Office personnel, improved and reinforced delegation order and started
129 newsletter.

130 As every year, we organised Treasurer Meeting, where we introduced our Treasurer
131 (and back-up person) to finances of CDN. This year, thanks to better task
132 delegation order and using digital accounting tools, we were able to do it
133 online. We participated in external training of European Youth Foundation and
134 Council of Europe's Youth Department, thus deepening our cooperation, and
135 improving crucial skills and knowledge of the CDN EC and Office, most notably:
136 Study Visit „Enhancing international cooperation in times of war“ in Lviv,
137 European Youth Capital 2025 (October 2024), Consultative Meeting "How
138 Confident?... Artificial Intelligence, Young People and Youth Work" (January
139 2025) or "Training Course on Essentials of International Youth Activities
140 (February 2025).

141 We Brought Eastern European Perspective by:

142 New Political Platform Creation

143 At the 2024 GA, we decided to rewrite our political platform, so it an up-to-
144 date, comprehensive and detailed. CDN Team firstly consulted the structure of
145 platform during the Summer Camp, and then during open consultation meeting in
146 October. We opened the form for proposing postulates for platform in October
147 2024, where we received input from 3 MOs, and further consulted draft document
148 on Study Session. Unfortunately, due to resignation and inactivity of primarily
149 responsive for political platform EC member, ready draft document was published
150 for consultation only on 1st February, so about 2-3 weeks later than in first
151 timeline, thus the consultations were shorter than planned. Representatives of 3
152 Member Organisations took part in that part. The full document after
153 consultation was accepted by EC on 15th February, and will be voted during GA.

154 Digital Events

155 We managed to organise two ElectionVision webinars, on Taiwan (together with
156 Global Young Greens) and on European Parliament elections. We did not organise
157 ElectionVision on the elections that happened in the second half of 2024 because
158 of lot of events and lack of capacity of Office and EC in Q4/2024 and Q1/2025,
159 however we have it in plans to organise joint ElectionVision 2024-25 webinar in
160 new format.

161 Moreover, as mentioned previously we organised digital political platform
162 consultations.

163 Statements and communication

164 CDN actively monitored and responded to important political developments in
165 Eastern Europe by publishing statements and through social media. We published
166 12 statements and 3 opinion pieces throughout the reporting period, as well as
167 experimented with new formats (sanctions campaign, short reels with
168 representatives of MOs at the events or series of quotes from conference).

169 In March 2024, we updated our visual identity (logo, social media templates) to
170 to enable consistency in our communication and facilitate the creation of
171 content for EC and Office.

172 Since September 2024, we create newsletter to disseminate essential updates,
173 valuable insights, and informed perspectives on key political developments,
174 current events and ongoing issues in Eastern Europe. Besides, we ask Member
175 Organisation for their contribution, further fostering engagement in the
176 network.

177 Networking

178 We maintained and strengthened the cooperation with our sister-organisation
179 Federation of Young European Greens. We implemented our revised relation paper
180 in practice. Consequently, we took part in each other's GAs and other events,
181 published 4 collaboration posts, and had close communication both on the EC-EC
182 contact persons, and Office-Office line. Most importantly, We joined as minor
183 partner - represented by one of EC Member in the Prep-Team - in FYEG's activity
184 "Ready, set, go... The Green Future" in Baku, November 2024. We also cooperated
185 in organisation of European Train Tour in Belgrade (March 2024) and had joined
186 EC meeting during EGP congress in Lyon (February 2024).

187 Moreover, we sought involvement in activities hosted by EGP and Greens/EFA,
188 thereby further deepening our relations within the Green European community. We
189 participated in both EGP congresses in 2024. We also sent the e-mails to MEPs
190 from Greens/EFA to ask for (financial or substantive) support - unfortunately
191 with response only from Erik Marquardt's office. We continued networking and
192 cooperation with other Green organisations, by participating in events by Green
193 Youth of Montenegro, Green Thought Association (Turkey) or Global Young Greens
194 (meeting in North Macedonia).

195 We continued the great cooperation with Green Forum as our main partner.
196 Unfortunately, our previous agreement with ForumCIV was terminated and we needed
197 to move to another partnership programme. The transition was smooth and with
198 invaluable help from the Green Forum, unfortunately it took away a lot of
199 capacities from the Office in Q4 2024 and Q1 2025.

200 We started meaningful cooperation with the organisations beyond European Green
201 movement. Notably, we made agreements to deepen cooperation with SAME
202 (Solidarity Action Day Movement in Europe) and JEF-Europe (Young European
203 Federalists). We also established contact with IFJ (European Youth Forum) with
204 the intention to apply for observer or member statute after reaching necessary
205 number of members. We sent the three new grant applications for funders we did

206 not cooperate before, during the reporting period and got good feedback, however
207 did not succeed.

208 ¹ In the previous years, CDN had Activity Plans presented work from January-
209 December However, in 2024 we have decided to transition to a new approach in
210 order to enhance transparency, democracy, and allow for a better planning. Our
211 Activity Plans will now align with the timeline from one General Assembly to the
212 next.