EC7 Maria Khachatryan

Proposers:
Agenda item: 6. Executive Committee Candidates

Introduction

Dear all,

My name is Maria, I'm 19, and I'm from Armenia. I am currently pursuing my bachelor's degree in International Relations and European Politics in the Czech Republic. Over the past year, I have served as an Executive Committee member of CDNEE, building on my two years of active engagement within the network as a prep-team member, panel speaker, and participant, contributing to more than five CDNEE events. As part of my commitment to the network, I strengthened my academic focus on the region by taking university courses on the Western Balkans, which allowed me to apply academic knowledge directly to my work within CDNEE and its Member Organizations. In the coming academic year, I plan to further strengthen my expertise by taking courses on the Green Deal and Green political parties, which will enable me to deepen CDNEE's engagement with green partners and political organizations across the region. Alongside my interest in green politics, I am developing my language skills in French (intermediate) and Spanish (beginner), and I actively contribute to CDNEE's communication efforts by managing its Instagram platform in cooperation with the Communication Intern and Secretary General. Building on my political and academic experiences, I am eager to keep investing my skills and vision into strengthening CDNEE's role as a leading youth network in the region.

Age:
19

Gender:
female

Organisation:
Frontline Youth Network

Your E-mail Address:
maria@cdnee.org

Motivational letter for Executive Committee

Dear CDN Family,

I am honoured to announce that I am running again for the Executive Committee of CDNEE for the 2026–2027 term. I am committed to strengthening our green partnerships, reinforcing regional coordination, and ensuring timely responses to regional challenges.

During my last mandate, I connected the South Caucasus region to CDNEE by collecting political and organizational updates and supporting active participation in network initiatives. I also strengthened collaboration with our sister organization FYEG, representing CDNEE at events such as GA25, SC25, CDN FYEG StS 25, and the Social Justice Lab 25. After the Canvas of Change Study Session, I co-led the "Arts and Culture" Action Team with an FYEG EC member, encouraging participants to continue their work on Zines. This resulted in the publication of Zine Vol. 2 and fostered lasting collaboration between CDNEE and FYEG. Additionally, I contributed to CDNEE's media presence by publishing political updates and sharing insights from our activities, ensuring members stay informed and engaged.

Looking ahead, I plan to expand our collaboration with other green networks and organizations. I will represent CDNEE at the European Green Academy and the EU-funded CO-OP4CBD conference on biodiversity in April. These platforms will allow us to connect with like-minded organizations and strengthen our network for future events. I also aim to enhance cooperation with the European Youth Foundation as I will participate in their networking training days in March.

At this moment of transition within the Executive Committee and office, stability and clarity in our internal work are essential. I have developed a strong understanding of our internal structures and strategic priorities and I will gladly support our incoming EC members in navigating processes, ensuring smooth coordination, and maintaining continuity in our long-term direction.

CDNEE is more than a network to me. Over the past year, I have seen the potential that we have and the impact we can achieve when we work in coordination. I remain dedicated to my core commitments while ensuring that the network functions effectively and in favour of our member organizations.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to continuing to serve CDNEE and contributing to its growth and impact.

Warm regards,
Maria Khachatrian

Maria Khachatryan

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Education

Masaryk University — GPA - 1.25/1 — 2025 -2028
Khoren and Shooshanig Avedisian School — GPA - 9/10 — 2014-2024
Musical School named after Alexander Achemyan — GPA - 10/10 — 2016-2022

Work Experience

Executive Committee | Co-operation and Development Network Eastern Europe — 2025-present

- Coordinate with the European Youth Foundation, Federation of Young European Greens, and Green European Foundation to advance youth political participation and joint initiatives.
- Support South Caucasus member organizations on organizational development, strategic planning, and empower engagement within the network.
- Contributed to CDNEE's political communications and social media outputs, publishing updates on policy initiatives and organizational activities to a regional audience.
- Established an Arts and Culture Focus Group, produced Zines with the themes of body and Christmas. LINK
- Co-organized Breaking the Barriers: Green Economics and Youth Political Participation Study Session (Budapest, 2024).
- Engaged in youth-focused programs, including Canvas of Change (France 2025), the Resilience-Building SC (Moldova 2025), Social Justice Lab (Croatia 2025), and FYEG SC (Poland 2025)
- Served as a panel speaker for the Tbilisi Security Conference (2024), advocating for peacebuilding in Eastern Europe and highlighting the importance of fortitude in conflict-affected communities.

Ambassador, Mentor | Frontline Youth Network — 2022-2025

- Contributed to the FYN Teacher Training initiative, providing school teachers across Armenia with education on peacebuilding, human rights, and conflict resolution.
- Developed the Coordination Reform Between Armenian and Georgian CSOs project to enhance minority education access, supported by the International Women's Rights Projects.
- Contributed to the dis/misinformation conference with Restart Gavar NGO, collaborating with experts and organizational representatives.

English Language Teacher | FOKUS Camps, Germany — 2025-present

- Teach English in english camps in Germany to kids aged 7–17 with English levels of B1-C1

Activities

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Daytona Beach | Student — 2024 Jun-Aug

- Received full funding from the U.S. Embassy, studied aviation and engineering at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Connect Program, and won the Explanatory Speech

Mentor | American Corner Armenia, Yerevan — 2022-2023

- Mentored 14 students in English, using dynamic methods like games, movie analysis, and song translation to enhance language skills.

Competitive College Club Student | EducationUSA Armenia — 2023-2024

- Studied the US HEI application process with instructors from Harvard, Columbia, and NY universities, volunteered at TEDx UWC 2024, and led workshops on studying in the USA.

Activist | Green European Academy — 2024 Nov

- Received full funding for the GEA 24(Brussels), engaged with over 300 activists and politicians, including the Vice-President of the European Parliament Nicolae Ștefănuță, contributed to the Activist Training Day focused on democracy and the Green Deal

Digital Citizenship Ambassador Training; American Councils Armenia (Teacher) 2022-2023

- Conducted classes about the digital footprint, phishing, and fact-checking for students.

DiliMUN Delegate | United World Colleges in Dilijan 2023/4Apr

- Represented China in ECOSOC, authored four resolutions, and won "Best Delegate."
- Represented the USA in the Historical Crisis Committee, wrote 4 position papers, and earned the "Best Resolution" award.

Researcher and Participant | Climate Uturn Initiative 2023-2024

- Completed the "Sustainable Cities" training, focusing on eco-friendly solutions and gaining project implementation and management skills.
- Presented a personal project on clothing waste management called “Two Boxes”.

Member, Delegate | European Youth Parliament Armenia 2023-present

- Won the “Best Delegate” Award in National Sessions, and debated over political, economic and educational topics.
- Studied diplomacy at the “Building Resilient Future” Conference by the Understanding Europe.

Participant | UniGrowth Development Center 2024 Jan

- Designed inclusive board games for children with disabilities in the "Let the Game Begin" project and created gaming cards for the "Fast Fashion? Fast Forward!" initiative.

Student | Tumo Center for Creative Technologies 2019-2023

- Completed Filmmaking, New Media, Photography, and Music courses, founded a guitar quartet.

Participant | **Regional Youth Green Camp; EU4Youth, CENN** 2023 Aug

- Studied about environmental entrepreneurship and issues in the Caucasus region.

Volunteering experience

Volunteer | Armenian Tree Project 2018-2023

- Initiated creating a greenhouse at Khoren and Shooshanig Avedisian School.

Yerevan City Coordinator| Maqoor NGO 2023-2025

- Organized 6 habitat cleanings and 14 informative sessions in Yerevan, and launched the "VeramshaKIR" recycling project.

Full Life | Camp Leader 2024 Jun-Aug

- Led a summer camp for children with disabilities, provided care and support, and organized first aid training sessions, cooking nights, ceramic sessions, and disco events.

Volunteer, Coordinator | Pan-Armenian Union 2024-2025

- Opened the World Junior Boxing Championship 2024, coordinated participants’ arrivals, departures, and accommodation, helped with Armenian, English, French, and Russian translations

Restart Foundation

- Conducted 10 seminars about "Political Participation" for 45+ people.
- Organized meetings for 200+ young people to discuss project planning.

Awards and Recognitions

- Newcomers Scholarship Award by Masaryk University 2025
- Third Place in the Republican French Olimpiad “La Coq Française” among 2,500+ participants. 2022
- Grand Prix Winner at the XI International Contest-Festival of Arts “Art Music”. 2020
- Winner in the Malatia Sebastia’s French Recitation and Public Speaking Competition. 2019
- Gold Medalist at the International Competition-Festival of Arts “Copenhagen Stars” in Denmark. 2021
- Winner in the National Competition-Festival of Musicians “Little Step”. 2022
- Winner of "Sharpshooter" National Military Education Shooting Competition among 500 participants. 2022

Languages

Armenian|Native Russian|C1 English|C1 French|B1 Spanish|A2

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Frontline Youth Network
RA Tavush region
12 Alikhanyan str., city Berd (4201)
E-mail.: projects@frontlineyouth.net
www.frontlineyouth.net

From: Frontline Youth Network
To: Cooperation and Development Network
Subject: Recommendation Letter

With this letter, I highly recommend Maria Khachatryan to be a member of the Executive Committee of Cooperation and Development Network.

Throughout her time with us, Mrs. Khachatryan was an active member, consistently volunteering for assignments and engaging in webinars.

Mrs. Khachatryan's involvement in our “Seed the change” summer schools in 2023 and 2024 was particularly noteworthy, as she not only participated but also showcased her knowledge, critical thinking, and ability to collaborate effectively with peers. Even after graduating from the ambassador program last year, she remained engaged, taking the initiative to organize a webinar for current ambassadors, demonstrating her willingness to support and guide the next generation of ambassadors.

Additionally, Mrs. Khachatryan was an integral part of the preparatory team for CDN’s Study Session in Budapest. Her contributions to the planning and execution of the session were invaluable, and she further extended the impact of her experience by holding a follow-up meeting where she shared her insights with others.

Maria also took part in the ReFocus Summer Camp by CDN Eastern Europe and was a panel speaker on peacebuilding. She has represented the Frontline Youth Network in different events, bringing a strong youth perspective.

In November 2024, Maria participated in the European Green Academy, where she interacted with politicians and activists from across Europe. She was the only participant from Armenia to receive a full scholarship for the event. She also joined the Training Activist Day, where she exchanged ideas with representatives from various European organizations.

Maria’s passion for social justice continues to grow. She was recently accepted into the Social Justice Lab 2025 program by FYEG, and next month, she will travel to Zagreb to learn and share insights on human rights and social justice.

Additionally, Maria has received a 100% merit-based scholarship to study International Relations and Development in Lithuania, which highlights her academic excellence and global mindset.

Given Ms. Khachatryan’s deep commitment to peacebuilding, her expertise in community organising and

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communications, and alignment with the values of peace, human rights, and solidarity, I am confident that she will be a valuable asset in the Executive Committee.

For these reasons, I highly recommend Mrs. Khachatryan for this position. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact me at projects@frontlineyouth.net

Lusine Kosakyan
Network Director
1st November 2024

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From: Frontline Youth Network
To: Cooperation and Development Network – Eastern Europe
Subject: Recommendation Letter

Dear CDN Eastern Europe Team,

I'm writing to recommend **Maria Khachatryan** in support of her application and to briefly highlight her engagement with **Frontline Youth Network (FYN)**.

Maria became involved through our **"Seed the Change" Summer School** and continued working with us as part of our youth community. In different activities, she has supported our team during **teachers' trainings** and represented FYN in **public settings and events**, always with a calm, organized, and respectful approach. She is dependable, communicates clearly, and can be trusted to handle responsibilities professionally.

Maria also participated in our **Ambassadors Programme**, where she demonstrated consistency, initiative, and genuine interest in learning and contributing to our work.

Based on what we have seen, I believe Maria would be a strong addition to CDN's community and a meaningful contributor to your activities.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact me at projects@frontlineyouth.net

Lusine Kosakyan
Network Director
26th February 2026