AR Activity Report 2025-26

Organization:	CDN
Resolution date:	18.02.2026
Agenda item:	4. Reports and plans

Resolution text

The activity report covers the period from April 2025 to March 2026.

We Empowered progressive changemakers by:

Annual Work Plan: Keep your fist up and your head held high! Building resilience of green youth organisation in Eastern Europe

The Work Plan of 2025 consists of an international Resilience Building Summer Camp as the first phase, followed by Local Actions realised in 7 countries across Eastern Europe. Both activities aimed to support green youth organisations in Eastern Europe to build resilience for operating within environments characterised by democratic backsliding and deterioration of democratic values, and maintain capacity to advocate for improvement of democratic processes to counter these trends.

- Summer Camp

The first phase, Resillience Building Summer Camp took place in Chisinau, Moldova, hosted by Gutta-Club on 7-13th July 2025. The Summer Camp intended to equip participants with knowledge and skills related to resilience building for operating in environments characterised by democratic backsliding, and empower them to disseminate that knowledge and skills among their peers. It gathered 39 people, and was well evaluated (report of increased capacities: 4.5 out of 5 on average).

- Financial Support/Subgrating (Local Actions)

The Local Actions aimed to enable green youth activists to disseminate further the knowledge, skills, and resources related to resilience and by doing so strengthen the capacities of green youth organisations for upholding democracy

and democratic values within different contexts in Eastern Europe.. We supported following organisations and projects:

- Resilient Frontliners by Frontline Youth Network
- Green Youth Forum by Youth for a Green Future
- Strong roots, strong voice by Revolt
- Don't stay aside by Green Youth of Ukraine
- Czech Young Green´s General Assembly 2025 Brno and following activities
- Local Action title: Pathways to Resilience: Building Solidarity Across Movements Genç Yeşiller
- Democracy: time for a reality check? by Zeleni prozor

As well as the Local Action by the CDN Feminist Action Team.

Cross-Regional Meeting: Towards political autonomy of youth wings

This year Regional Meeting was another time merged with Summer Camp. It focused on the specific topic being the leading part of our new project with Green Forum, i. e. political autonomy of youth wings. The participants created the working definition of political autonomy (link) with the short roadmap to its achievement in the areas of operation, representation, finances, strategy and ideology; as well as discussed the membership engagement ladder that can be used as resource by the Member Organisations (link). Both documents will be a basis for activities realised with the support of Green Foum in 2026.

Study Session

The Study Session „Art and Cultural Cooperation of Green European Youth“ Study Session "Canvas of Change: Youth, Culture and Political Participation" was held from 29 September to 4 October 2025 in European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, France together with FYEG.

Learn to challenge the systems of oppression - capitalism, patriarchy, and imperialism = through brush, colors, pens, and art" was one of the key messages shared by 35 young activists during our study session. The key learning point - the critical role that art and culture play in shaping political processes. Participants engaged in various workshops (such as performance, music, creative writing, and zine making) and benefited from guest lecturers and rich exchanges that were all viewed through an intersectional lens.

The participants created zine Corpus Erectus, and the institionalised the Arts&Culture Action Team.

EYF Special Call for Ukraine – „Environmental Consequences of War: Monitoring and Overcoming“

The international activity organised as part of EYF Special Call for Ukraine was held in Sheptytskyi, Ukraine on 26-30.08. It gathered 26 young people with the aim empower and mobilise them for cross-border cooperation in spreading the awareness of the environmental consequences of Russian aggression on Ukraine, and its cross-border effects on youth, democracy and human rights by providing them with space, theoretical knowledge and skills necessary to advocate for their rights related to the environment on the local, national and European level. We discussed how to make the environment more resilient and how the international community can contribute to the sustainable reconstruction of Ukraine. participants created three campaign plans: on the consequences of mining of Ukraine, the long-term consequences of Kakhovka Dam Destruction, and the protection of the environment in criminal law, which were or are to be implemented in adjusted form.

We are grateful for the town of Sheptytskyi for a warm welcoming and for the Centre of Environmental Initiatives Ecoaction for materials and provided workshop.

Training for Trainers: Non-formal Education and Green and Progressive Politics

The Training for Trainers was an additional activity organised thanks to additional funding from International Foundation GroenLinks. It gathered 10 participants from MOs to strengthen their capacity to design and conduct educational activities within their organisations and communities by equipping participants with tools and methodologies of non-formal education while deepening their understanding of Green and progressive politics in the regional context. It consisted of two parts: (1) critical thinking of values in the local context (including discussion with Serbian MP Biljana Djordjević), (2) non-formal education and project coordination training. The participants were selected by Executive Committee, based on their activity and experience (up to 26 years old, and attending at least one event in the 2025, with high level of participation), and regional balance.

The resource pack “CDN Non-Formal Education Guidebook” was created, available on the website.

We Strengthened the Network by:

General Assembly

The 15th General Assembly of Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe (CDNEE), took place 29-30 March in Zagreb, Croatia, hosted by Zeleni prozor.

The main output of GA was brand new Political Platform - a comprehensive and detailed document that will be a basis of CDN advocacy during the next years. We also elected Executive Committee, adopted activity and financial plan for the next year, amended documents. Two resolutions were created:Saving the democracy

– right to protest in Eastern Europe, with emphasis on Serbia and Georgia, Keeping Green Values in the age of AI. We also welcomed three new Member organisations: Youth for a Green Future (Bulgaria), The Union of Young Democrats (Lithuania), TG – Youth – Možemo and Tematska grupa Mladi, Možemo! - politička platforma.

The political conference consisted of two panels: „Student Protests in Serbia and Croatia: Striving for Better Education and Democracy“ and the round-table „Be resilient!“.

During the preparation of 2026 GA, two workshops were held in order to create the resolutions together with MOs in the policy areas selected via poll: Arts&Culture and Feminism.

Feminist Action Team

Feminist Action Team started in August 2025 to create local action to build the resilience women and non-binary activists together, inspire each other, share experiences, create campaigns, and build a safe network. It covers the topic of gender equality and feminism. The local action consisted of webinar with experts on the female sexuality, sex work, and sex education in the context of Eastern Europe and book club meetings. FemAT currently gathers 25 people and will continue its work in 2026.

Arts&Culture Action Team

Arts&Culture Action Team was created after the Study Session to create the second edition of the Corpus Erectus zine, gathering 14 members, participants of the StS. The zine was published in February and is available on the website.

Effective Internal Governance

In 2025-26, CDN put more emphasis on its internal governance, strengthening the work and position of EC and Office. The work will be continued throughout next year.

Effective and Productive Executive Committee Meetings

We organised three EC Meetings:: (1) in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on 5-6.07.2025, (2) in Bohinjska Bistrica, Slovenia on 25-27.10.2025, (3) in Bucuresti, Romania on 14-15.02.2026. The focus of the EC meeetings was as always planning of topics and activities and making political decisions about the network. The main topics of the meetings were: for the first meeting planning the activities for 2026 and updating the IRPs, for 2nd meeting mid-term strategy evaluation, for 3rd meeting updating the activity plan and GA documents preparation. The minutes from the meetings are available on the website.

Due to strengthening the procedures, the transfer meeting took place online, thus EC started work immediately after the GA and all the meetings were working ones.

Office retreat

Office retreat took place in June, in Montenegro and focused on improving the sustainability of CDN. The new transfer documents (main one, and for each position) were created, thus improving the quality of onboarding and transfer of knowledge in the office before new people arriving in 2026.

Refined internal documents

Internal Rules of Procedure were revisited and refined during EC Meetings. There were 2 consultations calls regarding the changes in December, with the participation of six MOs. Based on their input and internal discussion, EC put forward the ready document.

On the II ECM, the mid-term evaluation of the strategy was discussed. The strategy was evaluated well, with three amendments put by EC to be voted by GA and Key Performance Indicators refined to better reflect the goals of CDN.

Diversifying Funding Sources

As mentioned previously, we received additional grant for Special Call Ukraine that included up to 17% administrative/structural costs. We also sent one another application (rejected), and planned to re-apply for SI Creative Partnership (rejected in 2024), though the programme was not opened yet at the moment of writing the report. Due to the capacities taken for organisation additional event, we did not focus on smaller-scale fundraising.

EnhancedCommunication with Member Organisations

The Executive Committee regional responsibles continued good practice to organise regional calls with MOs, in all the regions. During the Local Actions, we visited Czech Young Greens and planned to visit Youth for a Green Future (unfortunately visit was cancelled due to the health issues).

Internship programme

CDN open its internship programme Communication and Projects Intern in June 2025. We received 60 applications, and invited 6 people for the interview. The selected intern, Sintija Krivina, works from September 2025 to February 2026 (prolonged for March 2026, due to the GA).

The internship programme focuses on the communication, especially during the project. The main learning outcomes was creating and implementing the communication plans about the events (mostly during the StS) and campaigns (especially Stop Ecocide, organising smaller-scale activities (FemAT local actions). The internship programme proved to be succesful, contributing to enhancement the external communication and improvement of the Office's workload, with the recommendation to make the more precise plan of internship with defined main fields of work and learning outcomes for each month of intern's work.

Office changes

The term of Secretary General finishes at 2026 GA. Igor decided not to run for another term. The call was opened together with the call for EC. EC decided to recommend Filip Janković for the position. The transfer period will be in April and May.

The contract of Project Coordinator finished in 2026, and PC decided not to prolong it. We opened the call in February, which is still opened at the moment of publishing the report. New person will be selected by EC before the GA. The transfer period is planned for May and June (to be decided with person selected).

The transition periods was planned in advance (more in the activity plan).

We Brought Eastern European Perspective by:

Enhanced External Communication

Increasing the outreach and engagement of the external communication was one of the priorities for 2025. We managed to increase the quality of communication, however, this was limited due to capacities moved to the additional educational projects that were prioritised.

We organised two campaigns (below), as well as decided on organisation on the additional campaigns in 2026 to be implemented around the GA: Culture. A Public Good andStop Femicide. We experimented with new forms of content (as interactive maps, quizzes etc.), while maintaining the seriousness of communication.

Biodiversity in Eastern Europe campaign

Campaign aimed to promote our political platform's chapter on biodiversity through showing the real examples of Eastern European nature that need to be protected. It consisted of series of interactive instagram stories, posts and reels, and the website page with the map of Wonders of Eastern European nature with over 20 places submitted on instagram story question.

Stop Ecocide campaign

Focus of the campaign was to increase awareness of the russian ecocide in Ukraine and to lobby for implementation of ecocide in the international law. The campaign was created as the follow-up of „Environmental Consequences of War" event. It consisted of 7 posts, informative website, 3 webinars and related stickers with QR-code leading to the website.

Electionvision

There was three episodes of ElectionVision: (1) Elections 2024/25: Europe and World; (2) on presidential elections in Romania and Poland; (3) on parliamentary elections in Czechia and Moldova.

Networking with Green European Movement and Beyond

We continued good relations with FYEG, mostly in organising study session and publishing joint statements (eg. on political prisoners in Belarus, on the political violence in Serbia or on Bulgaria joining the Eurozone). We were mutually represented at most of our events, and took part in each other's digital activities as speakers (eg. ElectionVision: Eastern Europe and World 2024/25).

We kept the good contacts with other international youth NGOs and were mutually present at some of our events and digital activities, but finally did not submit any joint projects. We applied for the status of delegate in Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, not received information at the moment of publishing the report.