

## AR Activity Report 2025-26

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 18.02.2026

Agenda item: 4. Reports and plans

## Resolution text

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

### 2 We Empowered progressive changemakers by:

3 Annual Work Plan: Keep your fist up and your head held high!

4 Building resilience of green youth organisation in Eastern

5 Europe

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

13 • Summer Camp

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

21 • Financial Support/Subgrating (Local Actions)

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

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

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

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

### 36 Cross-Regional Meeting: Towards political autonomy of youth 37 wings

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

### 46 Study Session

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

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

58 The participants created zine Corpus Erectus, and the institutionalised the  
59 Arts&Culture Action Team.

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

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

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

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

80 The Training for Trainers was an additional activity organised thanks to  
81 additional funding from International Foundation GroenLinks. It gathered 10  
82 participants from MOs to strengthen their capacity to design and conduct  
83 educational activities within their organisations and communities by equipping  
84 participants with tools and methodologies of non-formal education while  
85 deepening their understanding of Green and progressive politics in the regional  
86 context. It consisted of two parts: (1) critical thinking of values in the local  
87 context (including discussion with Serbian MP Biljana Djordjević), (2) non-  
88 formal education and project coordination training. The participants were  
89 selected by Executive Committee, based on their activity and experience (up to  
90 26 years old, and attending at least one event in the 2025, with high level of  
91 participation), and regional balance.

92 The resource pack “CDN Non-Formal Education Guidebook” was created, available on  
93 the [website](#).

94 **We Strengthened the Network by:**

95 **General Assembly**

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

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

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

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

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

### 113 Feminist Action Team

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

### 121 Arts&Culture Action Team

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

### 125 Effective Internal Governance

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

### 129 Effective and Productive Executive Committee Meetings

130 We organised three EC Meetings: (1) in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on 5-  
131 6.07.2025, (2) in Bohinjska Bistrica, Slovenia on 25-27.10.2025, (3) in  
132 Bucuresti, Romania on 14-15.02.2026. The focus of the EC meetings was as always  
133 planning of topics and activities and making political decisions about the  
134 network. The main topics of the meetings were: for the first meeting planning  
135 the activities for 2026 and updating the IRPs, for 2nd meeting mid-term strategy  
136 evaluation, for 3rd meeting updating the activity plan and GA documents  
137 preparation. The minutes from the meetings are available on the website.

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

### 141 Office retreat

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

#### 146 Refined internal documents

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

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

#### 154 Diversifying Funding Sources

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

#### 161 Enhanced Communication with Member Organisations

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

#### 166 Internship programme

167 CDN open its internship programme Communication and Projects Intern in June  
168 2025. We received 60 applications, and invited 6 people for the interview. The  
169 selected intern, Sintija Krivina, works from September 2025 to February 2026  
170 (prolonged for March 2026, due to the GA).

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

#### 179 Office changes

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

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

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

## 190 We Brought Eastern European Perspective by:

### 191 Enhanced External Communication

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

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

### 200 Biodiversity in Eastern Europe campaign

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

### 206 Stop Ecocide campaign

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

### 212 Electionvision

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

### 216 Networking with Green European Movement and Beyond

217 We continued good relations with FYEG, mostly in organising study sessions and  
218 publishing joint statements (eg. on political prisoners in Belarus, on the  
219 political violence in Serbia or on Bulgaria joining the Eurozone). We were  
220 mutually represented at most of our events, and took part in each other's  
221 digital activities as speakers (eg. ElectionVision: Eastern Europe and World  
222 2024/25).

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

**R1 Enabling creation, preserving memory. For the progressive cultural policy for Eastern Europe.**

Organization: Executive Committee

Resolution date: 14.02.2026

Agenda item: 5. Resolutions

## Resolution text

1 Across Eastern Europe, culture is increasingly treated as a marginal or  
2 instrumental policy rather than a public good. Artists and cultural workers are  
3 often deprived of social security, forced to take on additional jobs outside the  
4 cultural sector, and pushed into precarious employment conditions, rendering  
5 long-term cultural work unsustainable. This leads to talent drain, burnout,  
6 emigration of artists and cultural workers, and the exclusion of people from  
7 less privileged backgrounds from artistic and cultural professions. At the same  
8 time, underfunding of cultural institutions in some countries, such as Serbia,  
9 is a political tool used to silence critical and anti-government narratives,  
10 further contributing to the precarity of culture workers and undermining  
11 artistic freedom. The fair pay and social security of artists and culture  
12 workers, as well as good, sustainable funding of institutions, should thus be a  
13 priority of cultural policy. The universal basic income for artists can be  
14 considered, following the evidence from pilot programmes, eg, in Ireland, that  
15 show strong socio-economic profits from such investments.[\[1\]](#).

16 Participation in culture needs to be encouraged, especially among young people.  
17 There are several good practices already implemented in Eastern European  
18 countries, such as free museum entrance days programmes existing in Bulgaria or  
19 cultural vouchers covering entry to cultural institutions for students and  
20 teachers in Slovakia.[\[2\]](#) Young people need to be treated as creators of culture,  
21 not just consumers, and have spaces to create and participate in shaping  
22 cultural spaces and programmes in their communities. Culture needs to be  
23 integrated into education. There are some good ways to do it, such as school  
24 visits to cultural institutions or the Estonian initiative to organise the  
25 lessons with trained culture workers.[\[3\]](#) This needs to be tailored to the age  
26 and needs of children, to build the habit of enjoying culture, and go in pair  
27 with broader reform and modernisation of the educational system. Regional  
28 culture and local institutions should be financed to be attractive for young  
29 people, and cooperate with schools.

30 Systematic underfunding or neglect of cultural infrastructure also affects the  
31 cultural heritage. Archives, collections and documentations of historical and  
32 contemporary culture are often neglected or fragmented. Cultural products  
33 sectors as early digital art, video games, etc., are being lost.[\[4\]](#) The  
34 initiatives such as Stop Destroying Videogames.[\[5\]](#) highlight the need for legal  
35 and institutional frameworks that allow preservation, archiving and public  
36 access to digital cultural works. Moreover, the neglect of digitalisation and  
37 the lack of open-source and free digital materials lead to further inequalities  
38 in access to culture, especially between big cities and towns and rural areas  
39 with little to no cultural institutions. Countries should follow examples such  
40 like Slovakiана cultural portal that has digitised over 180.000 objects from  
over 75 institutions.[\[6\]](#).

42 Promoting cultural heritage and collective memory is an important aspect of  
43 building resilience and decolonisation in some countries, such as Moldova or the  
44 Baltic States. On the other hand, historical revisionism is a key discourse  
45 point of Vucic's or Orban's regimes, and even in democratic countries, it is  
46 often a political tool used to consolidate power and spread hatred towards  
47 minorities and neighbours. For example, the Institute of the Romanian Revolution  
48 of December 1989 was led for 17 years by former president Ion Iliescu and used  
49 to promote himself and his political movements rather than conduct independent  
50 and reliable research. Similarly, the Polish Institute of National Remembrance,  
51 despite some successes, is widely used to legitimise current right-wing politics  
52 and whitewash Polish crimes (such as Operation Vistula). While promoting further  
53 decolonisation, states should depoliticise collective memory and focus on  
54 creating research institutions that promote high-quality scientific research,  
55 archiving, institutional intercultural dialogue, and funding for interactive and  
56 immersive museums.

57 With this, we urge the Eastern European politicians:

- 58 • Guarantee stable and independent public funding for culture, including a  
59 minimum budget threshold;
- 60 • Introduce social protection mechanisms, including healthcare, for cultural  
61 workers.
- 62 • Expand participatory cultural governance, including participatory  
63 budgeting and public involvement in shaping cultural priorities and  
64 programmes;
- 65 • Integrate culture meaningfully into education systems.
- 66 • Ensure public access to publicly funded culture, including the principle  
67 that cultural content financed publicly should be available digitally  
68 whenever possible and the implementation of good programmes from other  
69 countries.

70 CDN will contribute to these processes by:

- 71 • Advocating for cultural workers' rights and proper culture funding,  
72 including social security and fair pay, and promoting evidence-based  
73 policy arguments and good practices from Eastern European countries;
- 74 • Continuing its work to provide counter- and alternative narratives  
75 addressing populist use of prejudices and collective memory, supporting  
76 intercultural dialogue and decolonisation processes;
- 77 • Promoting digital access and archiving of culture, including open-access  
78 cultural content or initiatives to preserve endangered cultural forms;
- 79 • Working with its partners to develop youth-focused cultural participation  
80 programmes, with emphasis on active creation, such as a guidebook for  
81 leading school theatre or peer-led performances on important environmental  
82 issues

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84 [1] Department of Culture, Communications and Sport. (2025, September 22). Basic  
85 Income for the Arts pilot produced over €100 million in social and economic  
86 benefits. Government of Ireland. <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-culture-communications-and-sport/press-releases/basic-income-for-the-arts-pilot-produced-over-100-million-in-social-and-economic-benefits/>  
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88 [2] Council of Europe. Culture vouchers in: Strategy 21 - Good practices.  
89 <https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/-/back-to-school>

90 [3] Council of Europe. Back to School in: Strategy 21 - Good practices.  
91 <https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/-/back-to-school>

92 [4] Campbell, I. C. (2020, November 19). The Internet Archive is now preserving  
93 Flash games and animations. The Verge.  
94 <https://www.theverge.com/2020/11/19/21578616/internet-archive-preservation-flash-animations-games-adobe>

95 [5] European Citizens' Initiative. Stop Destroying Videogames. [https://citizens-initiative.europa.eu/initiatives/details/2024/000007\\_en](https://citizens-initiative.europa.eu/initiatives/details/2024/000007_en)

96 [6]<https://slovakiana.sk/en/about-slovakiana>