



**General Assembly 2023**

**Warsaw, Poland**

**9-12 March**

**#CDNGA23**

# ***ACTIVITY REPORT 2022***



**COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**  
Eastern Europe

# Activity Report 2022

## Statutory

### General Assembly

*12-13th of March 2022 (online/Belgrade, Serbia)*

The 13th General Assembly, which is CDN's primary annual statutory event, was initially scheduled to take place in Tbilisi, Georgia. However, due to the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, the event was held in a hybrid format. It was conducted both online through Zoom and in Belgrade, Serbia. The event was attended by various organizations, including Member, Partner, and Observer organizations, as well as Working Group members. During the event, a new Executive Committee was elected by delegates from MOs. Amendments to the Internal Rules of Procedure, Political Platform, Safe Space Policy, and Strategy Statement for CDN 2022-24 were added, and several documents were adopted, including ReClaim The Rainbow, Resolution on the Future of Work, Cities For All Manifesto, Resolution Geopolitics of Eastern Europe: In Solidarity with Ukraine and Against Russian Aggression, and activity and financial plans for 2022.

### Executive Committee meetings

Throughout their term, the EC and Secretariat held regular online meetings every other Friday using the Zoom platform. In addition, four in-person meetings were held during which EC evaluated the past activities and planned the upcoming, brainstormed and decided upon the priorities of the 2023 projects and activities, discussed and tabled amendments for CDN documents, etc.

- EC-EC transfer meeting, 14 March, Online/Belgrade, Serbia
- 1st live ECM, 14-16 March in Belgrade, Serbia
- 2nd live ECM, 14-16 May in Veliko Gradiste, Serbia

- 3rd live ECM, 18–20 August in Istanbul, Turkey
- 4th live ECM, 14–16 November in Budapest, Hungary

## International educational activities

### **International Activity “Why to participate?”**

Skopje, Macedonia, 11–16 April 2022

The first phase of the Annual Working Plan was an international activity “Why to participate?” that took place between April 11–16 in Skopje, North Macedonia, and included participants who joined online via Zoom. The training gathered 27 young people from 11 countries. The project was aimed to promote a resilient and just Eastern Europe, where human rights are respected and youth can thrive, through true, informed democracy. To support youth participation in political processes by increasing their knowledge of the importance of political participation, motivating them to participate actively, and equipping them with the skills necessary for political participation in Eastern Europe’s shrinking spaces.

Since this activity was the first international event of the work plan, it foregrounded the basic knowledge of the ways how the youth can take part in political processes in their respective countries. Participants learned through different sessions about the ways how the youth can shape policy-making in Eastern Europe and reflected in smaller groups about the ways how democracies can be designated as more participatory. One of the main outputs of the activity was the manifesto on Youth Participation in political processes.

### **Conference on the future of Eastern Europe**

Riga, Latvia, 6–7 of June

CDN planned to host a political conference on the Future of Eastern Europe on 10–11th March attached to the General Assembly but instead of making an online conference, it was decided to postpone to close proximity of another CDN event.

Finally, the event took place in June, and it aimed to bring together MOs, POs, WGs, and external partners to discuss relevant issues for CDN, its MOs, and young people in Eastern Europe. The conference focused on topics such as Eastern Europe as a region, the state of democracy, the influence of global powers, rising environmental movements into politics, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and conflicts, the concept of eco-democracy. The Conference was a part of the transnational project “Future of Eastern Europe and (Eco)democracy” that we were organising in cooperation with the Green European Foundation, Green Institute of Greece, Sustainable Development Forum Green Window, Green Green Thought Association and Ecopilis Foundation.

### **International Activity “Skills for massive youth activation”,**

*Riga, Latvia 8-12 June 2022*

The second activity of the WP was a 5-day international training course focusing on preparing the participants for the 3rd stage in depth through enhancing their skills. The event was designed to equip youth workers from Eastern Europe with the necessary skills to engage young people in the civic life of their communities. With the focus to develop concrete skills among the participants, such as non-formal education methods, creative campaigning, debating, public speaking, and movement organizing. The goal of the event was to translate these enhanced skills into local actions in the final stage of our work plan. The knowledge and skills gained during the event contributed significantly to the successful implementation of the work plan.

### **Study Session “Green cities for a sustainable planet”**

*Budapest, Hungary, 7-12 November 2022*

During the six days of the Study Session “Green cities for sustainable future” that was held in the European Youth Center in Budapest, 30 participants from 9, mostly Eastern European, countries, and a prep team of 4 people from 4 countries discussed, exchanged experiences, and generated knowledge about

the ways urbanism, economy and climate interact and intersect with each other, and the connections they have with the cities and urban living. The participants and the team also discussed the potential personal changes that could be adopted so that city living can be more enjoyable, and sustainable and have a less negative impact on the climate crisis, as well as in which ways can young people be engaged to take part in the changes on personal and policy levels of their cities governance. This was all done through the adoption of tools of non-formal education, and while all of us together build the “table neighbourhoods”, a methodology designed specifically for this Session.

## Regional meetings

### **Balkan Regional Meeting,**

*Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20-22 of May 2022*

The 3-day meeting gathered CDN Member Organisations from the Balkans. The event aimed to discuss politics and what is happening in the Balkans, and what young greens can do to support the greening process of the region. During the event, various actions were taken to achieve the objectives of increasing participation in young greens and analyzing and tackling the issues related to the importance of youth involvement and increasing political influence. These actions included discussions and presentations on the emergence of Green political parties in the Balkans, the grounds and roots on which they were founded, their policy priorities and structures, and the role of civil society. The event also focused on the skills and tools needed to participate in politics and increase influence. Additionally, there were interactive sessions and workshops where participants shared their experiences and ideas, and learned from experts and each other.

## Local actions

### **AWP Local actions – Mobilising youth for participation**

*September–December*

In the final stage of the annual work plan, the focus was on supporting 7 local actions in different Eastern European countries as a direct outcome of two international activities. These local actions aimed to engage young people in shaping democratic decision-making processes in their local communities with direct participation of youth and the promotion of youth inclusion. Additionally, the local actions aimed to create a network of activists and organizations for future collaboration and transfer of knowledge. This network intended to promote the visibility of young people and mobilize them for a common cause of ensuring a better future for all youth by giving them agency. By supporting these local actions, the work plan aimed to create lasting change in the Eastern European region by empowering young people and creating a strong network of activists and organizations to continue to push for positive change in the future.

## Internal trainings

### **Co-treasurers' training**

*18–19 November 2022, Belgrade, Serbia*

CDN Co-treasurers training took place in Belgrade, Serbia and the treasurers got introduced to the practices regarding CDN finances – from an organisation of the archiving and bookkeeping to types of reporting done. Secretariat and Treasurer consequently reviewed the current bookkeeping system of CDN. During the meeting, we analysed the role of the treasurer and came up with a set of recommendations that should help strengthen the position.

## **Training in Accounting Software**

*December, online*

Improving financial management has been marked as a priority for the secretariat. Adapting to accounting software is one of the important tools to do so. Therefore after long research, we started using the software for which intensive training was needed. Network Coordinator took part in 25 hours (a few weeks) of training and will transfer the knowledge to the relevant staff member responsible for finances.

## **Campaigns, statements and digital activities**

**Ukraine** - CDN has been vocal in support of Ukraine throughout the year and played a role within the Green political family to bring an Eastern European perspective. We published several statements including one before the invasion and many more after. Besides, we organised a campaign in support of Ukraine was held as a series of webinars with speakers from Ukraine, Latvia, and Poland during which topics of Youth Mobilisation during the War, Achieving peace in Ukraine, Military security in Eastern Europe, the Role of sanctions on Russia, Digital perspective of security, Gender perspective of war were covered.

Throughout the year we published several statements: protesting the ban of Pride in Belgrade, against the war in the Caucasus, endorsing candidates from Protests (Latvia), marking two years since the peaceful uprising of Belarus people against dictatorship, celebrating International non-binary people's day.

## **Electionvision**

*November-December 2022*

A series of discussions on elections in different EE countries, electoral situations and processes in EE took place online as a response to rising frauds during elections and a crash of democracy in various EE countries. In total 2

Electionvision discussions were held and speakers from Latvia and Bosnia and Herzegovina presented the situations of their countries, the presence and position of Greens in political life and the actions they are making to ensure better and more fair elections.

## Networking

We see networking events of our partners as important parts of communication and keeping up with the Green Family, therefore we attend trainings, Councils, General Assemblies and different forms of events of our partners. In these events, we participate as observers or partners. The events provide us with experience and skills which we use for internal capacity building of the Secretariat and EC through reports and transfer of knowledge. In addition, the event of partners is a good opportunity for side meetings with different stakeholders to promote CDN and understand the contexts of different countries from a Green perspective.

## Publications and translations

### **Feminists in The Environmental Movement (FEM)**

*March-December 2022, online/locally*

The project started its activities in March 2022, with the aim to raise the voices of young women in rural areas that are being affected by climate change and its causes, as well as share positive stories and bring attention to the importance of addressing climate change in an intersectional way. Due to the intersectional approach, we discovered that we cannot strictly focus on all aspects of each of the stories covered. Exactly because of this, the project additionally covered connections between climate change and socioeconomic dynamics in rural areas (poverty, migration, safety, culture, and others).



## **FEMtraining**

*7 March 2022, online*

Training for FEM Local Reporters (LRs) which was originally planned in Tbilisi, Georgia was moved online due to the worsening political situation – the Russian war in Ukraine in March 2022. Session outlines have been modified to suit the online format and reach the same aims. The training consisted of 4 sessions with breaks in between and an evaluation session at the end and all 6 LRs have been present.

## **FEM presentation**

*26 August 2022, online*

Local Reporters in 7 countries of Central and Eastern Europe have visited the areas harmed by climate change and harsh industrialisation listened to the inspiring stories of young women living in the rural areas and during the online presentation shared all the experiences gained.

# Annex. 1: List of Activities

Event name	Start date	End date	Online / Location	Organised by	Number of participants			
					Female	Male	Other	Total
Book club online meeting - Man's Search for Meaning	11 Jan 2022	11 Jan 2022	Online	CDN Gender WG	2	1	1	<b>4</b>
European Greens Balkan Regional Meeting	11 Feb 2022	12 Feb 2022	Belgrade, Serbia	European Greens	1	1		<b>2</b>
Last Live ECM	5 Mar 2022	7 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN	3	5		<b>8</b>
FEM Training	7 Mar 2022	7 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN		6		<b>6</b>
Working Group Meeting	8 Mar 2022	1 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN	2	1	1	<b>13</b>
Presidency Meeting	1 Mar 2022	11 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN	1	2		<b>3</b>
General Assembly	12 Mar 2022	13 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN				<b>4</b>
1st ECM	14 Mar 2022	16 Mar 2022	Belgrade, Serbia/Hybrid	CDN	7	1	2	<b>1</b>
International Activity 1	11 Apr 2022	16 Apr 2022	Skopje, North Macedonia	CDN	19	1	3	<b>32</b>
2nd ECM	14 May 2022	16 May 2022	Srebrno Jezero, Serbia	CDN	7	1	2	<b>1</b>
Balkan Regional Meeting	2 May 2022	22 May 2022	Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina	CDN	1	9		<b>19</b>
FYEG General Assembly	26 May 2022	29 May 2022	Karlsruhe, Germany	Young European Greens	1			<b>1</b>
European Greens Council	3 Jun 2022	5 Jun 2022	Riga, Latvia	European Greens	2	1	1	<b>4</b>

1 Including those organised by CDN and those CDN attended

Future of Eastern Europe Conference	6 Jun 2022	7 Jun 2022	Riga, Latvia	CDN					<b>38</b>
International Activity 2	8 Jun 2022	12 Jun 2022	Riga, Latvia	CDN	17	9	6		<b>32</b>
Central Eastern European Foundations Meeting	1 Jul 2022	2 Jul 2022	Vienna, Austria	Green European Foundation		1			<b>1</b>
European Green Academy	15 Jul 2022	16 Jul 2022	Warsaw, Poland	Green European Foundation		1			<b>1</b>
3rd ECM	18 Aug 2022	2 Aug 2022	Istanbul, Turkey	CDN	7	2	1		<b>1</b>
Gathering of Queer, Gender and Balkan Networks of EGP on Belgrade Pride	16 Sep 2022	18 Sep 2022	Belgrade, Serbia	European Greens		1	1		<b>2</b>
Bootcamp on the inclusion of marginalised youth in educational projects	3 Sep 2022	2 Oct 2022	Athens, Greece	Green European Foundation		1			<b>1</b>
Projects lab	13 Oct 2022	13 Oct 2022	Brussels, Belgium	Green European Foundation		1			<b>1</b>
Study Session	7 Nov 2022	12 Nov 2022	Budapest, Hungary	CDN	19	9	6		<b>34</b>
4th ECM	14 Nov 2022	16 Nov 2022	Budapest, Hungary/Hybrid	CDN	7	2			<b>9</b>
Treasurer Training	18 Nov 2022	19 Nov 2022	Belgrade, Serbia	CDN	3	1			<b>4</b>
Visit to the Danish Parliament, Balkan Network	1 Dec 2022	1 Dec 2022	Copenhagen, Denmark	European Greens		1			<b>1</b>
European Greens Congress	2 Dec 2022	4 Dec 2022	Copenhagen, Denmark	European Greens	1	1			<b>2</b>
Event of International Foundation Groenlinks	1 Dec 2022	1 Dec 2022	Utrecht, the Netherlands	International Foundation Groenlinks		1			<b>1</b>

ElectionVision: Latvia	22 Nov 2022	22 Nov 2022	Online	CDN	2	6	4	<b>12</b>
Webinar "Youth Mobilisation During the War"	27 Oct 2022	27 Oct 2022	Online	CDN	9	5	6	<b>2</b>
Webinar "Achieve Peace in Ukraine"	3 Nov 2022	3 Nov 2022	Online	CDN	8	5	6	<b>18</b>
Webinar "Gender Perspective on War and Peace Building"	24 Nov 2022	24 Nov 2022	Online	CDN	9	4	5	<b>18</b>
Webinar "Am I A Target of Russia's Disinformation?"	8 Dec 2022	8 Dec 2022	Online	CDN	4	4	6	<b>14</b>
ElectionVision: Bosnia and Herzegovina	12 Dec 2022	12 Dec 2022	Online	CDN	3	2	1	<b>6</b>