



General Assembly 2023

Warsaw, Poland

9-12 March

#CDNGA23

MINUTES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARCH, 2023



COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Eastern Europe

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CDN General Assembly 2023 and Strategic Planning Meeting (March 9-12)

Day 1 – 9th of March 2023

10:00–11:00 CET

- **Opening of the GA – Welcome speeches by Executive Committee and Host organisation**

Kateryna, EC member and President of CDN gives an opening speech.

Igor, International Secretary of Polish Young Greens and gives speech by host organisation.

Asia, member of Polish Young Greens and Local Prep Team provides practical information.

- **Verification of the presence of the delegates from Member and Partner Organisations, Quorum check**

Presidency does the quorum check. 10 member and 3 partner organisations are present, from 20 possible.

Present Organisations:

1. Green Window,
2. MIL Network,
3. Frontline Youth Network,
4. YF URA,
5. Green Youth of Serbia,
6. Gutta Club,
7. Revolt,
8. Green Youth of Ukraine,
9. Albanian Young Greens,
10. Belarus Young Greens,
11. Protests,

12. Polish Young Greens,
13. German Young Greens,

Young Greens of Turkey and Young Greens of Georgia were registered but are not present at the GA.

Three participating, partner organisations does not have voting rights per statutes.

- **Adoption of Presidency**

Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator proposes Presidency to the GA: Luka Gudek, Raluca Besliu, Lone S. Kristiansen.

General Assembly is ratifying the Presidency. Voting takes place. Results:

In favour: 20

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

- **Validation of General Assembly; Presentation of IRPs GA chapter**

Validation of the General Assembly according to the IRPs takes place.

Deadlines and other conditions related to the General Assembly preparation are presented.

Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator confirms that all the conditions were met, with a small comment on 2.2.17: documents were uploaded to the General Assembly website, not sent out.

Voting takes place. Results:

In favour: 20

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

- **Presentation of the GA rules (voting, majorities)**

Presentation about how voting and elections will work takes place.

- **Voting on the minutes from the last GA**

Presentation of the conditions of minutes taking takes place.

Voting on the last year's GA minutes takes place. Results:

In favour: 18 (+ 2 late votes)

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

- **Presentation and adoption of the Agenda**

Presentation of the agenda takes place.

A change to include two hours in the agenda for showing solidarity to the Young Greens of Georgia is presented.

Voting of the agenda takes place. Results:

In favour: 20

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

Day 2 – 10th of March 2023

09:00–10:30 CET

- **Open up – Quorum check, Agenda change, Voting**

Asia, member of Polish Young Greens and Local Prep Team provides practical information.

Young Greens of Georgia delegated their votes to Protests. Young Greens of Turkey delegated their votes to MIL Network.

Presidency does the quorum check. 10 member and 3 partner organisations are present; there are 24 votes in total. 16 votes are 2/3 majority.

Present Organisations:

1. Green Window,
2. MIL Network,
3. Frontline Youth Network,
4. YF URA,
5. Green Youth of Serbia,
6. Gutta Club,
7. Youth Movement Revolt
8. Green Youth of Ukraine,
9. Albanian Young Greens,
10. Belarus Young Greens,
11. Young Greens of Georgia (represented by Protests),
12. Young Greens of Turkey (represented by MIL Network).
13. Protests,
14. Polish Young Greens,
15. German Young Greens,

A change in the agenda to push start to 09:30 is presented.

Voting of the agenda takes place. Results:

In favour: 24

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

• **Amendments Session 1**

Statutes

Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator presents the Law-based statutory amendments.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked.

Yevheniia, EC member presents the content-based statutory amendments.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked.

Selma, EC member presents amendment S6.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator presents amendments S5 and S10.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Amendments S1, S2, S3, S4, S7, S8, S9, S11, and S12 are presented.

No questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Internal rules of procedure

Yevheniia, EC member presents IR020, an amendment by the Executive Committee around the division of the types of membership.

Kateryna, EC member and President of CDN presents IR057, an amendment by the Executive Committee around the documents and resolutions proposed by Executive Committee.

Selma, the EC member presents IR189, an amendment by the Executive Committee around changes of the name of the Network Coordinator to the Secretary General.

Maja, a Gender Working Group (GWG) member presents IR230 by GWG, the amendment of a safe space violation and expulsion.

Clarifying question was raised: what if the Network Coordinator is the perpetrator?

The decision has been made to add the amendment to the Compromise amendment session (CAS).

EC's position on the amendment is presented:

The EC sees the proposal as valid and recognises that the issue isn't addressed in the existing documents. The EC proposes to have a special policy addressing the issue and the procedures to be taken in detail.

Kateryna, EC member and President of CDN presents IR276 by the Executive Committee, an amendment around adding the description of the tasks of the EC members to the IRPs.

Clarifying question was raised: what's the space for adding WG coordination as a task?

EC's position on the amendment is presented:

The WGs remain a part of the CDN. It will be outlined later on what the role is of the EC in coordinating them.

The decision has been made to add the amendment to the CAS.

Yevheniia, EC member presents IR387 by the Executive Committee, an amendment on the open call for short-term employees.

Iaroslav, delegate of RC Gutta Club presents IR391-2 by Gutta Club, an amendment increasing the age of participants at CDN events to 35.

Clarifying question was raised: why should we change this again as it was amended last year?

Con speech: It was changed to 30 years, as many people see 35-year-olds as an adult. The Office staff can also be a maximum of 35 years. Leaving it at 30 leaves more chances for young people to participate.

Pro speech: In countries with older population, 35 is still quite a young age. This is still a grey zone, maybe a compromise is 32.

EC position: The EC has a neutral position due to the differences in countries. There are also criteria in the project funding, limiting the CDN in possibilities. There could be, for example, quotas for people above 30 - 15% for people over 30.

Iaroslav, delegate of RC Gutta Club presents IR407 by Gutta Club, an amendment on nutrition in CDN events.

Clarifying question was raised: Where would an option happen?

EC position: EC sees CDN as a green organisation and vegan identity is a part of that.

Con speech: The point of amendments is presenting the values of the organisation. Our organisation is environmental.

The decision has been made to add the amendment to the CAS.

11:00–12:30 CET

• Amendments Session 2

A change in the agenda to add the discussion of the membership status of SAEM is presented.

Voting of the agenda takes place. Results:

In favour: 24

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

The change in the agenda is adopted.

Notification on the Belarusian Young Greens transferring their votes to the Polish Young Greens during absence.

Presidency gives clarification on the amendment discussion process, and maintaining a safe space.

Political Platform

Kateryna, EC member and President of CDN presents PL-042.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-066.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-077.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL- 066.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-198.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-233.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-296.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-305.

- Floor is open for questions, no questions are asked, nor there were pro or con speeches.

Kateryna presents PL-376.

- Floor is open for questions.

Clarifying questions were raised:

- regarding limitations;
- how will this relate to taking oil from Saudi Arabia;
- regarding the democratic state definition;
- aggressor definition.

Despite EC initially not wanting to proceed with the amendment at the CAS, the decision has been made to add the amendment to the CAS.

Kateryna presents PL-465.

- Floor is open for questions.

Clarifying question regarding mandatory referendums was raised.

Pro speech was held by Milan, a guest and EC from Young European Greens.

Con speech was held by Maja, a Gender Working Group representative.

Strategy document

Selma, the EC member presents SD-103, an amendment to the regional working groups.

Clarifying question was raised: does the amendment delete the whole sentence or just the RUMB working group?

Office clarification: There was an issue with the amendment. **The decision has been made for the amendment to be withdrawn.**

Selma, the EC member presents SD-104.

- The decision has been made to add the amendment to the CAS.

Selma, the EC member presents SD-148.

-The decision has been made for the amendment to be withdrawn.

Selma, the EC member presents SD-149.

-The decision has been made for the amendment to be withdrawn.

Safe space policy

Maja, a Gender Working Group representative presents SF-444 (by Gender WG), the amendment around structuring the safe space in the EC and Office.

EC position: open to the proposal but points out the need for an extra budget for the implementation of the roles.

Resolutions

Yevheniia, EC member presents R1 (by EC), a resolution outlining the transitions of organisations after the accompanying changes of the statutes.

Clarifying question was raised: what happens when the organisations join the EU?

Response: their status will change as well.

Clarifying question 2 was raised: how will this change voting rights?

The discussion takes place. **The decision has been made to add the resolution to the CAS.**

Yevheniia presents R2 (by EC), a resolution around the initiation of more structural CDN-FYEG relations.

Clarifying question was raised: what will this change include?

Response: no major change in the relations, more about giving the mandate to the EC to work on the updated and more accessible version of the document.

Danilo, a delegate from Youth Forum URA presents R3 (by Youth Forum Ura), a resolution around the issue of vulnerable groups' inclusion in Eastern Europe.

The decision has been made to add the following amendments to the CAS:

- IR-230
- IR-276
- IR-301-2
- IR-470
- PL-376
- SD-104
- S2

12:30–13:00 CET

- **Presentation: Divestment Campaign, Young European Greens**

Kateryna, EC member and Aleksandra, a delegate from Polish Young Greens give the presentation about the divestment campaign.

Milan, a guest and EC from Young European Greens gives the presentation about FYEG.

15:00–15:10 CET

- **Greetings from FYEG, EGP, Greens/EFA**

Greetings by the Oleksandr Sanchenko, Member of Parliament of the Ukraine; Head of ZeMolodizhka - youth wing of “Sluga Narodu” takes place.

Greetings from Terry Reintke, co-president of Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament, MEP takes place.

Greeting from Małgorzata Tracz, Committee Member of European Greens, Member of the Parliament of Poland takes place.

Greeting from Benedetta Scuderi, co-spokesperson of Young European Greens takes place.

15:10–15:20 CET

- **Presentation: Feminists in the Environmental Movement**

Maja, a Gender Working Group representative presents, talking about how the writing process went, and the stories in the publication which are available for participants to take with them.

15:20–15:40 CET

- **Reports and Plans Presentations**

- Activity report (Presented by Yevheniia, EC member)
- Financial report (Presented by Lusine, EC member, treasurer)

- Office Report (Presented by Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator)

Comment was raised: The Office wages are below the living wage.

- Activity plan (Presented by Selma, EC member)
- Financial plan (Presented by Lusine, EC member)
- Balkan discussion club presentation (Danilo, a delegate from Youth Forum URA and a member of CDN Balkan discussion club)

15:40–15:45 CET

- **Presentation of Candidate organisations**

Iason, a member of Neoi Prasinoi – Young Greens of Greece gives the organisation's presentation online.

- **Status on member organisation – SAEM**

SAEM, Georgia Youth Eco movement is a full-member organisation, however, not active.

Lusine, EC member presents the suggestion to remove them as full member organisation.

16:00–16:40 CET

- **Presentation of Executive Committee Candidates**

- Natalia from Zelena Omladina Srbije (Green Youth of Serbia) presents online;
- Igor from Ostra Zielen (Polish Young Greens) presents;
- Yevheniia from Protests presents;
- Dainis from Protests presents.

Day 3 – 11th of March 2023

12:30–13:15 CET

- **Question time for Executive Committee and Candidate organisation**

Presidency asks 9 questions summed up and comprised of over 30 submitted questions from delegates. Each candidate answers every question.

Unable to reach Greek Young Greens, and unable to get answers to the two questions.

18:30–19:00 CET

- **Compromising amendments session (CAS)**
- SD-104 from the EC

Kateryna, EC member explains the intention of the amendment to delegates.

Kateryna proposes an alternative to the amendment.

Clarification on the language.

Compromise is made.

- IR-276 from the EC

Kateryna explains the amendment.

Amendment is clear, with no questions asked and minor changes made.

- IR-391-2 from GUTTA CLUB

Iaroslav, delegate of RC Gutta Club explains the intention of the amendment.

- Suggestion about adding a roof in terms of the percentage of participants over the age of 30.

- The question on how big percentage, 15% proposed.
- 10% is suggested, agreement and disagreement in the room.
- Point made about educating younger people.
- Point on green movement not being young in its roots.
- 20% is suggested.
- Comment about CDNs resources, and 20% being many participants.
- Point on not many people applying over the age of 30.
- Point on securing a maximum to ensure for the future.
- Point made that situation is different in different countries, regarding education etc, age of getting involved is higher. Good to have a roof, but important to keep in mind the different situations.
- Point made on recruitment of younger people.
- Suggestion of from 10% to 20% case to case, depending on who applies.
- Suggestion to start at 10% for this GA, and move it to 20% next GA after seeing how it works.
- Suggestion from EC to give a roof of a maximum of 15% of participants 30-35 years old.

Agreement for compromise is concluded.

- IR-407 by Gutta club

Iaroslav explains the intention of the amendment.

- Suggestion to add more balanced nutrition with vegan protein. Make a note on balanced food, but still vegan.
- Suggestion that meat can be used in special situations, if it is necessary for a specific reason.
- Concern about possible phrasing of "nutrition" in IRPs.
- Concern about the local prep team, and how this will affect them.
- Suggestion on softer phrasing, change "should" to "should strive".
- Concern about participants with allergies if softer rules on food.
- Question on how often allergies will interfere with the possibility of eating vegan or vegetarian.
- Point on not everyone being vegan or vegetarian, and not providing meat can be compared with only providing meat to vegetarians.

- Point on allergies being a different category.

Gutta Club agrees with the compromise.

Day 4 – 12th of March 2023

10:00–11:30 CET

- **Amendment session 3, Compromise amendment session continued**
- S2 by EC

Yevheniia, EC member presents the amendment.

Clarification: Would like to hear what the privileges are specifically.

There is conversation bilaterally between the discussing parties.

- Initially, agreement to leave as is, to potentially have a debate about it next year.
- Changes to voting for two different suggestions of amendments.
- IR-23 by Gender WG

Maja, a Gender Working Group representative presents the amendment.

- Concern raised about the power dynamic.
- Point made about Office having actual contracts.
- Suggestion to include: Office is bound by contract in the amendment.
- Compromise is suggested, question if it is defined enough.
- Is there a need to specify if the Office contract is terminated, if it is immediately and what the process will be.
- Point of lacking specification on the accused person, and their voting rights.

- New compromise suggested.

Agreement for compromise is concluded.

- PL-376 by EC

Kateryna, EC member presents the amendment.

- Concern about language, a point made that not all CDNs organizations are considered democracies.
- Making the point more concrete, suggesting using “totalitarian regimes”.
- Comment on using the term totalitarian.
- Removing the word totalitarian, keeping the word authoritarian.

Agreement for compromise is concluded.

12:00–13:00 CET

- **Quorum check, Voting Session 1**

Luka from Presidency does the quorum check.

Present Organisations:

1. Green Window,
2. MIL Network,
3. Frontline Youth Network,
4. YF URA,
5. Green Youth of Serbia,
6. Gutta Club,
7. Revolt,
8. Green Youth of Ukraine,
9. Albanian Young Greens,
10. Belarus Young Greens,
11. Young Greens of Georgia (represented by Protests),
12. Young Greens of Turkey (represented by MIL Network).
13. Protests,
14. Polish Young Greens,

15. German Young Greens,
10 Memembr and 3 Partner Organisations are present.

Quorum is established.

12 organisations with voting rights = 24 votes in total.

Absolute majority is 13 votes.

2/3 majority is 16 votes.

- Voting on changes in the agenda takes place.

Change in the Agenda passes.

- Explanation that voting is mainly via CDN.Discuss.green

S2 has an unresolved question that will be voted on as no compromise was reached.

The two suggestions are:

- 1) Non-EU=2 and EU=1
- 2) Non-EU=3 and EU=2

Floor is opened for discussion.

Comments are made in favour of both suggestions.

Voting takes place:

1. 6 yes
2. **18 yes = passed**

- **Voting on Statutes**

- S1

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S2-1

Yes: 18, No: 2, Abstain: 4 = passed

- S3

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = passed

- S4

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S5

Yes: 21, No: 0, Abstain: 3 = passed

- S6

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S7

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S8

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S9

Yes: 24, NO: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S10

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- S11

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = passed

- S12

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

Vote on adopting statues with changes = passed.

- **Showing video with answers from Candidate organisation**

- **Voting on IRPs**

- IR-020

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- IR-057

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- IR-189

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = passed

- IR-230-2

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- IR-276-2

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = passed

- IR-387

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = passed

- IR-391-3

Yes: 22, No: 1, Abstain: 1 = passed

- IR-407-2

Yes: 16, No: 8, Abstain: 0 = passed

Vote for chapters:

- 2.2:

Yes: 20, No: 2, Abstain: 2, = it passes

- 2.4:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 3:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 4:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 7:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = it passes

- 8:

Yes 24, No:0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 9:

Yes: 18, No:6, Abstain:0 = it passes

Vote for full IRP:

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = it passes with the changes.

• Vote for political platform

- PL-042:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-066:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-077:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-096:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-198:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-233:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-296:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- PL-305:

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = it passes

- PL-376-2:

Yes: 19, No: 2, Abstain: 3 = it passes

- PL-465:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = it passes

Vote for chapters:

- 1.1:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 1.2:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 1.3:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 2.3:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 3:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- 3.3:

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = it passes

- 4.2:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = it passes

- 5.2:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = it passes

Full platform:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it is adopted with all the changes.

- **Strategy document**

- SD-103-4:

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = it passes

- SD-148:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

Votes for entire document:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes with the changes.

- **Safe space policy**

- SF:444-2:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes

- **Resolutions**

- R2:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = it passes

- R1-040:

Yes: 19, No: 0, Abstain: 5 = it passes

- R3 (as a whole, including proposed amendments):

Yes: 23, No: 0, Abstain: 1 = it passes

- **Reports and plans**

- P1:

Yes: 22, No: 0, Abstain: 2 = is adopted

- P2:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = is adopted

- RPI:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = is adopted

- RP2:

Yes: 24, No: 0, Abstain: 0 = is adopted

17:00–17:30 CET

- **Pre-Voting discussion on Candidacies**

EC Candidates leave the working room and the discussion around candidacies takes place between delegates.

Quorum is confirmed again.

17:30–18:00 CET

- **Voting: Candidate organisation, expulsion of SAEM, Election of Executive Committee**

- Candidate organisation Neoi Prasioni to become Observer Organisation

In favour: 19, Against: 4, Abstain: 1 = it passes.

- SAEM to be expelled from CDN

In favour: 24, Against: 0, Abstain: 0 = it passes.

- Election of Executive Committee

Igor from Polish Young Greens: 24 votes

Yevheniia from Protests: 21

Natalia from Green Youth of Serbia: 20

Dainis from Protests: 6

New EC members: Igor, Yevheniia and Natalia.

GA decided that by-elections will happen for the remaining seats in the Executive Committee. Number of seats shall be decided at the by-elections.

18:00–18:30 CET

- **Closing Session**

- Outgoing EC members gives speeches;
- Giorgi, CDN Network Coordinator gives closing speech.