



## Invitation

Dear Member Organisations, dear Supporting Members, dear Partners,

Dear Friends!

It is our great pleasure in accordance with paragraphs 10.1 and 10.3 of the Statutes of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) to invite you to this year's General Assembly (GA), which - due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic - will take place online, on the 8th of May 2021, from 9.30 am (CEST).

Since the last online GA in October 2020 many things have happened. To discuss the past year, the YEN work plan and the development of the network with you, dear Member Organisations, we therefore invite you to our annual General Assembly. Due to the cancelled Easter Seminar and current travel restrictions in Europe, we cannot implement a residential General Assembly. Relevant provisions of the Dutch and German law to mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for organisations such as ours allow us to hold an online meeting. Rest assured, speaking rights will be ensured for all attendees. Voting in elections will be secret and secure.

Along with this invitation, we send you in the attachments the **decisions list of last year's GA**, the **proposed changes to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure** and the **draft agenda** that in accordance with paragraph 10.5 of the [Statutes of YEN](#) amongst others includes the following points:

### **Elections to the Board and Working Groups**

On 18 March 2021, you already received a "General Assembly Newsletter" with all the information on YEN's Board elections and on how members can nominate their candidate. But you can still find all the information on the [website](#).

This year, four Board positions are to be (re-)elected: Vice President for Internal Relations, Vice President for External Relations, Convenor for Member Integration and Convenor for Minority Rights and Politics. To continue the effective and successful work of YEN, we ask you to address these positions in your organisations and to motivate potential candidates for the positions. Please check the whole [election procedure](#) on our website.

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Also, we are looking for motivated young people who want to enrich the network and promote our activities and YEN through our Working Groups. Please encourage your members to sign up to be elected to one of our three Working Groups "Communication", "Member Integration", and "Minority Rights and Politics". Please use the following official [nomination form](#).

### **Call for events**

The Member Organisations can decide who will host our future events:

1. Diversity Festival 2022
2. Autumn Seminar 2022
3. Easter Seminar 2023

A candidature of interested organisations must be made at this year's GA, otherwise these events will not take place!

If you are interested in hosting one of these events, please contact the Board ([board@yeni.org](mailto:board@yeni.org)) prior to the GA and hand in the candidature for the event in the form of a 2 minute video or a poster that will be uploaded to the [GA-website](#).

### **Changes in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure**

After the discussions at the last year's GA and the still ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board proposes changes to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure especially in regards to holding the statutory meetings online in cases of extraordinary circumstances, such as this one is. Please have a look at all the proposed amendments (marked with pink) and add your thoughts and comments to them using [this link](#) before the GA.

### **Resolutions**

We urge every Member Organisation that wishes the General Assembly to adopt a resolution to present it to the General Assembly. By adopting a resolution, you can raise awareness of issues relevant to your minority or organisation and give YEN the opportunity to disseminate/strengthen that position at the European level.



### Next steps

**Register your delegates until 25 April.** Every Member Organisation can nominate up to **three official delegates** using this [form](#).

All the votes of one ordinary Member Organisation should be held by one delegate, the two others will have the status as extra delegates. Furthermore, we would like to remind all Member Organisations who have not paid their **membership fee for 2021** yet, to pay the amount by 30 April at the latest, or if this is not possible, to get in touch with our Treasurer, Martina Jazbec ([martina.jazbec@yeni.org](mailto:martina.jazbec@yeni.org)). In accordance with article E. 3 c. of the [Rules of Procedure](#) of YEN, for Ordinary Members who didn't react to any reminders regarding the membership fee could have the voting rights at the GA suspended. Extraordinary Members who didn't react to any reminders regarding the membership fee can be excluded from the GA.

According to the Rules of Procedure section D. 5 for minorities who are represented by more than one organisation within YEN, the organisation is permitted to **transfer the votes** to the other organisation from the same minority who is able to attend and to vote on its behalf using this [form](#).

In order to keep the online GA short there will be several preparation activities related to the reports, the elections and policy discussions broken up into bite-sized pieces. The first webinar is scheduled for **14 April, 7 pm (CEST)** (link [here](#)), where we'll talk about **the Board and Working Group positions** that are open for election during the GA. The second webinar will take place on **28 April, 7 pm (CEST)** and we will present to you our **reports and proposals for the Statute and Rules of Procedure changes**. We are looking forward to seeing you at these webinars, so please sign up using this [registration form](#).

The **GA-folder** with all necessary documents will be distributed to all YEN member organisations in the second half of April, so you have enough time to go through all the reports. We will also send the GA folder to all registered delegates.



For all further information, we have created a [website](#) regarding the GA with all necessary information that will be updated regularly. Go and have a look - all the candidatures for the Board and Working Group positions as well as the events will be presented on this site!

In the end, I would like to extend my gratitude towards all the people around YEN. Your support, commitment and contribution during these times of Corona is highly appreciated and I am looking forward to overcoming the challenges and building a stronger network in the future together with you. Nevertheless, it is important to mention that we all miss our residential seminars and I cannot wait to finally meet you in person again.

It will be my great pleasure to welcome you all at the GA 2021 to evaluate our past year and to plan our future together. If you have any questions regarding registering your delegates or anything else, please contact the Board, the Office or me directly ([andor.barabas@yeni.org](mailto:andor.barabas@yeni.org)).

Best wishes,

Andor Barabás

President

On behalf of the Board

Codlea/Zeiden/Feketehalom (Romania), 8 April 2021