

Global Young Greens (GYG)

Network Mandate

Adopted by the Global Greens Coordination 15 February 2017, as required by the [GG Rules Sec. 5.2](#):

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Name

Global Young Greens (GYG)

Purpose

The GYG is a world-wide non-profit network of young green activists and organisations committed to the GYG objectives and the GYG statement of principles, loosely affiliated to the Global Greens and endorsing the Global Greens Charter. For further details, refer to the [GYG statutes](#).

Our objectives are:

- To empower young people within the framework of participatory democracy;
- To create a space for young people to be active without being dominated by older generations;
- To address inequalities between organizations and individuals;
- To forge strong links between sectors and organizations;
- To further the Green principles on planet Earth.

More precisely, we are striving for the following principles on the local, national, regional and global level:

- Protection and restoration of the environment and respect towards animals;
- Sustainable, equitable and just development;
- Social Justice;
- Grassroots, participatory and global democracy, and in particular empowering young people to participate and build more democratic societies;
- Peaceful and non-military conflict resolution, arms control, disarmament;
- Gender justice and empowerment of women;
- Inter-generational justice, in particular empowerment of youth and children;

- Freedom from discrimination on any grounds whatsoever and equality for all;
- Empowerment of marginalized and disadvantaged people;
- Just globalization and fair trade;
- Personal freedom on the basis of universal human rights;
- The right of all people to self-determination, particularly indigenous people.

Mode of Operation

A mode of operation that is consistent with the Global Greens operating criteria ([Rules s1.1](#))

✓ **Promotes and defends the Global Greens Charter**

Every young person of the age of 35 and under or any youth organisation or political youth wing (Member Organisation) defining itself as “Green” and which obeys the Principles laid out in the Global Greens Charter is invited to join the network and participate in its activities.

Members of the network must not act against the spirit of the Global Green Charter, the Principles of GYG and they must try to cooperate with other GYG and Global Green members. Neither GYG logo nor name can be used for electoral competition or any other activity against any other GYG and Global Green members.

✓ **Has a reasonable number of current individual members**

A list of GYG members can be exported from the Global Greens’ website CiviCRM relationship category.

✓ **Participates actively in political life and where feasible contest elections**

Our activities include finding opportunities for young people to get involved in the work of our objectives, linking individuals and organizations with each other for various purposes and carrying on Green political campaigns as a GYG.

✓ **Operates in a non-discriminatory, democratic and open manner with clear rules and procedures:**

You can either join us as an **individual member**, or as an **organization**. If you want to join as an individual member, just contact the Steering Committee to discuss further steps.

We’re open for everybody who:

- Abides by the GYG Organizational Principles, statement of principles and Global Greens Charter
- Welcomes and involves all genders as active and equal participants
- Is open to all ethnic, religious and other minorities
- Operates in a democratic and open manner with clear Rules and Procedures
- Is financially honest, open and accountable and their financial statement provides evidence to this effect

- Will abide by the rules of the GYG
- Will not bring the GYG into disrepute

As an organization member we need the following data from you:

- Constitution, rules of association or equivalent, including the ratification date
- A description of your organization's membership and activities including how the organization includes youth in its democratic structures and decision making processes
- The most recent financial statement, preferably audited
- Other supporting information, such as groups or individuals who could be consulted about the organization and its activities
- Contact details, including where possible email, website, phone, postal address
- To qualify for membership, all documents (or a summary thereof where appropriate) must be provided in English

✓ **Operates in a financially transparent and accountable manner:**

The Steering Committee (SC) is the second highest decision-making body, with the GYG Congress being the highest. The SC steers the network and is financially responsible for the GYG. The SC takes financial decisions including the annual budget (January 1st to December 31st) within the framework set by the Congress. The SC is responsible for managing GYG financial obligations, within strict budgets, and with high integrity and accountability. The SC is not authorized to take GYG into debt.

The SC publishes every year in January a report of its activities and decisions of the last year and a plan of activities for the running year and submits both to discussion by the network. The delegates of each of the regions shall write a report on green events and developments within their respective region every six months and send it to all members as well as the regional federations, the Global Greens and other interested supporters.

✓ **Participates in the Global Greens and its activities at a credible level**

The GYG is a Partner and Network organisation of the Global Greens and works in cooperation with the Global Greens where possible.

✓ **Avoids actions that may bring the Global Greens into disrepute**

Yes!

✓ **Pays their designated membership fee by the due date**

Yes, will do so where membership fees apply.

Office Holders

The names of persons or holders of positions who are responsible for communicating with the GGC on the operation of the network or working group.

- **GYG Steering Committee:** See Updated list at: <http://globalyounggreens.org/who-we-are-3/steering-committee/>
- **GYG Coordinators:** Jeroni Vergeer, Michaela Prassl and Lara Render
- **Liaison with the Global Greens Coordination:** Merja Kähkönen, merjakah@gmail.com

Organisational Structure

The GYG aims to keep its structure flexible and open to changes. Activists and members are invited to expand and adapt the network according to their needs and in conformity with the principles of the GYG. Project and issue-based leadership and campaigning are given priority. The formal structures of the GYG network have mainly two tasks: ensuring overall coherence, coordination and guidance, and provide backup when other grassroots structures fail to work and acting as the global organisation.

The GYG network is based on two main pillars:

1. people-to-people contacts
2. a web-based community

Regular activities in the first pillar can include seminars, exchanges, regional and interregional projects, internships, summer camps, campaigns as well as the statutory meetings and any other useful tools.

Regular activities in the second pillar can include interaction, discussion, decision-making, common work, lobbying and learning via web-based tools, inter alia email lists, wiki, knowledge and data bases, e-seminars and any other useful tools.

The Steering Committee and Working Groups shall ensure a regular, well-mannered operating of this pillar. GYG will work towards improving its capacity in supporting all members in their possibility to participate in the web-based community.

Agreed Delegations

Such as for fundraising, public statements, use of the Global Greens name and logo, participation at Global Greens Congresses, access to Global Greens databases and the like.⁶

The Regions

The regional federations are the backbone of the GYG. The four regions recognised are Africa, the Americas, Europe and Asia-Pacific. When appropriate, the addition of a Middle East region would be desirable for GYG. It is desirable for these regional federations to become the youth wings of their respective Green federations. The specific relationship is up for the regions to decide.

A new regional federation or a split of existing ones has to be approved by a Congress. Between Congresses, the Steering Committee has to take care of appropriate inclusion. Strong regions have the responsibility to support weaker ones by all possible and desired means. Member Organisations shall support their regional federations. The regions assure the link between the global and the national level. They are the first contact point for interested newcomers and the main implementing mechanism.

The Congress

The Congress is the highest decision-making body of the GYG. It aims at meeting at least every third year. It is convoked by decision of the Steering Committee. This decision will be communicated and published at least six months in advance of the Congress by the Steering Committee to the GYG members and the public. Every Green activist is invited to join the Congress as an observer. The Congress aims at gender balance.

The Congress decides in particular about:

- membership in the network
- the broad political guidelines and basic documents of the network
- the appointment and discharge of the Steering Committee
- the main activities and work programme
- common campaigns that carry the GYG logo
- restructuring of GYG
- Congress has to approve GYG previous years balances and future budget

The Working Groups (WG)

There are mainly three sorts of WG:

1. Thematic Working Groups (for instance on ecology, fair trade, gender, peace etc.)
2. Technical Working Groups (for instance web-support, babel pool, fundraising, development of the network)
3. Ad-hoc (often time-limited) Working Groups (for instance activity-, campaign or issue-centred)

Every Green activist is invited to found or join a WG. Each WG can decide on a more detailed internal structure and division of tasks. WG can be dissolved or reorganised by decision of the Steering Committee.

Allocation of Votes

Only registered Individuals and delegates from Member Organisations can vote. One person may not have more than one vote. All Member Organisation can have a maximum of four delegates with one vote each. It is not possible to delegate votes.

No region shall have more votes in total than the other regions combined. Of the votes apportioned to each region, a minimum of 2/3 will go to Member Organisations with the remaining going to registered individuals. The calculations will be made at the formal start of the Congress. If a region has no delegates from a Member Organisation, the region will be allocated the same number of Individual votes as the region with the lowest number of allocated Individual votes.

If there are more registered Individuals in a region than allocated votes, the votes shall be divided proportionally. If there are more delegates of Member Organisations in a region than allocated delegate votes, the votes of Member Organisations of that region shall be divided proportionally.

Organisational principles in GYG

GYG aims at consensus decision-making. If a total consensus is impossible, there will be an attempt to form a consensus on decision-making procedure. If also this fails, in a case where it is deemed of extreme importance for the functioning of GYG, decisions will be taken with a two thirds majority. This applies both during the Congress and within the Steering Committee. If consensus is not achieved, the person or people not in agreement can choose to stand aside. Standing aside means the people do not take part in that decision and are not responsible for the consequences. GYG aims at gender and regional balance in all its bodies and procedures.