## **ANNUAL REPORT 2013 GREEN EUROPEAN FOUNDATION**



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## About This Publication

**Project coordination:** Andrew Murphy Production: www.thepixelpod.com

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www.gef.eu

www.campaignhandbook.gef.eu

www.greennewdeal.eu

www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu

https://twitter.com/GEF\_Europe https://www.facebook.com/

f GreenEuropeanFoundation

## Introduction

For GEF, 2013 marked five full years of operation, and was a year when we saw continued growth in what the foundation was able to do and achieve. A particular highlight for us was the geographic reach of our work, which saw us organise 44 events in 32 locations across Europe. We were also able to reach more people with the amount of content we promoted, both online and offline. These efforts are part of our goal to ensure European debate extends beyond Brussels and into the reality of political life in Member States.

GEF covered a large range of topics in 2013, though a key focus was democracy and the economic crisis. These two topics are so central to both the future of the EU and current political discourse, and there was much demand within the Green movement to debate them extensively. Through a variety of means, such as our online journal, reports, discussions or conferences, we addressed these topics and we hope you were able to make excellent use of these resources.

Developments at European level continued to provide fertile ground for discussion last year e.g. on the banking union, the reform of agricultural and fisheries policy or the update of EU data protection legislation which all took place in a context of increasing influence of the European Parliament as a co-legislator. Through our briefing papers and transnational seminars we sought to make a connection between these complex developments at EU-level and how they relate to what is happening in Member States. Highlighting the Green movement's position and influence in these debates is another focus of our work.

Of course some clear restrictions on our work continued in 2013. As with any EUlevel organisation, we struggle with limited resources to overcome the language barrier, which delimits the accessibility of European debates. In 2013 we made some effort, translating parts of our work into 13 different EU languages; however the majority of our work remains available only to those with English. This is only one effect of the size of our budget, which is well short of what would be needed to truly encourage European debate in all 28 Member States and beyond. While the review of the European legislation covering our work will create a legal framework to make political foundations truly European entities, the difficulties and contradictions between our mission and the budgetary reality remain to be addressed.

The European elections are a milestone to renew the political commitment to the work of European political foundations in promoting European engagement and helping to create a Europe of its citizens. GEF looks forward to being a vital part in this debate.



Heidi Hautala, GEF Co-President

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Pierre Jonckheer, GEF Co-President

# Core areas of work



## Study and Debate

Encouraging European-level reflection and debate is central to our efforts and has been since the first days of GEF. Exchanging ideas across borders and working to develop new ideas in a European way are the hallmarks of the active European public space that we are working to help create. It is the engagement with the European process as such, which will always result in debate: citizens with contrasting backgrounds and visions for Europe meet and discuss how the EU can develop.

In 2013, GEF's efforts have focused on a positive vision of what greater European

cooperation could achieve on some of the crucial issues of our common future. On topics such as the energy transition and corporate taxation, we brought together experts and activists who took part in exchanges of ideas on how working together in these areas may benefit Europe and its citizens.

Other projects under our study and debate working area also took on a wider focus. Our 'Voices of Europe' project offered a series of forums across Europe for Green activists to discuss the future of Europe and what the latest development meant for their hopes for the EU. Participants in our EU seminar last June

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## Education and training

Filling GEF's mission of education and training can be challenging at the best of times. Through our range of publications, summer universities and seminars, we have worked over the past five years to break down the barriers between Europe and its citizens and to provide the tools necessary for them to engage in shaping the continent's future.

This task has been made even more difficult by the economic crisis: new acronyms, policy proposals and problems appeared almost overnight. GEF's challenge in 2013 was to tailor its work to such a fast moving environment. Our successful 'Manual for Europe' was reprinted and updated to take into account changes to EU policies and structures, our transnational seminars were designed to give participants the most up-to-date information and our summer universities were forums to discuss and reflect on the most recent political developments.

Many of these resources are available online, and we'll work throughout 2014 to make sure they reach the widest possible audience. E-learning will be a source of future growth for GEF, so watch out for the latest developments. Check out our website and sign up to our newsletter to make sure you don't miss out! A meeting of the Green European Journal's network of correspondents



## Networking

For GEF, networking is about using our resources and contacts to build bridges within and beyond the Green movement. After five years of operation, and with a range of partner organisations across Europe, we have a large number of actors and experts to draw on for this task.

The issues we could focus on are of course multiple, and in many respects the purpose of GEF is to operate as a platform for green activists to share their experiences and ideas. An example of this is the Green European Journal, which has open calls for green activists to contribute their ideas and articles on issues of their choosing.

Our networking though included both online and offline efforts, with our presence at European Green Party Council meetings being a great example of the latter. Here, we were present with both our latest publications and with side events on a range of different topics.

## GEF stand at the European Green Party Council meeting in Madrid



## Project highlights

## Green European Journal

The Green European Journal celebrated its first full year of operation in 2013, and saw the project go from strength to strength. 108 articles published last year, covering topics as diverse as food & agriculture, immigration, green industry and Croatian accession – an effort to capture the wide range of debate the occurs within the green movement and at European-level.

2013 also saw intensive efforts to ensure the Journal reached the widest possible audience. A total of eight presentation events were held across Europe to continue the debates started by the quarterly editions of the Journal. In July we produced the first ever print edition of the Journal.

## In 2014, the European elections and their outcome will create much fuel for debate and we are looking forward to an ever wider increase in readership.

\*

In 2013, the Journal published articles and organised eight presentation events (Athens, Greece with the support of the Greek Green Institute; Reading, UK with the support of the Green Economics Institute; Madrid, Spain at the EGP Council meeting; Massembre, Belgium with the support of Etopia; Brighton, UK; Helsinki, Finland with the support of Visili; Vienna, Austria; and Zagreb, Croatia with the support of the Heinrich Boell Stiftung (Zagreb office) )

## www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu



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## Transnational seminar series

2013 saw GEF organise a number of transnational seminars on topics such as the social consequences of the crisis, EU energy policy and how the EU operates. As in previous years, these have been some of our most successful projects and managed to attract a large number of applicants and attendees.

With the complex and evolving nature of policies and decision-making at EU level there is always demand for expanding one's knowledge. These seminars were not only learning opportunities, though, but also excellent occasions for green activists from different parts of Europe to meet and exchange experiences and ideas. In that sense, the seminars had an added value for both participants and GEF.

In 2014, GEF will look to increase the number of transnational seminars, by introducing one day seminars on topical issues such as trade policy and expanding on our e-learning pilot projects.

## What our participants say

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*I'll recommend this workshop to friends and colleagues because it's an easy, fast and enjoyable way to learn about European and Green politics."* 

*"It was very inspiring, a great opportunity to meet other Greens from across Europe."* 

"You get to know other perspectives from other countries. You learn about key topics and messages."

*"I learnt a lot about the key European policies and I have a clearer vision for a Green Europe."* 

## "Voices of Europe" series

GEF works with our partner organisations across Europe to make sure that debate on the future of the EU extends beyond Brussels. Our "Voices of Europe" series, organised with the support of partner organisations in Spain, Austria and Hungary, is an excellent example of this.

Over three seminars in three different cities, participants debated Green visions for the future of Europe from the different perspectives that each of these countries offered. Vienna, Austria; June 22nd, with support of Grüne Bildungswerkstatt



The event considered how can the EU once again become a messenger of hope for Europeans, and what policies are needed to achieve this.

Barcelona, Spain; October 18th, with support of Nous Horitzons



Participants discussed how Europe can move towards adopting a more social and democratic model, and how Europe's Green family can guide it there. Budapest, Hungary; October 23rd, with support of Ecopolis Foundation



This discussion focused on how to bridge the perceived and real divisions that exist between the 'centre' and 'periphery' in the EU.

## ..... Projects 2013

## Study and Debate

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Green European Journal guarterly editions, regular articles and presentation events. Topics covered in 2013 include green industry, food & agriculture, federalism and Croatian accession.

www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu

Voices of Europe seminar series (Budapest, Hungary, Vienna, Austria and Barcelona, Spain with support of Ecopolis, Grüne Bildungswerkstatt, Nous Horitzons) bit.ly/voicesofEU

Future of Europe seminar (Valencia, Spain, with support of Fundacion EQUO) bit.ly/valenciaeu

Green New Deal website (for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament) www.greennewdeal.eu

Ecological reindustrialisation of European cities (Brussels, Belgium and Barcelona, Spain, with support of Oikos and Nous Horitzons)

bit.ly/reindustrialisation

Creating a People's Europe video (for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament with the support of the Green Foundation Ireland and the Heinrich Boell Stiftung) bit.ly/peopleseurope

Corporate taxation seminar and report (Dublin, Ireland, with support of Green Foundation Ireland) bit.ly/taxdubreport

Green New Deal event series (various locations, Spain, in cooperation with Fundacion EQUO and other actors) bit.ly/GNDspain

Green New Deal publication series "Role of State Aid in Creating a Green Economy" and "Executive Summary of a Post-Growth Society for the 21st Century" (for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament) bit.ly/1l9z0dT & bit.ly/stateaidgef

German energy transition in Europe (Brussels, Belgium, Warsaw, Poland, London, UK, Paris, France, with support of Heinrich Böll Stiftung EU and Warsaw offices and Fondation de L'Ecologie Politique) bit.ly/Deenergy

Environmental sustainability in Catalonia seminar series (Tarragona and Aran, Spain with support of Nous Horitzons) bit.ly/cataloniaenvir

Green reindustrialisation of Italy seminar series (Brescia and Napoli, Italy with the support of Green Italia) http://bit.ly/BresciaGEJ

Political innovation conference (Madrid, Spain, with support of Fundacion EQUO) bit.ly/polinnovation

**Education and Training** Social Consequences of the Crisis seminar (Brussels, Belgium) bit.ly/socialconsequence

> EU seminar for Green activists (Brussels, Belgium) bit.ly/eutraining

Charting a Green energy future for Europe seminar (Brussels, Belgium) bit.ly/chartingenergy

Making the case for Europe seminar (Brussels, Belgium) bit.ly/makingcase

GEF Campaign Handbook campaignhandbook.gef.eu

Train the trainers "European Campaigning" (multiple locations in Europe, with support of FYEG)

Train the trainers "Developing political impact" (Berlin, Germany with Green Academy (Czech Republic) and Heinrich Boell Stiftung by Prague office)

## Manual for Europe bit.ly/manualforEU

The Point Festival (Carnsore, Ireland with support of Green Foundation Ireland) bit.ly/carnsorepoint

E-learning platform in Spain (with support of Fundacion EQUO)

E-learning project in Turkey (with support of Yesil Düsünce Dernegi)

EU 2013 Policy Priorities briefings gef.eu/publications

Central and Eastern European Green Summer Academy (Velence, Hungary, in cooperation with many Green actors) bit.ly/ceesu

5th Spanish Summer University (Murcia, Spain, in cooperation with Fundacion EQUO) bit.ly/murciasu

## Networking

Accessing EU funds for Green Political Foundations seminar (Athens, Greece, with support of Greek Green Institute)

GEF workshops at European Green Party Council meetings (Madrid, Brussels) bit.ly/MadridEGP and bit.ly/EGPbxl

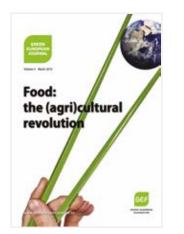
International Ecology Archive Network meeting (Bozen, Italy, with support of Alexander Langer Stiftung) bit.ly/IEANevent

## GEF in numbers

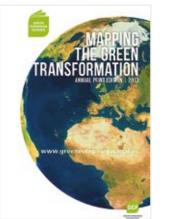




Manual for Europe – 2nd edition



Green European Journal – Food: the (agri)cultural revolution



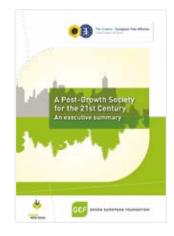
Green European Journal – Mapping the Green Transformation



Green European Journal – Industry in a post-industrial society



The Role of State Aid in Creating a Green Economy



A Post-Growth Society for the 21st Century: An executive summary

## GEF structures and people

## The People of GEF in 2013

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Juan Behrend (European Green Party - EGP), Anne de Boer (Bureau de Helling), Reinhard Bütikofer (EGP), Jacqueline Cremers (EGP), Gwendoline Delbos Corfield (EGP), Ingrid Facchinelli (Alexander Langer Stiftung), Monica Frassoni (EGP), Ralf Fücks (Heinrich Böll Stiftung), Per Gahrton (Cogito), Heidi Hautala (Visili), Dirk Holemans (Oikos), Pierre Jonckheer (Green Group in the *European Parliament*), Miriam Kennet (Green Economics Institute), Benoit Lechat (Etopia), Isabella Loevin (Green Group in the *European Parliament*), Mike Mathias (Greng Steftung), Susanne Puchberger (Grüne *Bildungswerkstatt*), Susanne Rieger (*Nous Horitzons*), Michèle Rivasi (*Green Group in* 

Members:

## the European Parliament),

Tommy Simpson (*Green Foundation Ireland*), Claude Turmes (*Green Group in the European Parliament*)

## **Associate Members:**

Olivier Fressard (Fondation de l'Ecologie Politique), Lars-Olof Karlsson (Green Forum Sweden), Kostas Loukeris (Greek Green Institute), Alejandro Sánchez Perez (Equo), Erzsebet Schmuck (Ecopolis Foundation)

## **Board of Directors:**

Heidi Hautala (*President*) Pierre Jonckheer (*President*) Juan Behrend Anne de Boer Monica Frassoni Ralf Fücks Susanne Rieger

## Staff 2013:

Claude Weinber (Secretary General) Leonore Gewessler (Director) Marina Barbalata (Project Manager) Andrew Murphy (Project Assistant) Benoit Lechat (Editor-in-Chief Green European Journal) Ana Faias Ambrosio (Office Administrator) Blanca De Riquer, Clarisse Heusquin, Jonas Hirschnitz, Benjamin Tannahill, Daniel Juett, Matilde Zubani (Interns)

## Structures

## General Assembly and Board:

GEF has two main decision-making bodies: the Board of Directors and the General Assembly. Members of the General Assembly represent the three main stakeholders of the Green European Foundation: national Green foundations from all over Europe, the European Green Party and the Green Group in the European Parliament.

At least 50% of the members of the General Assembly are representatives of the national political foundations. Every second year the General Assembly elects a Board of Directors from its members.

## Legal Framework:

GEF is registered as a not for profit organisation under Luxembourgian law and operates an office in Brussels, Belgium. GEF is closely related to both the Green Group in the European Parliament and the European Green Party. Though both of these groups are represented in our General Assembly, GEF operates as an independent body.

## GEF General assembly



<b>GEF Finances</b> 2	2013
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GEF is co-funded by the European Parliament on an annual basis since September 2008, which means that 85% of its total yearly budget comes from an annual grant from the European Parliament; this funding is mainly linked to the size of the Green Group in the European Parliament. 15% of the budget must come from own resources, mainly brought in by the members and partners of GEF supporting the activities implemented with their support.

http://gef.eu/about/budget/

EXPENDITURE	Euro
A.1: Personnel costs	269,933.22
1. Salaries	148,644.01
2. Contributions	79,874.41
3. Professional training	1,035.00
4. Staff mission expenses	13,459.59
5. Other personnel costs	26,920.21
A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs	90,699.72
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	59,521.01
2. Costs relating to the installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	7,783.57
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	1,212.70
4. Stationery and office supplies	5,636.67
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	13,051.78
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	2,968.15
7. Other infrastructure costs	525.84
A.3: Administrative expenditure	40,590.87
1. Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	1,713.81
2. Costs of studies and research	29,725.00
3. Accounting and audit costs	8,267.50
4. Miscellaneous administrative costs	884.56
A.4: Meetings and representation costs	26,736.95
1. Costs of meetings of the political foundation	23,453.81
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	1,542.09
3. Representation costs	938.55
4. Cost of invitations	797.00
5. Other meeting-related costs	5.50
A.5: Information and publication costs	530,837.62
1. Publication costs	121,039.79
2. Creation and operation of Internet sites	11,567.88
3. Publicity costs	1,406.23
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	758.14
5. Seminars and exhibitions	396,065.58
A.6: Expenditure relating to contributions in kind	77,342.46
A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE	1,036,140.84
B. TOTAL NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE	0.00
C. TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,036,140.84
REVENUE	
*European Parliament grant	880,719.71
Other own resources (to cover eligible expenditure)	80,878.63
Contributions in kind	77,342.46
Revenue to cover non-eligible expenses	4.71
REVENUE (to cover eligible expenditure)	1,038,945.51

\*Pending European Parliament approval, April 2014

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