











ANNUAL REPORT 2011 GREEN EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

(GEF) asbl



CONTENTS

3 INTRODUCTION

4 - 6 CORE AREAS OF WORK

Study and debate: Developing a European Dialogue Education and Training Networking Green Europe

- 7 PEOPLE OF GEF 2011
- 8 9 GEF ACROSS EUROPE IN 2011

10 - 14 GEF PROJECT DETAILS

Study and debate
Education and training
Networking Green Europe

14 - 15 STRUCTURES AND FINANCES OF GEF

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INTRODUCTION

2011 was a difficult year for the European Union, with the Eurozone crisis presenting both an economic and democratic challenge to the 'European project'. As a political foundation we must remain linked to the current political debate, and so these developments required us to re-evaluate our priorities for 2011. Rather than confining our discussion to specific policy areas, we instead took a step back, and worked to encourage a debate about the very fundamentals of Europe – what sort of Europe do we want, and how can we protect the rights of citizens and the ideas of solidarity on which Europe has been built?

This debate takes place, though, in a societal and political context characterised by euro-scepticism and an all-overshadowing austerity discourse. These pose challenges to a constructive exchange of ideas on the changes needed, and the political and financial investment that such changes will require. At the same time Europe's citizens become wary about the lack of democracy within the EU's decision-making processes.

These developments point in many ways to questions the Greens have been discussing for some time. Which kind of growth and which kind of economy do we want? How do we create sustainable solutions in the policy fields needed for a Green transformation? And how to ensure that those solutions are discussed and implemented as inclusively as possible? The context of the financial and economic crisis constituted an opportunity for the Greens to further profile their views of a sustainable Europe at a time when the questions they have been discussing – from sustainable economies to a nuclear-free energy system – were at the core of debate.

In many ways, this framework is both very challenging and a good starting point for the work foundations such as GEF are doing. Even though Europe has hit the news with a negative connotation, never before has the debate been so open towards discussing Europe in national

contexts. It shows there is a demand for the work we do. There is a need for more nuanced debates on Europe, for political education on issues related to European Union policy and functioning and for networking those actors interested in advancing these debates. GEF worked to ensure that its projects were tailored to the different political environments that exist within different European countries, while at the same time not losing the cohesive European level basis.

Even though we were able to work with a budgetary increase of 26% compared to our 2010 budget, the means we have at our disposal for the task of creating a European debate are modest in absolute numbers and little compared to the challenges and ambitions. We are especially happy in these circumstances that our network of national Green political foundations, core pillars of our work also in 2011, has again grown and now includes foundations in Greece, Spain and Hungary.

2011 was a year of significant progress for the foundation in the midst of challenging circumstances in Europe. We hope that the projects outlined in this report are useful for you or your organisation as you sought closer engagement with the European project.

Heidi Hautala,

GEF Co-President

Pierre Jonckheer.

GEF Co-President

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CORE AREAS OF WORK



Discussing the European Citizens' Initiative and the role it can play in creating a European level political space

Study and debate: Developing a European Dialogue

A core area of GEF's work involves creating a space for dialogue and discussion at European level, and a key part of this involves facilitating exchanges of ideas between Green activists and actors, but also ensuring debates that are accessible to the widest possible audience of European citizens interested in advancing them.

GEF utilises a number of tools to achieve this objective, and in 2011 these included new websites, a range of books and publications and an increased number of events across Europe, where such dialogue can take place face to face.

Political developments in Europe in 2011 provided a rich context for this area of our work. GEF was responsive to some of the key issues that were foremost in the public debate, with publications and events on the rise of the populist right and the future direction of the European Union. Both of these issues will feature strongly in GEF's work in 2012.

Responding to on-going discussions is insufficient if GEF is to achieve its goal of creating a debate within the Green movement on Europe. In order to stimulate fresh thinking and to promote an effective Green discourse, GEF worked in 2011 on a number of publications, and to promote the 'Green New Deal' as a necessary transition towards an ecologically sustainable and socially just economy.

Events organised by GEF across Europe offered an opportunity to engage in debate on issues as varied as energy policies, regional policy, citizenship and right-wing populism. These provided a forum for stimulating discussions, and were followed with reports and further events to continue the debate.

In 2012, GEF will continue to focus its efforts on the debate around the future of Europe, hosting a number of discussions around the continent. It will also continue to discuss the Green New Deal and a range of other key issues, and the Green European Journal will play a key role in this.

Green European Journal

In 2012, the Green European Journal will be one of GEF's leading projects. Work began in 2011 on this exciting new project, which is an online platform for outstanding articles of interest to the Green movement across Europe. The journal is published on a quarterly basis, but its 'In the debate' section is updated on a more regular basis, with articles on a wider range of issues.

The purpose of the GEJ is to provide a space at European level for discussion and debate around key issues facing the EU and the Greens. Not only as a forum for new ideas, but also to critique and review what the European Green movement stands for and how it could progress.

The GEJ will succeed only with the involvement of activists from across Europe. If you are interested in writing an article for the GEJ, or in having an article reprinted in the GEJ, then please let us know at gej@gef.eu.



GEF Co-President Pierre Jonckheer address a discussion on nuclear power

Education and Training

For Green activists to engage in the European process, knowledge is crucial. For many, the Union's institutions and legislative process are overly complex, resulting in a lack of interest among citizens. The Eurozone crisis only worsened this problem. The raft of measures introduced has increased the perceived complexity of the EU, and the method by which decisions are made has led many to question the legitimacy of the European institutions.

A focus of GEF's work in 2011 was to give Green activists the tools to engage with the European process, and in particular, to disseminate educational material on ways to influence the agenda of the EU. This took many forms, and GEF used many media to achieve this objective.

Preparation for the launch of the European Citizens' Initiative in April 1st 2012 formed a large element of GEF's work in 2011. Given the perception of a disconnect between the EU and its citizens, this facility will allow individuals to come together and place issues that are important to them on the agenda of the European Union.

Bringing together Green activists to share skills also formed a core element of GEF's education and training in 2011. GEF organised several training seminars in 2011 and the start of 2012 on issues such as activist and membership motivation, the Eurozone crisis and engaging with the EU. These training seminars were important occasions for Greens to share expertise and develop a common network.

2012 will continue to see a strong focus on education and training, especially with the coming into force of the ECI. Through publications, seminars and online platforms, GEF will also aim to provide further information on the Eurozone crisis and other key EU policy issues.

CORE AREAS OF WORK

Manual for Europe

For many, the EU is overly complex. The structure and decision-making process are unlike any that exist in Member States, and this complexity can make citizens reluctant to engage with the EU.

One of GEF's most successful projects is the 'Manual for Europe', which is a handy guide to how the EU operates. A 1st edition was published in 2010 but due to its popularity, printed copies of it quickly ran out. The 2nd edition, published in September 2011, provides updated information on the European Court of Justice, the Eurozone and other key areas.

In 2011 GEF translated this publication into French and Spanish, and will continue to use this publication in its efforts to promote a greater understanding of the EU among its citizens.

Networking Green Europe

The Eurozone crisis has encouraged debate to become rooted in national perspectives, and away from a common European response based on solidarity. More than ever, GEF needs to operate as a platform, bringing together the Green movement to forge a common response to the crisis.

GEF's networking opportunities provide a forum for a direct exchange of ideas between a variety of Green actors, where information can be shared, proposals debated, and common ground discovered. Such events are essential in order to ensure we break beyond national boundaries.

GEF worked with our national and European partner organisations to provide a number of networking opportunities. European Green Party Council meetings, and the European Green Summer Universities, were successful occasions for GEF to bring together green activists and highlight the foundation's key projects.

GEF also organised and cooperated in a number of individual Summer Universities across Europe, working with the organisers to ensure a 'European' dimension to these gatherings. Often, the events were highly transnational in nature, with Green activists from different countries coming together to exchange ideas and experiences and to enhance their skills in the atmosphere offered by these events.

For 2012, expanding online networking will be a key objective for GEF. Websites for the Green European Journal, Campaign Handbook and the Green New Deal offer crucial means of exchange between Greens, and will continue to be developed throughout the year.

Green New Deal

The Green movement is working at local, national and European level to bring about the introduction of a 'Green New Deal'; a transformation of our economy and society so as to bring about a sustainable future.

As different actors across Europe implement different aspects of the Green New Deal, there is a need to share ideas and learn from experiences. With this in mind, GEF established the Green New Deal website in 2011, which brings together information on events, best practice examples and publications relating to the Green New Deal.

This networking of Green ideas is a core function of GEF, and this website is available in English, French, German and Polish to ensure the ideas reach the widest possible audience.

PEOPLE OF GEF 2011

Members 2011:

Juan Behrend (European Green Party-EGP), Anne de Boer (Bureau de Helling), Reinhard Bütikofer (Green Group in the European Parliament), Jacqueline Cremers (EGP), Ingrid Facchinelli (Alexander Langer Stiftung), Monica Frassoni (EGP), Ralf Fücks (Heinrich Böll Stiftung), Per Gahrton (Cogito), Daniela Graf (Grüne Bildungswerkstatt), Heidi Hautala (Visili), Dirk Holemans (Oikos), Abbes Jacoby (Greng Steftung), Pierre Jonckheer (Green Group in the EP), Miriam Kennet (Green Economics Institute), Alexey Kozlov (EGP), Benoît Lechat (Etopia), Isabella Loevin (Green Group in the EP), Susanne Rieger (Nous Horitzons), Michèle Rivasi (Green Group in the EP), Tommy Simpson (Green Foundation Ireland), Claude Turmes (Green Group in the EP), Monika Vana (EGP)

Associate Members 2011:

Eva Goes (Green Forum Sweden), Angela Kocze (Ecopolis Foundation), Kostas Loukeris (Greek Green Institute), Alejandros Sánchez Perez (Fundacion Equo)

Board 2011:

Heidi Hautala (President)
Pierre Jonckheer (President)
Juan Behrend
Anne de Boer
Monica Frassoni
Ralf Fücks
Daniela Graf

Staff 2011:

Claude Weinber (Secretary General)
Leonore Gewessler (Director)
Marina Barbalata (Project Management)
Andrew Murphy (Project Assistant)
Benoît Lechat, (Editor-in-chief Green
European Journal)
Martijn Willems, Niranjan Wijewickrema,
(Office Administrators)
Eszter Farkas, Niklas Lercher, Anna Kavalenka,
Daniel Schade, Anton Tropper (Interns 2011)



GEF publications available to participants at a GEF event



Participants in GEF's EU Seminar for Green activists

GEF ACROSS EUROPE IN 2011

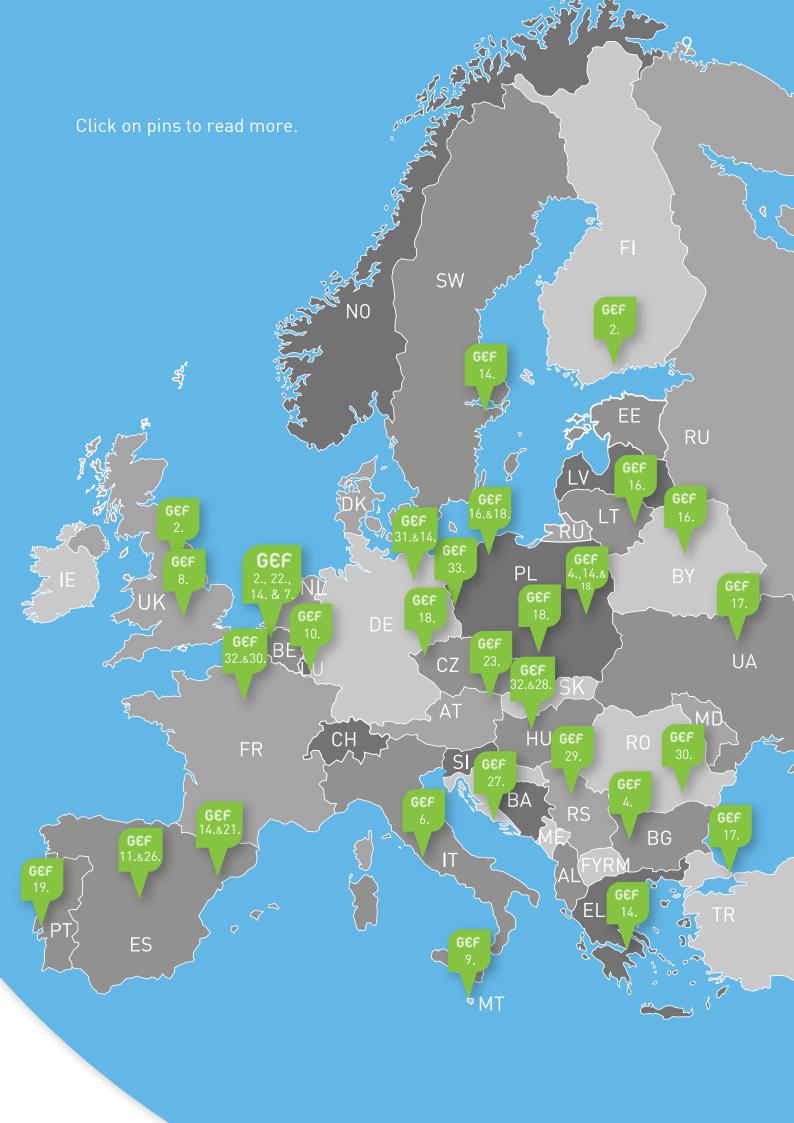
In 2011, GEF organised 41 events in 32 cities across Europe. However, GEF's reach was even further than this. Through its publications, debates and events, GEF's work is driven by the political reality of, and impacts on, all 27 EU Member States, and many States outside of the EU. For example, GEF's Campaign Handbook and Green New Deal websites contained 'best practice examples' from a large number of European countries.

GEF's ambition in 2012 is to broaden its reach even further. Through the 'Future of Europe' project, the Green European Journal and the Green New Deal, GEF aims to offer opportunities for citizens to come together to debate European Greens issues at their local level. Follow our work at www.gef.eu for information about these events.

The numbers in the pins relate to the project descriptions in the following pages.

41 EVENTS organised in
32 CITIES promoting
13 PUBLICATIONS in
14 LANGUAGES with the support of
20 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS





GEF PROJECTS

STUDY AND DEBATE

1) Green European Journal

This project creates a European-level online Green journal. In 2011 an editor-in-chief was appointed, an editorial board was chosen and the project was prepared for launch in February 2012. You can read the journal at www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu. READ MORE



BRUSSELS, ESPOO & SHEFFIELD

Populism in Europe

The publication focuses on the common European features and claims of various populist movements/parties in Europe. The book was edited by Erica Meijers (Bureau de Helling, Netherlands) and published by the publishing house of Grüne Bildungswerkstatt (Austria). The publication is currently being translated into German in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Stiftung. It was launched at a public discussion in Brussels, with similar workshops organised on the fringes of the Green Party of England and Wales conference in Sheffield and in Espoo, Finland

3) European Citizens' Initiative

The ECI handbook, which is available in 5 languages (French, Polish, English, German, Spanish), was promoted across Europe in 2011. A '10 steps to a successful ECI' flyer was also published in 2011 in German, French and English, and work began on an updated 'Pocket Guide' to the ECI. The idea was to ensure that European citizens were truly able to engage with this process when it was launched on April 1st 2012.

READ MORE



4. SOFIA & WARSAW

The European Citizens' Initiative in new Member States

A conference on the ECI was held in Warsaw with the support of Zielony Instytut. The conference discussed the issue of direct democracy in general, as well as its particularities in Poland as an example for Central and Eastern European

democracies. The author of GEF's ECI Handbook looked at the instrument of the ECI and helped the participants understand how it would operate and its potential. A further training event with participants from several SEE Member states was organised in Sofia with support of the Bulgarian Association for the support of citizens' Initiatives.

5) Green New Deal website

www.greennewdeal.eu

The website unites GEF's, Green MEP's, national foundations' and EGP's material on the Green New Deal with a general introduction on the topic. Extensive research has been done on texts dealing with the Green New Deal from various policy perspectives and in different language families (English, German, French and Polish). Currently, the English version of the website is the most developed; however in 2012 a main focus will be on filling the French version with content. READ MORE



6. ROME

Greening the Italian economy: the post-Berlusconi GND perspectives

This conference brought together Italian civil society actors and political parties' representatives to discuss the Green New Deal from an Italian perspective, and what measures could be introduced to 'green' the Italian economy



7. BRUSSELS

Running on empty: Earth Ltd. Ideas for a new green economy

This conference, organised in Brussels in December 2011 by Oikos in cooperation with GEF and the Heinrich Böll Foundation European Union office, discussed the scarcity dilemma: while global demand for natural resources is expected to continue to rise, the availability of several vital resources will become critical.



OXFORD

Women and the GND

At the Green Economics Institute's annual conference in Oxford, GEF organised an afternoon's discussion on the gender aspects of the Green New Deal.

9.

MALTA

Towards a GND in small European states and regions

The project explored green job creation in smaller EU countries and regions, with a focus on Southern Europe. A call for essays on the topic was issued in summer 2011, followed by a seminar that discussed the most relevant submissions. GEF published the analysis "Green jobs from a small state perspective. Case studies from Malta".

10. LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg and the Region 2030 – A cross-border implementation of the Green New Deal

The second phase of the project Luxembourg and the Greater Region dealt with social issues such as education, research, citizens' participation and European awareness. Three public seminars were organised on spatial planning, education cooperation and tourism, with participants from Luxembourg, Germany, France and Belgium.

11. MADRID

A Green New Deal for Spain

The project consisted of a conference on the topic of sustainable cities, organised in Madrid (April 8th 2011) and of producing a brochure detailing on sustainable Green policies for the local level. A run-up conference in Madrid in January discussed the Green New Deal from a local perspective – it specifically addressed Green policies for local councils. An event in September in Madrid discussed the outcomes of

the Climate conference in Durban and the Green approaches to climate change as part of a Green New Deal for Spain.

12) Publication series on the Green New Deal

GEF worked for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament to publish and promote a number of their reports. These included reports on funding the Green New Deal, working time, transport policy and regional policy. The reports were promoted at Green events, among our partner organisations, and online.

13) Solidarity and Strength of the EU

This publication by the Heinrich Böll Stiftung highlights the Green perspectives on future policy development in 5 different European policy areas. In order to contribute to the "Europeanisation" of the debates on the future of the EU, GEF, with support of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung, translated the executive summary of the German study in 11 languages (Bulgarian, Catalan, German, Greek, Spanish, Finish, Croatian, Hungarian, Italian, Dutch and Swedish).

14. ATHENS, BARCELONA, BERLIN, BRUSSELS, STOCKHOLM & WARSAW

100% renewables – Alternative EU energy scenarios for 2050

The project, with the support of the Heinrich Boell Stiftung, presented scenarios showing how the EU can reach 100% renewables for the electricity sector by 2050. Round tables on the topic took place in Barcelona, Berlin, Warsaw, Brussels, Athens and Stockholm. For each of these debates, an extensive documentation report was published, followed by two more general papers – one on the history of energy policy at EU level, and the other a critique of the energy roadmap 2050.

GFF PROJECTS

STUDY AND DEBATE

15) Myths of Atomic Energy French Version

GEF contributed to the French translation of this publication by the Heinrich Böll Stiftung, which examined many of the myths that proponents of nuclear power deploy to promote investment in this industry. READ MORE

KALININGRAD, MINKS & VILNIUS

Green New Deal as alternative to nuclear triangle in Russia, Belorussia and Lithuania

This project promoted Green alternatives to nuclear power in the Baltics. Two Greens/ EFA studies, on the GND and nuclear waste, were translated to Russian. A major public conference on nuclear waste management was organised in cooperation with several antinuclear organisations in December 2011 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Launches of these publications with organises in Minsk, Ukraine and Kaliningrad, Russia.



ISTANBUL & KIEV

Chernobyl 25: The Street of Enthusiasts

One part of this project consisted of the coorganisation of the exhibition "Chernobyl - The Street of Enthusiasts" in Brussels, between 24 May and 2 June, which was a powerful photo exhibition on the long term damage caused by the accident. The second part consists in the cofinancing of a documentary movie - "Chernobyl 4ever". Showings of this documentary have been organised across Europe by GEF and numerous cooperation partners.



18. KATOWICE, PRAGUE, SZCZECIN & WARSAW

EU 2014: Prospects and Challenges for Green Parties and the Green Movement in Post Communist EU Member States

The project aimed to foster an exchange between Green parties, experts and NGOs from Central and Eastern Europe and to expand knowledge on the specific challenges and prospects for European Green politics in the region.



LISBON

Future of Freedom conference

GEF contributed to this conference discussing the new paradigm of digital information technology and the changes it brings to the borders between the private and public spheres.

20) Roma Inclusion in Europe: Green Questions and Answers

The study, undertaken with the support of Finnish foundation Visio, aimed at gathering information and knowledge on Green policy solutions, strategies and best practices for fighting against Roma exclusion both at national and European levels. The publication was ready for a presentation launch in the EGP council meeting in Paris, in November 2011.

READ MORE



21. BADALONA, BARCELONA & **EL PRAT**

Fighting Social Exclusion in

European Cities

The panel debates, organised in several cities in Catalonia with support of Nous Horitzons, analysed different local Green government experiences, best practices to fight social exclusion in cities in times of economic crisis. The participation of Green local councillors from other European cities was ensured.

GEF PROJECTS

EDUCATION AND TRAINING



BRUSSELS

EU seminar for Green activists

Following from the success of last year's pilot project, GEF offered for the 2nd time this intensive course on the general functioning of the EU institutions and on the upcoming key EU policy debates. The course targeted Green national level activists and young greens.



VIFNNA

Training on participation in political parties and movements

As part of GEF's transnational capacity building efforts, the 2011 skills training focused on how to attract new members to parties and movements and how to keep these members motivated and involved in times of changing realities of political parties all over Europe.

24) Handbook on Campaigning

http://campaignhandook.gef.eu

The online handbook on campaigning combines campaigning theory and best Green practice. Throughout 2011 we updated the best practice section regularly and promoted the handbook to Green parties and movements in Europe. Part of a project with our cooperation partner EQUO consisted in the translation of the handbook into Spanish.

25) GEF Manual for Europe – 2nd edition

The second edition of GEF's Manual for Europe, a guide on the functioning and role of the EU, was published. This second edition includes several updates, following feedback received from the manual's users. This second edition was translated and published in French and Spanish.

READ MORE



MADRID

Spanish Green Summer University

This third Green summer university in Spain discussed the Green New Deal by taking stock of the consequences of the financial crisis and attempting to develop Green political strategies in a European context.



VIS

Green Academy 2020

The project identified Green policy areas that have a potential to enter in mainstream politics in the Balkan region and trained participants in those policy areas, by establishing a Green Summer Academy in Vis, Croatia.



HORANY

Central and Eastern European Green Summer University

The academy is an ecological gathering relying on intellectual dialogue, experiential learning and active participation as methods to promote ecological politics and sustainable lifestyles among young people and to strengthen links amongst green groups in the CEE region. Over 240 participants from 8 European countries took part. The academy was realised in cooperation with the Hungarian foundations Ecoopolitical Workshop Foundation and Ecopolis and many other partners from all over Europe.



BELGRADE

Sustainable living: Non-Violence and Human Security Policy

The annual summer camp of the Cooperation and Development Network discussed European security policy and the concept of militarism. About 100 young Green activists from all over Europe took part in the camp held in Serbia, of which GEF was a cooperation partner in 2011.



BUCHAREST & PARIS

Seminars on EU Citizenship

Two seminars, with the support of FYEG, on the topic of European citizenship. The first took place in Paris and discussed the concept of EU citizenship; its rights, responsibilities and limits. The second, in Bucharest, dealt with Europe's largest minority group – the Roma – and the wide spread discrimination against this group of EU citizens. This linked to the publication on Green best practices and policies on Roma inclusion, realised by GEF with support of Visio.

GEF PROJECTS

NETWORKING GREEN FUROPE



31. BERLIN

European Green Local Councillors Meeting

GEF attended the 5th edition of the Green Local Councillors' meeting in Berlin with a workshop on citizens' initiatives and their impact on local and European modern representative democracy.



BUDAPEST & PARIS

Events at European Green Party Council meetings

GEF organised a range of workshops and seminars at the two EGP Council meetings in 2011 in Budapest and Paris. These gatherings were opportune occasions to communicate GEF's work and bring together Green activists to discuss our core areas of work.



FRANKFURT & SLUBICE

Green European Summer University

GEF was present at the European Green Summer University with a workshop on the European Citizens' Initiative. GEF also co-organised one of the main panel discussions on the rise of right-wing populism in Europe and was involved in many other workshops. GEF also used the University to promote its recent publications and to provide a networking forum for different national foundation.

STRUCTURES AND FINANCES OF GFF

General Assembly:

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.

As a political foundation at the European level, GEF is forbidden to take part in any electoral campaign.

Financial Framework:

GEF's funding is based on a modification of the European Council and Parliament Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 related to the statutes and the financing of the European political parties, that since 2008 includes a provision to finance the operation of political foundations at European level.

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 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.

GEF FINANCES 2011

Eligible expenditure	Euro
A.1: Personnel costs	228,620.33
1. Salaries	120,645.50
2. Contributions	61,081.84
3. Professional training	2,496.00
4. Staff mission expenses	15,805.20
5. Other personnel costs	28,591.79
A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs	74,877.52
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	21,214.36
2. Costs relating to the installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	21,440.35
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	363.81
4. Stationery and office supplies	8,257.12
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	17,199.86
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	5,966.42
7. Other infrastructure costs	435.60
A.3: Administrative expenditure	55,640.20
Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	974.44
2. Costs of studies and research	44,830.50
3. Legal costs	306.28
4. Accounting and audit costs	8,513.50
5. Miscellaneous administrative costs	1,015.48
A.4: Meetings and representation costs	38,593.12
1. Costs of meetings of the political party	31,542.03
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	3,329.91
3. Representation costs	3,466.18
4. Cost of invitations	244.00
5. Other meeting-related costs	11.00
A.5: Information and publication costs	553,909.41
1. Publication costs	174,968.60
2. Creation and operation of Internet sites	50,033.04
3. Publicity costs	7,248.45
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	1,957.47
5. Seminars and exhibitions	319,701.85
A.6: Expenditure relating to contributions in kind	50,437.29
A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE	1,002,077.87
Revenue	
* European Parliament grant	850,526.71
Other own resources	101,113.87
Contributions in kind	50,437.29
	33,13,12,
D. REVENUE (to cover eligible expenditure)	1,002,077.87

^{*} Pending EP approval, May 2012

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