

WORK PROGRAMME 2018

GEF

GREEN EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

Green European Foundation

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This publication presents the GEF priorities and projects as of May 2018. Additional activities and partnerships are currently being developed by the Green European Foundation board with input from GEF members and will be implemented in the second half of the year.

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Table of Contents

ABOUT GEF	1
STUDY & DEBATE	2
Green European Journal	2
Climate & Energy	3
Green Economy	4
Work & Solidarity	4
Commons	5
The Future of Europe	6
Migration, Refugees & Asylum Seekers	6
CAPACITY BUILDING	7
E-Learning	7
European Green Family	8
Green Youth in Action	8
Summer Academies	9
NETWORKING	11

About GEF

The mission of GEF is to contribute to the development of a European public sphere and to foster greater involvement by citizens in European politics, ultimately forging a stronger, more participative democracy. GEF strives to mainstream discussions on European policies and politics both within and beyond the Green political family. It works to create a common Green vision for Europe and to communicate this to the wider public.

Our programme is focused around three areas of work:

Study & Debate

Encouraging European-level study and debate are central to GEF's efforts to create a truly active public space for exchanging and developing new ideas. GEF invests in research on a variety of European topics, highlighting innovative Green approaches. The results are disseminated through both printed publications and online articles. Furthermore, transnational projects, organised with the support of Green foundations across Europe, foster reflection on topics of utmost importance as they provide spaces for debate and exchange.

Capacity-building

GEF promotes education and training and provides opportunities for building capacity and encouraging networking amongst Green actors across Europe. Our aim is to raise awareness among citizens about Green solutions to the challenges Europe faces and to enhance the ability of young activists and Green actors to work on issues with a European dimension. We implement this through transnational events, such as workshops, seminars, public conferences and summer universities, organised with national Green foundations, as well as through online and face-to-face meetings.

Networking

GEF acts as a platform for cooperation between Green actors at the European level. This is a key element of its work and helps to ensure the sustainability of its activities, as the contributions of diverse European partners are vital to create and encourage European debate. GEF believes that Europe is also built through exchanges between national actors, who can learn from each other and work together to forge a shared European vision.

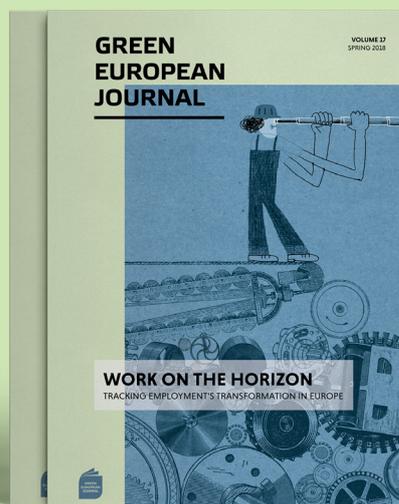


STUDY & DEBATE

Green European Journal

Thematic editions

The 17th edition of the Green European Journal was published on 17th May 2018. Entitled 'Work on the Horizon: Tracking Employment's Transformation in Europe', the edition tackles the future of work as one of the key political challenges of our times. Alongside articles and interviews with politicians, thinkers, and activists, the edition has introduced new feature formats, diagrams, and includes a photo essay. The edition was distributed at the EGP Council in Antwerp.



Preliminary planning for the 18th edition has already begun but the theme and publication date have both yet to be confirmed.

In the Debate (online)

The Green European Journal website continues to be a site for topical debate and analysis, following key political trends, events, and ideas around Europe and beyond. The Journal generally

publishes 2 or 3 articles or interviews a week, with one interview being a headline 'Interview of the Month'.

The Journal publishes regular 'Green Observatories', round-ups of debate on a particular political question from the point of view of Greens around Europe. Four are planned for 2018. The first one was the 'fake news' phenomenon, one in the second half of the year will be on basic income, and the two remaining themes are to be decided.

In February, the Journal run a successful 'Gender in Focus' campaign presenting a selection of articles on gender issues around Europe. Four more focuses are planned for the year, some on specific themes and others on countries or regions.

Events and summer schools

The Green European Journal will be present at summer schools in Poland and Croatia this summer and be active at various conferences and talks over the course of the year. These are opportunities both to promote the Journal, meet new contributors, and discover new topics.

Network of Partner Publications

The Green European Journal continues to collaborate with its network of partner publications around Europe on content, translations, ideas, and events.

Climate & Energy

The fight against climate change is at the heart of the Greens' mission. To tackle this shared challenge, the Green European Foundation offers a multi-perspective approach which examines both the economic and social implications of climate change. The aim of our activities in this field is to empower citizens, activists and politicians who want to deepen their knowledge and boost their actions in the areas of Climate and Energy.

Towards COP24 in Poland

With the support of Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland), Green Economics Institute (United Kingdom) and Fondation de l'Écologie Politique (France)

In the run-up to the UN Climate Conference (COP24) in Katowice, Poland, this transnational project aims to raise awareness about the importance of this year's climate summit in December as the action plan to implement the Paris Agreement must be adopted then. The project strives to promote Green know-how, expertise and practical solutions of green energy production, as well as to debunk ostensible energy solutions such as 'clean coal' technologies and nuclear power by outlining their dangerous effect on the environment. To this end, a series of articles by prominent contributors will be published in the run-up to the climate summit.

Events will be organised in Poland and the UK to equip climate campaigners with best practice examples from across Europe at local, regional, national and global level.

The project will be concluded with a full-day conference by all project partners during the COP24 in Katowice, which will take place in a former coal mine transformed into an art gallery and cultural space.

Strengthening Climate Targets, Creating Local Climate Jobs

With the support of Green House Think Tank (United Kingdom), Ecopolis (Hungary) and Green Foundation Ireland

Building on work done in 2017 in the concluded transnational GEF project 'A Green Transformation: Freedom and Security in Uncertain Times', this project aims to quantify and publicise the EU-wide potential of greening local economies to create new climate jobs, and better address climate change, in the run-up to COP24.

The project will develop a method to estimate the number of jobs that would be created in each of the three partner foundations' countries – United Kingdom, Ireland and Hungary – by more

ambitious emissions reduction targets and a local jobs-rich green investment strategy on the basis of publicly available data and statistics. Eventually, all results will feed into concrete recommendations for stronger climate targets based on location-specific plans for climate action.



Energy democracy: Changing the Energy System

With the support of Oikos (Belgium), Green House Think Tank (United Kingdom), Sunrise (Macedonia), Greek Green Institute

This project explores Europe's energy system transition towards more sustainable models, built around renewable sources.

In this context, the project aims to analyse national frameworks, such as legal and fiscal frameworks, that not only recognise the role of citizens and communities (or regions), but actively stimulate their role. At the same time, it is looking at best practices in particular from Germany and Denmark.

Based on national events and research conducted by partners in Belgium, the UK, Macedonia and Greece, a framing paper will be published to highlight case studies which are paving the pathway to a greener Europe.

Green Economy

The Green European Foundation supports innovative approaches to economic sustainability in Europe and together with our European and national partners we aspire to contribute to the transition towards a green economy.

Green Economy Congress: Shape Synergies into a Circular Society

With the support of Networked (Serbia)

This event will be organised in October as an annual interactive conference to discuss and further build upon the notion of necessity for transition to a sustainable and fair economy. To this end, around 100 participants from all over Europe and the world will be gathering at the conference with a focus on innovation and circular economy.

The long-term goal of the Green Economy Congress is not only to raise awareness on green topics but also to create a sustainable networking platform to enable green initiatives to increase the impact of their collaborations on a European and international scale. The event will include discussions on various aspects to be taken into account in a circular society, such as workers' rights, gender issues, climate change, decentralisation and participation.

The Green European Foundation will organise one day of the three-day conference with the support of Networked to ensure the European dimension of this platform that gathers economists, innovators, entrepreneurs and green decision makers, to share stories and discover ways to promote an alternative vision of a green transformation towards circular societies.

Greening the Economy: Cooperative Society

With the support of Sunrise (Macedonia), Networked (Serbia), Oikos (Belgium)

The aim of the project is to set a path to participatory, inclusive and decentralised green economy through the promotion of the GEF publication 'The Revision of the Economy in the Balkans: Change Policy, Not Climate' in Serbia and Macedonia. The project underlines the need for a more democratic and inclusive society, by raising awareness about economic alternatives that address the state of democracy in the EU and candidate countries, as well as the urgency of action to combat climate change.

The organised events in Serbia and Macedonia will focus on innovation, gender and youth as the categories that are least represented in cooperative entrepreneurship.

Work & Solidarity

Solidarity and inclusion feature strongly at the heart of Green perspectives. In the European context, many challenges lie ahead of us in these fields as a consequence of the economic crisis of the last years, but also of the political choices made and the policies implemented. In addition, changing demographic, social and cultural factors, as well as the absence of robust economic growth in our countries, push us to reinvent new systems of solidarity and new conceptions of work.

Basic Income for all EU Citizens?

With the support of Fundació Nous Horitzons (Catalonia, Spain), Fundación EQUO (Spain), Greek Green Institute, Visio (Finland), Federation of Young European Greens

Rapid changes in our societies and not the least its labour markets, will shape the way we debate and perceive work and how one can secure a good livelihood. Already in its second year, this transnational project aims to build on the work done in 2017 and enable experts to continue their discussion and exchange around Universal Basic Income (UBI), its implications, advantages and challenges.

The project partners will explore different national perspectives among Greens on this topic, as well as proposals on how a European UBI pilot project could be designed to produce comparable results across EU Member States.



Two meetings of a group of experts will take place in Belgium and Finland, while several national events as well as a workshop during the European Green Party Council in May in Antwerp will be organised to provide a space for exchange and debate.

In collaboration with Oikos (Belgium)

The diversity of Europe is steadily increasing, and scholars nowadays speak about 'superdiversity' indicating that more people, from more countries than ever, are migrating and integrating in other countries. Consequently, the majority society as such, in particular in bigger cities, does not exist anymore, and this new reality creates an uncertainty for many people. This development weakens the support for strong forms of solidarity for and among all inhabitants. Building new forms of solidarity is however crucial for a stable society with national security systems being more and more dismantled and outdated as they are built on the assumption of a homogenous population. The EU level is the crucial governance level to manage this diversity in a constructive way while at the same time establishing new forms of solidarity, for instance by creating a 'Social Pillar for Europe'.

Ecopolis, organised in collaboration with a network of partners coming from different societal domains, offers plenary discussions, workshops and other formats to debate how we want to organise our life together in a Europe of solidarity in diversity.

Commons

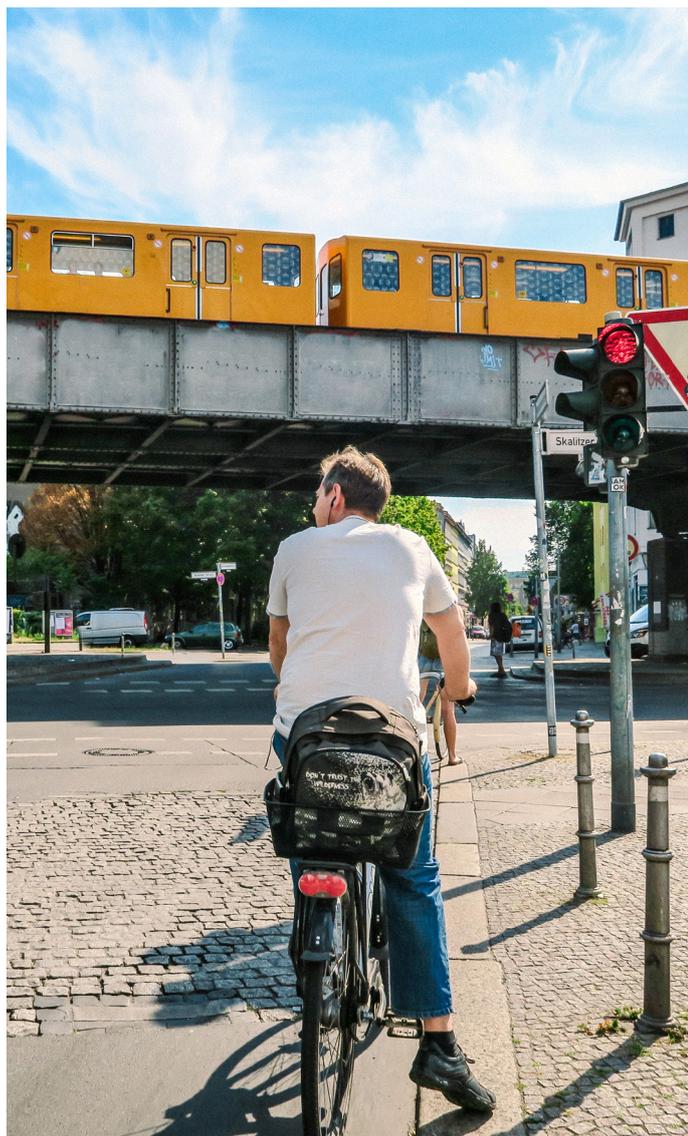
At the crossroads between social, environmental and economic issues, the commons are a tool to collectively reinvent shared prosperity. Beyond natural resources, they are a way to rethink the production and management of goods, such as culture, transport and housing, but also their collective re-appropriation by the citizens beyond the traditional state-market dichotomy. GEF's project activities in this thematic area contribute to the analysis of theoretical and practical approaches to commons across Europe.

Creating Socio-Ecological Societies through Urban Commons Transitions

With the support of Oikos (Belgium), Institute for Political Ecology (Croatia), Visio (Finland), Fundación EQUO (Spain), Fundació Nous Horitzons (Catalonia, Spain), Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland) and Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe

Across Europe, cities are organising themselves in networks and are working together in domains like renewable energy and urban economy. Especially in cities with a progressive government, ambitious strategy plans are introduced that are oftentimes going beyond what is considered feasible at the national level. In recent years, some cities have for instance built specific structures that aim at facilitating synergies between the public and the commons domain. These can, as prototypes of transformative cities, be the driving force towards socio-ecological societies.

This GEF transnational project aims to map potential transformative cities as well as new civil and economic actors in various countries across Europe. Specific events will be organised by GEF with the support of its project partners that will help connecting those actors among each other and with political actors, while at the same time bringing the debate on transforming our societies to a wider audience.



The Future of Europe

As European political foundation, it is GEF's core mission to add a European dimension to the public debate by developing innovative ideas and bringing Europe closer to its citizens. GEF has therefore developed several tools aiming at fostering knowledge of interested citizens or activists in the EU and advance their capacity to take action. With publications, handbooks, and both online and offline trainings, we offer a broad range of possibilities to encourage greater involvement and awareness of the European Union and its politics.

Quo Vadis

In cooperation with the Heinrich-Böll- Stiftung (Germany)

The election of Emmanuel Macron as French President last year resulted in euphoria in many EU countries. Countless reform proposals, scenarios and reflection papers on the future of the EU have been put on the table.

However, little has happened since then. In Germany, the government has to reposition itself on the European political scene, scepticism is high in many Central and Eastern European countries, and in the south, people are still struggling with the consequences of the euro crisis and austerity.

This event takes place in May 2018 and addresses fundamental questions for the Future of Europe, such as *do we even have a positive vision for Europe's future? Or are we just asking for the same reforms? What can we do about the pan-European crisis of confidence and solidarity?*

Good Governance, Good Practices

With the support of Ceratonia Foundation (Malta)

The one-day conference at the end of September will discuss good governance in Malta and in the EU. Amongst other topics, the role of public services in Malta and the current state of play of governance in the European Union will be addressed. This project will enable participants to discuss challenges, best practices, and the way forward both on a local and EU level.

Migration, Refugees & Asylum Seekers

The Green European Foundation strives to foster the dialogue between the relevant Green actors in order to build common proposals for alternative refugee, asylum and migration policies. It also focuses on the situation at the local level across Europe, fostering exchanges of ideas and best practices between activists.

Exploring the Economic Impact of Migration

With the support of Green Economics Institute (United Kingdom)

The lack of solidarity and failed policy responses across Europe in the face of the latest migratory processes have jeopardised core values of the European Union whereas populist and right-wing forces are still on a winning streak in large parts of the EU. Moreover, anti-migration rhetoric has not least also played a role during the EU referendum in the United Kingdom. The transboundary need for a change of narrative to disseminate the everyday reality of migrants within the society and their impact on the society in return is evident.

The conference, 'Exploring the Economic Impact of Migration' builds on experiences and findings of GEF's transnational project of the past two years on migration and asylum policies in the EU and aims to empower progressive political forces to drive a positive approach towards international migration. The event also looks at the growing impact of climate change, the consequential displacement of people, and how the European Green family can offer its unique solutions as a force for positive change.



CAPACITY BUILDING

E-Learning

GEF-Learning.eu is a meeting space for citizens from all around Europe interested in developing their skills and knowledge on European and green topics. It enables them to learn from top Green experts, politicians and activists, while contributing to the online debate with their own ideas.

Through GEF-Learning.eu, the Green European Foundation and its partner organisations provide free access to education and capacity-building on green issues, while bringing Europe closer to its citizens. Each course is built as an interactive experience, featuring various formats of learning, such as videos, quizzes, presentations, live webinars, forum discussions and assignments.

Throughout this year, GEF will increasingly engage in providing access to the platform to its partners and offering capacity-building sessions on how other organisations can develop their own e-learning material on green topics. In addition to this, we will update and further develop existing online courses:

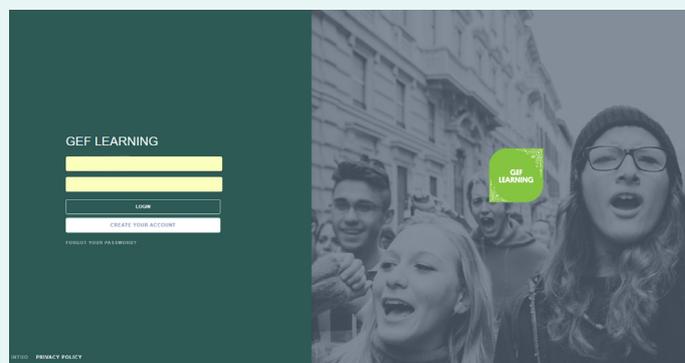
Impact Europe: since its launch in early 2017, 'Impact Europe' has attracted more than one thousand learners who learn about the past, present and future of the EU, the battles Greens carry continuously at European level and why they matter. The course also shows concrete ways on how they can become engaged to impact Europe.

European Elections: What? Why? How?: this course guides learners towards finding the answers on common questions around European Parliament elections, such as *Why should one vote, and does it make a difference? How can citizens influence the fate of the European Union by casting their ballots and what do the Members of the European Parliament really do on a daily basis?*

Fundraising for Political Actors: this course presents an overview of different funding sources and methods to inspire political activists to establish the monetary basis of their project or organisation. As a practical example, the course offers a more in-depth training on online crowdfunding for political campaigns and invites the learners to engage in an exchange on best practices.

Your Campaign Strategy: there are many different elements to a successful campaign: a clear strategy, an enthusiastic team to carry it out and a compelling story and positive message behind it! The course 'Your Campaign Strategy' includes know-how on successful campaigning and gathers useful tools and resources. It provides an overview of the main aspects of setting up and implementing a political campaign.

Urban Steps for a Resilient Future: this course introduces young learners to urban communities, empowers them to shape and improve those, and to ultimately create more sustainable green cities based on the principles of inclusion and democracy. It features an introduction to different concepts concerning public spaces and urban commons, explores various examples of urban activism as well as grassroots and entrepreneurial initiatives.



Find out more on gef-learning.eu.

European Green Family

Education for Europe – building capacities towards and beyond 2019

The 2018 edition of the GEF's annual networking event on education and training will be organised as a two-day conference in June, hosting participants from members and partner foundations, as well as NGOs, citizen movements, educational institutes, youth organisations and green parties active in the field of education, training and capacity-building from all across Europe.

The conference serves as a platform for political discussions on the role of training for advancing activism, as well as an opportunity to identify training and educational needs within the Green network, and inspiring initiatives taking place across Europe.

Participants will be able to engage in a political discussion on the role of capacity-building and trainings ahead of the upcoming European elections, create new partnerships with other actors implementing trainings on green topics across Europe and gain knowledge and inspiration on adding a European dimension to their training programmes.

Green Youth in Action

Enthusiastic activists are a driving force for the Green movement in Europe and beyond. Providing information and training on European policies in a Green context, as well as networking opportunities for young people with ambition to change to the better, is part of the Green European Foundation's mission.

European Green Activist Trainings (EGAT) Study Visit to Brussels

With the support of Institute for Active Citizenship (Czech Republic), Visio (Finland), Ecopolis (Hungary), Ceratonia Foundation (Malta), Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe

The European Green Activist Training consists of training sessions for young Green activists organised in two phases: the first entails national trainings on domestic politics, as well as a session on European politics and institutions; The second brings the activists from different countries together to Brussels to complement their training by experiencing the European Union and European identity first-hand.

In March 2018, nearly 100 activists from Finland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia and Malta gather in Brussels to round-up their 6 month long training programme. During their study trip, they visit relevant European institutions, civil society organisations and activists, and take part in stimulating workshops in order to gain a critical insight into the functioning of the EU and ways of making an impact as young citizens.

European Green Activist Trainings (EGAT) Edition 2018-2019

With the support of Institute for Active Citizenship (Czech Republic), Visio (Finland), Ceratonia Foundation (Malta), Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe, Green Forum (Sweden)

Already in its fourth year, the project continues its efforts to train young, Green-minded people on European politics and active citizenship, to enable them to promote Green values and politics in society.

The 2018-2019 edition will start with the 'Train the Trainers' meeting for project coordinators in June 2018 and continue with national trainings in Finland, Malta, Croatia and Czech Republic. The trainings offer a great opportunity for Green-minded young people to acquire practical skills, such as negotiating and networking, and to learn how to impact national and European politics.

In addition, GEF will develop, with the support of Green Forum, trainings for young activists from Estonia, Finland, Sweden and EU's eastern neighbours. During these trainings participants will discuss the impact of EU policies on third countries, as well as the role activists can play in pushing the Green agenda forward.

Congress of Young Europeans

In collaboration with Heinrich-Böll- Stiftung Prague

At the four-day Congress in Prague, selected participants from all over Europe will have the chance to come together in a historically important Central European capital to discuss their visions of Europe's future. The main theme of this year's Congress of Young Europeans is protest and activism in time, the role of youth activism in shaping our future.

The Congress, entitled 'It's Our Turn!', will focus on the role of youth in shaping Europe. Participants will reflect on the protest movements from 1968 and 1989 and debate issues that concern them today as well as ways in which they can mobilise to shape the future for the better. GEF will contribute to the congress with a pre-event online course as preparation for all participants as well as with a hands-on workshop during the Congress.

Summer Academies

GEF specifically supports summer schools by bringing a strong European dimension to events. This is done by organising workshops on EU policies and hot issues by inviting speakers from other countries to shed a different light on the topics discussed or by encouraging foreign participants to join the events.



Restoring Food to the Heart of the Community (June)

With the support of Green Foundation Ireland

At the end of June, GEF is organising with the support of Green Foundation Ireland a two-day summer school entitled 'Restoring Food to the Heart of the Community' in Cork. The aim of the event is to propose policy changes not only in response to the Milan Urban Food Policy pact but also to the review of the EU common agricultural policy which will take place in 2018. The summer school will gather academics, local policy makers, artisan producers, community food security NGOs and local growers. At the event, participants will discuss a new policy which can promote a healthy, sustainable and resilient food system and reduce the environmental footprint of food.

Green Repositioning (July)

With the support of Grüne Bildungswerkstatt (Austria)

The Austrian Summer Academy will focus on the Green Repositioning of the Austrian green movement throughout 2018 and beyond. Key findings of previous GEF (transnational) projects will serve as a basis for this process of re-organising and re-positioning of the Austrian Green movement. The Summer Academy will be framed by two open symposiums in May and September and several smaller, more decentralised events. The contribution of GEF will be to Europeanise the ongoing debates by supporting special English

tracks of the programme as well as supporting the participation of international attendees and speakers.

Crossing Borders (July)

With the support of Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland)

The title of this year's GEF Green Summer Academy in Poland is 'Crossing Borders', a phrase charged with meaning and symbolism, considering the fact that the event will be taking place near the borders of Poland with Belarus and Ukraine, as well as within a region with diverse cultures, dialects, languages, and religions. There will be topics of European relevance on the agenda, such as climate change, the future of Europe, food and agriculture and energy and air pollution. In addition to this, participants will have a chance of developing practical skills through workshops on campaigning and livestreaming.

European Green Alternatives (July)

With the support of the Green Thought Association (Turkey)

This one-day Summer School will focus on alternative ideas and political solutions in areas such as gender equality, energy, food, education and transportation, and how those could be

best communicated to the broader public. To this end, inspiring representatives of various European movements will be invited to share their experiences and knowledge.

Fighting for our Common Planet (July)

With the support of the Federation of Young European Greens

The GEF workshop at the Summer Camp of the Federation of Young European Greens will take place in Croatia and will aim to empower youth organisations to advocate for the sustainable management of natural commons. In particular, emphasis will be placed on the importance of preserving the common good of a livable climate as a prerequisite for peaceful communities in Europe and in its neighbouring countries. GEF will be present at the camp with the workshop 'The Role of Youth in Combating Climate Change', which addresses climate change as most pressing struggle the young generation is facing today, and as a global problem that must be tackled jointly.

The Green Academy (August)

With the support of the Institute for Political Ecology (Croatia)

The Green Academy in Croatia is now established as an exchange and knowledge-building platform for green and progressive communities across Europe. At this event, GEF will organise a specific workshop under the title 'Sustainability for Europe', that will offer relevant cutting-edge knowledge to participants (from *Doughnut Economics* and *Eco-Sufficiency* to the concept of a *Good life for all*) through interactive formats of learning.

Alsace at Last (August)

With the support of Fondation de l'Ecologie Politique (France)

The event will take place one day prior to the 'Journées d'été des écologistes' in Strasbourg. Primarily targeting a broader audience of European Green activists, the event will aim to enhance the knowledge about the EU or European topics of green activists coming to Strasbourg within an event that is more relaxed than traditional conferences and therefore facilitates dialogue and active participation among the attendees. At this event GEF will organise two plenaries on environmental inequalities and on the Commons, as well as the workshops: 'Better know your EU' (based on GEF's publication 'Europe for Beginners' and the 'Impact Europe' online course), 'The future of work' and 'Artificial Intelligence'.

Univerde (September)

With the support of Fundación EQUO (Spain)

The 10th edition of Univerde under the title 'Sustainable cities to transform the world - local actions, global impacts' will focus on the topic of urban spaces and will feature a variety of interactive workshops and plenary sessions tackling different aspects around cities. The volume 16 of the Green European Journal 'Talk of the town: exploring the city in Europe' will be presented and disseminated on this occasion.

Let's Fight against Euroscepticism – We Need a Pro-European Approach! (September)

With the support of Fundació Nous Horitzons (Catalonia, Spain)

The GEF summer will be concluded with the yearly gathering of the Catalan Green foundation, with local elected officials, regular members of the party and interested young people to exchange ideas and engaging debates. This summer academy will serve as a place for dialogue and political education – with an even greater focus in 2018 on a positive outlook towards a democratic European future. GEF will support the Europeanisation of the debates featured at this event.

NET WORKING

Presence at the European Green Party Councils

In 2018, the Green European Foundation will be present during the European Greens' Council in Antwerp (May) and Berlin (November). We will use the opportunity of meeting Green parties from across Europe to inform them about our projects and organise interactive workshops on topics such as Training and Capacity Building and Universal Basic Income.

Presence at the European Ideas Lab

During the second edition of the European Ideas Lab, taking place in March in Brussels, GEF and the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament will jointly organise a workshop for organisations working in the field of Migration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers, among them former participants of our Fundraising Training for Projects on Migration, Refugees & Asylum organised in September 2017, to develop concrete next steps that change makers as well as policy makers can benefit from.

In addition to this, GEF will be present at the Regional Labs in Graz, Austria and Madrid, Spain, both of which will be followed by GEF summer academies.

GEF Board and General Assembly meetings

In order to ensure the overall decision-making of GEF, the Board will meet 7 times throughout 2018, in Brussels, Antwerp, Helsinki and Berlin. As usual, two General Assembly meetings are hosted in Brussels in June and October to discuss the overall direction of the foundation.

In addition, the Annual Strategic meeting held in March 2018 in Brussels, provides GEF members, partners, board and staff with an opportunity to exchange on the main challenges we face nowadays, as well as the strategic outlook for the foundation.





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