

The background is a solid purple color. Overlaid on this are several thin, white, abstract geometric lines. These lines form various shapes, including a large circle in the upper right, a large triangle in the lower left, and several intersecting lines that create a network of smaller shapes. The overall effect is modern and minimalist.

# WORK PROGRAMME 2019

**Green European Foundation**

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This publication presents the GEF priorities and projects as of April 2019. 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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# WORK PROGRAMME 2019

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# 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

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. The foundation organises face-to-face and online trainings to empower European citizens and raise awareness about Green solutions. We also organise networking meetings for and with our partner organisations to provide guidance for project development and educational opportunities as well as to allow for exchange of best practices and on partner's training needs.

## Networking

GEF acts as a framework 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 Green European Journal has begun spring 2019 with the publication of its special edition 2049: Open Future, published in print in cooperation with the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung. Going beyond any one theme, the edition brings together a mix of styles and formats, including articles, interviews, stories, infographics and a comic, to imagine a hopeful future for Europe over the next 30 years.

Themes covered include the evolution of the internet, the reinvention of monetary systems, ideas for tomorrow from Doughnut Economics to universal basic income, circular fashion industry, rewilding, and life in the face of the climate crisis.

The Green European Journal will promote the edition over the course of the year through partners and with a series of events.

## GREEN EUROPEAN JOURNAL

2049: OPEN FUTURE  
AVAILABLE NOW



### Green Wave Podcast

In 2018 the Green European Journal began piloting a long-read style podcast called Green Wave with episodes that are read-aloud versions of articles and are available online via the journal website, social media, and through the GEF online learning platform. Throughout 2019, more episodes will be released and potentially new formats, such as interviews, will be added to the long reads.

### In the Debate (online)

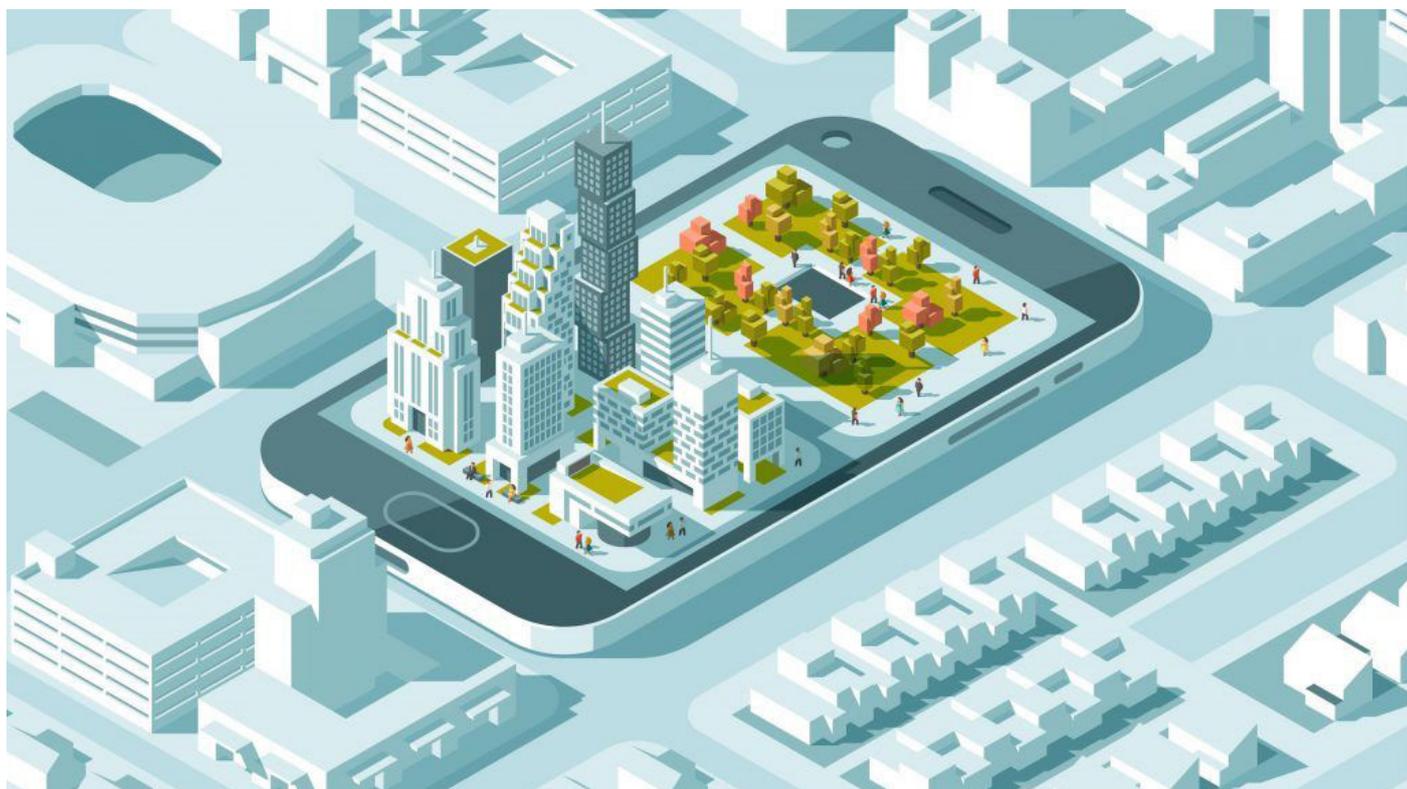
The Green European Journal website publishes green and progressive ideas and analysis of European politics and society. Its articles and interviews will cover themes including energy, climate, EU in the world, food and transport, trade, and economic and monetary union. In addition, the journal will pursue the topics of gender, environmentalism and 'green' ideas across the political spectrum, technopolitics, and social Europe. The journal will continue to publish focus pages that curate top articles on specific subjects and to publish contents on key debates within the green political family.

# TRANSFORMATIVE CITIES

GEF supports the growing emergence of translocal networks that are becoming a crucial transnational governance level in Europe, and that are active in many fields, such as energy cooperatives or circular economy initiatives. By bringing together political, civil and economic actors from progressive cities who are developing transformative policies across Europe, GEF wants to create platforms for a credible, positive picture of Europe.

The foundation particularly focuses on the potential of cities to as a transformative force towards resilient and democratic societies – either through organising themselves in transnational networks or by getting ready for the technological challenges ahead.

It explores in particular the commons as a way to rethink the production and management of goods, culture, transport, housing, and so on, but also their collective re-appropriation by the citizens beyond the traditional state-market dichotomy.



## A Charter for the Smart City

*With the support of Bureau de Helling (The Netherlands), Institute for Active Citizenship (Czech Republic), Green Economics Institute (United Kingdom)*

All over Europe, so-called ‘smart cities’ are the testing grounds for new technologies that affect how we live, how we organise our societies and what our ethical foundation is. These technologies often involve the use of big data and devices that can act with a degree of autonomy. The development of new technologies therefore cannot be left to engineers and managers; it requires public debate and democratic control. Given the opportunities that new technologies offer for reducing the ecological footprint of cities and creating new urban commons, as well as the potential threats they pose to civil liberties and social justice, GEF aims to stimulate the debate on smart cities. Key questions must be considered: who owns the data collected? Which decisions can we responsibly outsource to algorithms?

This transnational project aims to create a Charter for the Smart City, consisting of 10 to 20 guiding principles that will make it easier for green European politicians and activists to assess and steer technological innovations in their cities.

The project partners will solicit ideas for the Charter, including best practises from NGOs, experts and local green politicians, as well as from GEF partner foundations and other Green European actors, through a digital exchange of ideas and four workshops organised in Belgium, Czech Republic, Norway, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Draft texts of the Charter and best practises from European cities will be published online as the project progresses to stimulate a broader public debate on the opportunities and challenges ahead for smart cities and the final Charter will eventually be published as booklet in English and Czech at the end of the year.

## Cities as Places of Hope in the European Union

*With the support of Oikos (Flanders, Belgium), Fondation de l'Écologie Politique (France), Fundació Nous Horitzons (Catalonia, Spain), Fundació EQUO (Spain), Institute for Political Ecology (Croatia)*

Despite increasing divisions and the rise of right-wing forces on the European and national scenes, many European cities are pursuing a progressive, positive and transnationally networked vision.

Building upon the expertise gained in the implementation of previous transnational projects on Urban Commons, the 'Cities as Places of Hope in the European Union' project will focus on these progressive city networks that are a key factor in the development for a positive narrative on the future of Europe.

Bringing together political, civil, and economic actors, the partner foundations will discuss how these networks can gain more power at the European level. As well as this, it will form a connected space where engaged citizens can find partner states for support in developing urban commons as an answer to bureaucratic state dominance and aggressive commodification.

This project will see a series of events across Europe, drawing together progressive and transformative forces to connect them to the Green movement and facilitate their exchanges.

## Citizen's Engagement Towards Green Urban Development

*With the support of Foundation of Environment and Agriculture (Bulgaria)*

This event taking place in September will focus on Green urban policies including urban agriculture, citizen energy cooperatives, transport and Green zones, and more.

The event aims to support citizen engagement and public participation, with an emphasis on social inclusion of those from social minorities.

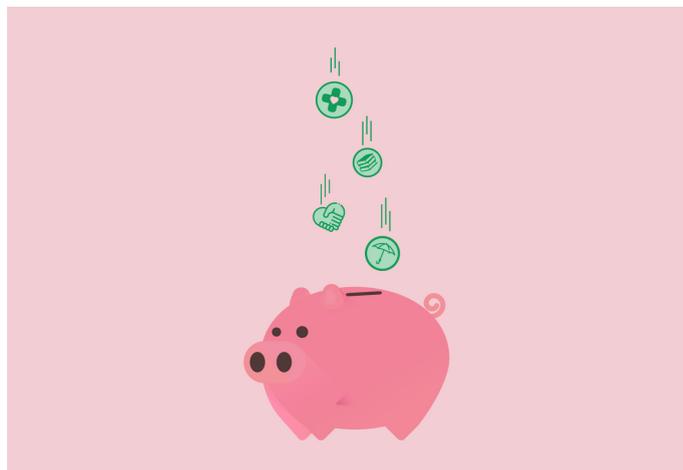
# WORK & SOLIDARITY

GEF undertakes research on the creation of employment with green and climate jobs and explores innovative paths such as basic income, work sharing and working time reduction. The foundation also explores the various notions of work beyond paid work, as well as care and gender divisions within the labour perspective. Only with new concepts like these, answers to the uncertainties created by automation and digitalisation, as well as by the ageing population and the multiplication of precarious work contracts and degraded working conditions can be provided. GEF's aim is to uncover the potential of these

alternatives to deliver more freedom and security to everyone whilst reducing inequalities in our societies and addressing climate change.

## Basic Income – European Public Debate

*With the support of Fundació Nous Horitzons (Catalonia, Spain), Fundació EQUO (Spain), Federation of Young European Greens, Visio (Finland)*



Building on the work of the past two years, the 2019 edition of this transnational project will continue to explore the debates on Basic Income as one of the solutions to increasing inequality in European societies.

Since 2017, the project has been bringing together various partner foundations and basic income experts, from Belgium, Catalonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, to discuss issues surrounding Universal Basic Income (UBI) which resulted in a publication featuring different perspectives on the debates. Throughout 2019, GEF aims to disseminate its work done and to further stimulate a debate around UBI on the EU level by organising several conferences across Europe, focussing on a specific angle of Basic Income and considering possibilities, limitations and options of a UBI. The topics include youth and social rights, pros and cons of UBI pilots and concrete learnings as well as potentially the gender aspect of UBI, and more.

The public events, alongside internal meetings and roundtables throughout the year are set to deliver a concrete set of recommendations that can feed into the discussion on the way forward for the European green movement regarding UBI.

## Green Perspectives on Work

*With the support of Bureau de Helling (The Netherlands)*

In an era of rapid socio-economic restructuring characterised by economic globalisation, trade liberalisation, skill-biased technological innovation and digitalisation, changes of family structures and gender roles, and more the lives of citizens and the nature of their work is directly affected.

# FOOD & AGRICULTURE

As part of GEF's objective to explore the various notions of work and debate pathways to face challenges such as increasing precarity, the foundation will organise an expert workshop on invitation only in June in Brussels to discuss two different policy approaches on how those who are left behind in a changing working world can be socially and economically included.

The event will evolve around the question whether Active Labour Market Policies or a Universal Basic Income is the most useful tool to allow meaningful participation of all citizens in society, in particular those that are the most affected by the social risks created by today's changing socio-economic conditions. Or whether those two policy approaches could not even be combined to address those problems.

## 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 has been a core area of work for the Green European Foundation since its beginnings and it has reflected on a variety of aspects of the transformation of the economy: green jobs, state aid, the financial system, etc. Regional approaches and national case studies have also been a constant focus of the foundation. Finally, GEF is active in the avant-garde of the reflection on the creation of a society and the functioning of an economy beyond GDP growth.

### The Green Economy Congress – Municipalism: Economic Patterns for the Green Europe

*With the support of Networked (Serbia)*

This third edition of the Congress, organised in June in Belgrade, will focus on cities and local democracy as main drivers of the green economy. The participants will have the opportunity to listen to economists, innovators, entrepreneurs and green decision makers, to share their stories and discover ways to promote an alternative vision for growth and development. A variety of formats will be used, such as lectures, panel discussions, workshops, world café and a green economy fair with young start-up companies.

From its beginnings the Green Economy Congress intends to break the business-as-usual path, not only regarding the economy but also society in general. This year it will include discussions on commons, green buildings, zero waste concept, decentralisation and participation of the energy, agriculture or waste management. The role of local actors and initiatives across Europe will be of particular interest at this year's event.

Across Europe, questions around healthy food and sustainable agriculture are gaining more and more importance as this topic is at the centre of everyone's daily life. GEF wants to approach the central question of food from a systemic point of view, looking at the interconnections between policies on agriculture, public health, environmental protection, energy, economic development, and more. Comprehensive food policies are needed to deliver quality and affordable food to all citizens in Europe and around the world.

The foundation's activities on this topic look at the local level and best practices of decentralised food systems that respect the limits of our environment, but also draw the bigger picture of what needs to happen on the European level to facilitate this change, for instance through an extensive reform of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy.



### Fair and Healthy Food

*With the support of Oikos (Flanders, Belgium), Green Foundation Ireland, Institute for Active Citizenship (Czech Republic), Networked (Serbia), Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland), Sunrise (Macedonia)*

The GEF transnational project aims to reach out to actors across Europe who are showing that different food systems around agroecological principles are possible, such as cities that are building local food systems, farmers who are working collaboratively with researchers, and consumers who are reconnecting with local producers.

By bringing those actors together, the project will explore alternative solutions and discuss the necessary changes to the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union, as well as examine how regional sustainable food systems can revitalise rural communities. In order to build a bridge between food in our everyday lives, and the complex discourse on the Common Agricultural Policy reform, the event organised in Northern Ireland, Ireland, Czech Republic,

Poland and Macedonia, as well as the concluding event in Brussels will go beyond classical formats of events and create possibilities for connections between progressive farmers and innovative food creatives.

commitment to the implementation of SDGs amongst Green actors across Europe.

## EUROPE IN THE WORLD

We see a multi-polar world emerging, in which alliances are changing and power is shifting on the global geopolitical scene. Economic governance at the global level in the form of international agreements, such as trade agreements, raise many questions regarding their potential to ensure economic and social justice. New types of actors, such as international corporations, are grabbing more and more power on the global stage. In this context, we create spaces to discuss the foreign and trade policy of the European Union, its diplomatic strategy, as well as its capacities for dealing with new actors on the international scene.

### Sustainable Development Goals

*With the support of Ökopolis (Hungary)*



Besides an introductory online course on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on mygreenlearning.eu, this project will include two events in March to take two goals specifically in focus and their implementation progress in the Hungarian context: SDG 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages – as well as SDG 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – will be organised. The discussions of the two events will feed into written brochures that can contribute to the wider debate across the EU.

This GEF project aims to activate Green actors in the field of SDGs by connecting them with experts within the fields of system-thinking and SDGs and highlighting synergies between these parties. In doing so, the project will increase awareness about the values and goals that the Green movement shares with the SDG agenda. It will also highlight the crucial role SDGs play in deciding future priorities for the EU and its member states, and hopefully contribute to secure

## MIGRATION & REFUGEES

The number of displaced persons around the world in recent years is comparable only to figures seen at the end of the Second World War and has triggered a severe crisis of the European refugee and migration policies. The European Union risks jeopardising the founding principles commonly agreed on and written in the EU Treaties, which include the Charter of Fundamental Rights and compliance with international law. Despite a cry for help from progressive actors all around Europe, we still see continued violations of human rights and hostility towards migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

In this context, GEF strives to focus its efforts on combatting the insufficiency of EU migration and asylum policies and on supporting the citizens, associations and policy-makers engaged in the defence of a diverse and welcoming Europe. The foundation puts forward proposals and identifies best practices which not only counter the discourses and policies of fear but also lay down the fundamentals for living together in a Europe of solidarity and democracy.

### Environmental Migration and Displacement

Throughout 2019, GEF will in particular focus on environmental migration and displacement as a crucial issue of the present and the future that is at the intersection of two global challenges: progressing climate change and migratory movements.

GEF will offer the space for exchange of new ideas and to debate ways forward to face this challenge and position the European Green movement within the discourse. A Green Salon in autumn in Brussels will bring together academic experts, policy-makers as well as NGO representatives.

Beyond that, GEF will work to enrich the broader debate on the issue and to raise awareness on the challenges faced by the global community and possible responses by the EU.

### Mobility in the Schengen Area

*With the support of Fondazione Alexander Langer (Italy)*

This conference in October will focus on the heated debate around refugees and the asylum process. The event's specific focus will lie on the protection and empowerment of refugees, and it will moreover provide a space for networking and capacity building for professionals working with displaced people.

# CLIMATE & ENERGY

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

GEF promotes a fair, transparent and sustainable energy transition in Europe. It analyses examples and solutions already implemented in Europe as part of the energy transition. In this way, it supports the development of sustainable energy policies at the European level and its transition away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energies, as well as a democratic and participative approach to the energy transition.

In parallel GEF looks at the impact of climate change on a variety of aspects of our lives – may it be how and what we work, what we eat and where we get our food from, or the effects a changing climate can have on migratory movements all over the world.

## Strengthening Climate Targets, Creating Local Climate Jobs

*With the support of Green House Think Tank (United Kingdom), Green Foundation Ireland, Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland)*

This project will build on work carried out over the last three years which has estimated the number of jobs that would be created through a transition to zero carbon in key sectors of the economy. The transnational project looked at jobs in five sectors – energy, transport, buildings, waste management and agriculture, food and forestry, and showed that moving to a zero-carbon economy would increase the numbers of jobs in these sectors. In 2018, the developed model was applied to the UK, Ireland and Hungary to produce job estimates. Throughout 2019, the results of this research will be broadly disseminated among relevant stakeholders through online communication as well as events across Europe, and the estimation method will be now expanded to more countries such as Poland. Eventually, the project aims to feed into concrete recommendations for stronger climate targets based on location-specific plans for climate action and to publicise the EU-wide potential of greening local economies.

## Energy Democracy Workshop

*With the support of Sunrise (Macedonia)*

This event in the summer is a continuation of debates on Energy Democracy initiated in Macedonia last year through a GEF transnational project on this topic. The workshop will focus on European experiences in the energy sector and explore cooperatives and other forms of socio-environmental economy in Europe. It will compare the debate and practice on the EU level with experience and challenges from the Balkans, and the state of democracy in the EU and candidate countries. The promotion of the Energy Democracy concept should serve to set a path to a participatory, inclusive and decentralised green economy.

## A Different Perspective for Climate Change, Society, Movements, Communication and Green Politics

*With the support of Green Thought Association (Turkey)*

This conference in May in Istanbul aims to build capacities and raise awareness of the effects of climate change, local actions and green policy alternatives in this area. It brings together the agenda for the climate and ecology movements on both European and local levels. The conference aims to compare the mitigation and adaptation policies at national and local levels, and the obligations and potential they offer. It intends to develop awareness and understanding of European policy proposals regarding climate change and to encourage political debate that includes the Turkish perspective on the issue. Finally, it seeks to establish solidarity networks between local movements directly affected by environmental disasters and those affected by ill-conceived fossil-fuel projects.

The event will feature three panel discussions: current debates and the political situation around climate change; communication and campaigning; climate and local ecological movements.

## ECOPOLIS: Climate, Peace & Security

*With the support of Oikos (Flanders, Belgium)*

Ecopolis will return to Brussels in November 2019, aiming to influence the societal dialogue about security and to inject the concept of climate security in the public debate. It will explore how investments in tackling climate issues will mitigate future conflicts. This leading ecological festival in Belgium organised in collaboration with a network of partners coming from different societal domains, offers plenary discussions, workshops and other formats to debate how we can discuss the topic of security in conjunction with climate change without adopting the rhetoric of authoritarian movements.



# CAPACITY BUILDING

## EMPOWERING YOUTH

### European Youth Congress

*In collaboration with Heinrich-Böll- Stiftung Paris*

At the 3-day Congress in Marseille, selected participants from all over Europe will have the chance to come together to discuss their visions of Europe's future. The main theme of this year's Congress of Young Europeans is the future of activism and the role of youth activism in shaping our future.

### Idea Challenge

The "Idea Challenge" is a project for young people aged 18-24 from Croatia, Czech Republic and Portugal, more specifically youth not usually engaged in active citizenship. The project aims to encourage the target group to become European active citizens by challenging them to propose ideas for change in their communities and create a bridge between their local struggles and the struggles of their peers in other countries.

### European Green Activists Training

Since 2015, the European Green Activists Training aims at Europeanising the content of already existing trainings across Europe and creating a platform through which young people interested in politics can meet, learn and exchange.

The project consists of training sessions for young Green activists in three phases: the first entails going through an online course Impact

Europe, secondly, a national training session on domestic politics, as well as a session on European politics and institutions is held; and finally, the activists from different countries come together in Brussels to complement their training by experiencing the European political dimension first-hand.

In 2019, the trainings are conducted locally with the support of Ökopolisz (Hungary), Green Window (Croatia), Institute for Active Citizenship (Czech Republic), Quercus (Portugal) and Visio (Finland).

### Green Learning

Green Learning is the educational platform of the Green European Foundation. On Green Learning you can find free online courses through which you can develop your skills and knowledge in a variety of areas from the European Union, ecology and migration to activism, campaigning and combating hate speech online. Learn from top experts, politicians and activists and even contribute yourself to the knowledge library with your own content.

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 all courses you are supported by instructors with expertise in the field, so don't shy away from asking for support. At the same time, the course forum provides for a safe space for exchanges and debates with the other participants. Feel free to come back when in need for inspiration! Finished a course? Enjoy your certificate, which you can download and share directly from the platform.

Sign up at [www.mygreenlearning.eu](http://www.mygreenlearning.eu) and start your learning in a matter of minutes, all for free!

# SUMMER UNIVERSITIES

Our summer universities, implemented in collaboration with national partners, enable Green-minded people to connect, and debate on inspiring political, social and environmental issues all over Europe.

## Alps and Carpathian Mountain Summit (June)

*With the support of Grüne Bildungswerkstatt (Austria)*

The focus of this four-day summit will be on the challenges facing forests. Forests are vital for the Alpine living space, and the way they are used by humans is also pivotal today. Unfortunately, it is hardly possible to find spots of real wilderness in the Alps anymore because of deforestation and the prevailing single-crop system. Climate change means a dramatic transformation for nature, people and the economy there.

The event is designed to inspire new ways of thinking and attempts to find practical European solutions that ensure a process of adjusting to climate change compatible with nature.

It will feature panel discussions and workshops on aspects such as: Alps - Carpathian Mountains and Climate Change, wild life and tourism, and more.

## Summer Camp – Social Rights Hackathon (July)

*With the support of Federation of Young European Greens*



This year's Summer Camp will take place in Serbia and will focus on social rights and the future of work, looking at regional market specificities, the just transition to a sustainable society, gendered aspects of work, and more. Alongside these topics, it will also look at how young people can be best empowered to advocate for their social rights. GEF will organise a hackathon as part of the camp. Its aim is to provide an opportunity for young people to discuss and learn about the different tools they can use when advocating for social rights.

## Fearless Policies: with Power Against the Mainstream! Europe and Spain after the elections – a new start or a step back? (July)

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

This summer school will focus on the outcomes of various elections held across Europe and beyond: the European elections, Spanish municipal elections, as well as those in Latin America that have an (indirect) impact on Spain. It will explore the global power shift of these elections and the consequences for Europe.

In particular, the summer school's workshops will focus on positive cases of cities in Europe where Green and progressive movements have seen success in recent elections.

## Green Summer Academy: Closer to Europe (August)

*With the support of Fundacja Strefa Zieleni (Poland)*

This year, the Green Summer Academy will be organised in the area of Osno in Western Poland close to the German border. It will look ahead at the future of the European Union, the future of the Common Agricultural Policy, and the future of the Greens in Poland and Europe.

The Academy will explore seminal issues, including the energy transition and Green jobs, sustainable development, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy sources, and wildlife hunting or the protection of biodiversity in the EU.

## Youth and the City – Young People for Fair and Green Cities (August)

*With the support of the Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe*

With a focus on cities, this summer school will explore the role of alternative urbanisation in shaping the future of Europe's cities, and how those cities can act as platforms for Green, local and alternative policies as well as positive practices.

The training will bring together young people from Central Europe and the Balkans in Prague. It will provide an opportunity to conceptualise and promote the model of sustainable and democratic cities among green-minded youth and provide them with concrete tools for urban activism.

## Univerde: Neoliberalism and Socio-environmental Crisis: Green Proposals for a Change of Model (September)

*With the support of Fundación EQUO (Spain)*

The 11th edition of Univerde will focus on the political and societal changes necessary to transition to a just and sustainable model and the role of Europe as a potential leader in this change. In particular, it will look at climate change and environmental refugees, geopolitics, conflicts over natural resources, and Green policies versus the rise of the extreme right.

The event will allow a political debate on the existing socio-economic model and the path forward. It will also provide a space to exchange on good practices, real alternatives for a fairer, more equitable and respectful system for the planet and its inhabitants.

## Winter Seminar of the Green Academy: Degrowth Kaleidoscope (November)

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

This event will feature discussions of European relevance among the key postgrowth and degrowth thinkers. In particular, it will explore political and policy implications of the degrowth concept and its link to other topics such as housing, cities, digital rights or food provisioning. The event will be composed of key note lectures, workshops, panel debates and public debate that aim to examine the areas in which degrowth discussions can be useful in promoting eco-sufficiency, both as economic and ecological concept, to enhance its presence and impact on political life.

As during previous editions of the Winter Seminar or the Green Academy in summer, GEF will organise a specific workshop in connection with this year's focus on degrowth and to contribute to the European dimension of the overall event.

# CAPACITY BUILDING FOR GREEN ORGANISATIONS

Over the past decade, GEF has built expertise in the area of capacity building as integral part of its work programme through education and training offers for the Green movement across Europe through online courses and face-to-face trainings.

## Green it!

We have an ambitious plan of ensuring that every event we hold, every training session and seminar organise, is exciting, energising, inspiring. For this reason, we will create an online database of green experts and training resources, called "Green it!". This will help us, Green organisations, to organise training sessions that really make a difference in our movement and to spread our work far more broadly.

We will start with an online platform to make training materials and resources available, as well as allow for the recognition of those trainers who use sustainable, inclusive and forward-thinking methods in their work.

## Green Events Methodology Audit

Throughout its work programme and in particular with the development of Green it!, GEF stresses the importance of non-formal learning as a goal-oriented, engaging and participatory process which aims at the personal development and empowerment of participants. To ensure that our events are of high quality, GEF has started a dialogue with interested partners in 2019 on the most suitable green methodologies that can elevate the educational projects we organise together.

In particular, the new process is aimed at GEF's partner foundations engaged in the organisation of summer academies and other education-oriented events. The so-called methodology audit entails an exchange on the ways to increase the use of green methodology

and innovative approaches. This can range from advice on methodology to the concrete recommendation of specific facilitators and trainers who can help implement the desired methodology.

GEF and its project partners will then assess together the impact of the events and evaluate the methodology adaptations.

## emPOWERing the Informal

*With Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Cascais Municipality, Timișoara Municipality, Asociación para la Participación, Oportunidad y Desarrollo Tenerife, Experimentaculo Associacao Cultural, Szubjektív Ertekekek Alapítvány*

In 2019, GEF joins a Europe-wide project aiming to increase the capacity and professionalism of youth workers in managing informal groups by understanding, adapting and implementing of existing EU tools for assessment and development of youth work competence and management competences.

The project will map existing legal framework and practices that focus on informal groups through research and analysis of the evolution of informal groups as a social movement, aiming to making suggestions at national and international level on how policies can be improved to favor the growth of informal groups and the impact they have upon youngsters and the community they are based in. An online tool will be developed as a one-stop-shop for informal groups in Europe, where they can connect, access and share resources.

# NET WORKING



## Presence at the European Green Party Events

In 2019, the Green European Foundation will be represented at the Local Councillors conference of the European Green Party in Oslo from 21 to 22 June, focussing on the transformative power of cities and their crucial role in building the future of Europe.

Moreover, GEF will be present during the European Green Party' Council in Tampere, Finland, from 8 to 10 November. We will use the opportunity of meeting delegates from Green parties across Europe to inform them about our projects and organise interactive workshops.

## GEF Board and General Assembly Meetings

In order to ensure the overall decision-making of GEF, the Board will meet 7 times throughout 2019, in Brussels, Helsinki and Tampere.

In October, a new GEF Board is elected by the General Assembly for a 3 year mandate.

Three General Assembly meetings are hosted in Brussels in January, June and October to discuss the overall direction of the foundation and to exchange on the main challenges we face nowadays.



**GREEN EUROPEAN FOUNDATION**

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