

# **A1new** Internal Rules of Procedure

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/07/2020

Motion text

## 1 **COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK EASTERN EUROPE**

### 2 **Internal Rules of Procedure**

3 *As decided by delegates of CDN General Assembly,*

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###### 16 **1. Introduction:**

17 1.1 These rules of procedure are supplementary and subordinate to the Statutes  
18 of Cooperation

19 and Development Network Eastern Europe, hereinafter referred to as CDN.

20 1.2 These rules of procedure regulate the implementation of the Statute.

21 1.3 In case of contradiction between the Statute and the Rules of Procedure, the  
22 former shall

23 prevail.

###### 24 **2. General Assembly Rules of Procedure:**

25 2.1 The rules of procedure for the efficient realization of the General Assembly  
26 (GA) shall be

27 shown and explained at the beginning of every General Assembly.

###### 28 **2.2 GA announcement and preparation:**

- 29 2.2.1 The location of the General Assembly is to be decided by the Executive  
30 Committee based on
- 31 an open call for the host organization of the CDN General Assembly.
- 32 2.2.2 The Open Call for the host organization has to be sent at least 90 days  
33 before the General  
34 Assembly by the Secretariat.
- 35 2.2.3 If the capacity allows, the study visit for potential host organization  
36 should be organized at  
37 least 30 days before General Assembly.
- 38 2.2.4 The open call for amendments on the documents of CDN, open call for new  
39 Member/Partner  
40 organizations and the open call for new Executive Committee members have to be  
41 sent at least  
42 30 days before the General Assembly by the Secretariat.
- 43 2.2.5 These open calls are to be sent together with relevant applications and  
44 other relevant  
45 information included.
- 46 2.2.6 The collection of all open calls, applications, working group reports and  
47 other internal  
48 documents needed during the preparation of the General Assembly is included in  
49 the file called  
50 CDN General Assembly preparation - internal documents, available in the  
51 Secretariat.
- 52 2.2.7 Changes of these internal documents from 2.2.6 are subject to the EC  
53 decision and all of  
54 these changes should be presented to the following General Assembly.
- 55 2.2.8 Application procedures for membership, partnership and observership:
- 56 • The Executive Committee has to formulate a report on the membership  
57 application.
- 58 This report must be written along the membership criteria.
- 59 • The membership application has to be put on the agenda of the General  
60 Assembly.
  - 61 • Representative of a candidate which is running for membership, partnership or  
62 observership has to present the application. If no one to present the  
63 organisation is  
64 present on the GA, someone from the EC has a mandate to do it.
  - 65 • After the presentation of the application, one EC member has to report from  
66 the  
67 Executive Committee on the application membership to the General Assembly.

- 68 2.2.9 The draft agenda has to be decided by the Executive Committee.
- 69 2.2.10 The announcement of the date and location of the General Assembly has to  
70 be sent out by  
71 the Secretariat to all member and partner organizations 60 days in advance of  
72 the General  
73 Assembly. The official invitation to the General Assembly including a draft  
74 agenda has to be sent  
75 out 45 days in advance.
- 76 2.2.11 Each member and partner organization shall inform the Secretariat of the  
77 names of their  
78 representatives at least three weeks before the General Assembly. Each Member  
79 and Partner  
80 organization can send as many representatives as it can afford.
- 81 2.2.12. Every second delegate of MOs and POs has to pay participation fee of 10  
82 EUR, unless they  
83 are younger than 25.
- 84 2.2.13 Any member and partner organization may propose changes on the agenda. If  
85 the proposal  
86 is sent five days before GA it has to be circulated through the Network.
- 87 2.2.14 Amendments on the documents of CDN can be suggested only in written form  
88 by any  
89 Member and Partner Organization or Working Group until the voting on that  
90 certain motion.
- 91 2.2.15 Applications for new Member, Partner and Observer organizations and  
92 applications for  
93 new Executive Committee members have to be submitted according to the Open call  
94 latest 15  
95 days prior to the GA.
- 96 2.2.16 If the minimum number and gender regulative are not met, the Open call  
97 will be  
98 extended till the first day of the GA.
- 99 2.2.17 Amendments on the documents of CDN, applications for new Member and  
100 Partner  
101 organizations and Applications for new Executive Committee members (together  
102 with other  
103 necessary documents requested in the call) will be sent to the Network at least  
104 10 days before the  
105 General Assembly if sent to the Secretariat until that point.
- 106 2.2.18 The legal fulfillment of all obligations of the General Assembly  
107 described in Statutes and

108 the IRPs has to be validated by 2/3 majority of the present organizations before  
109 the start General

110 Assembly. This is verification that GA is entitled to make valid decisions  
111 according to the quorum

112 prescribed by the Statutes and IRPs.

113 2.2.19 At the beginning of the General Assembly Presidency, consisting of at  
114 least two persons, is

115 to be elected to chair the meeting and to conduct the proceedings.

116 2.2.20 The General Assembly has to approve the final agenda before any further  
117 proceedings can

118 take place.

119 2.2.21 Once approved, the agenda can be modified during the General Assembly by  
120 2/3 majority.

121 2.2.22 EC recommends the number of members to be elected for the new EC. The  
122 General

123 Assembly confirms the decisions by 2/3 majority.

## 124 **2.3 Voting and elections:**

125 2.3.1. Every Member organization has two votes on the General Assembly. Votes  
126 can be

127 distributed between one or two delegates attending General Assembly.

128 2.3.2 Before the voting starts, 2 representatives are to be elected by an  
129 absolute majority of all

130 present votes, to form Electoral Committee.

131 2.3.3. The role of Electoral Committee is to:

- 132 • count votes after each voting;
- 133 • make sure that voting and elections are taken according to the IRP and  
134 Statutes.

135 2.3.4 If a member from Electoral Committee is subject to an election, they have  
136 to be replaced by

137 another representative by absolute majority only for that election.

138 2.3.5 Unless otherwise determined, votes are taken by showing voting card. If  
139 requested by one

140 member organization, a secret voting must take place.

141 2.3.6 Each delegate entitled to a vote shall have a voting card.

142 2.3.7 Elections for EC and candidate MOs, POs and OOs must be by secret voting.

143 2.3.8 The quorum can be questioned at any time by any delegate.

144 2.3.9 Definition of voting majorities:

- 145 • Present votes at the General Assembly: all registered votes at the  
146 beginning of a General Assembly;
- 147 • 2/3 majority: At least 2/3 of present votes;
- 148 • Absolute majority: 50% plus one vote of present votes;
- 149 • Highest number of votes: highest number of all present votes.

150 2.3.10 Majorities needed for decisions:

- 151 • Activity Report of present year: 2/3 majority in favour of present votes  
152 at the General Assembly is required.
- 153 • Financial Report of present year: 2/3 majority in favour of present votes  
154 at the General Assembly is required.
- 155 • In case of disapproval by the General Assembly, the Activity and the  
156 Financial Report for the previous year has to be redone by the new  
157 Executive Committee based on the comments of the GA within the next 2  
158 months and distributed to the MOs. For approval a 2/3 majority in favor of  
159 all MOs by email is needed within 30 days.

160 2.3.11 For the membership in CDN as a MO/PO a 2/3 majority in favor of the  
161 present votes at the

162 General Assembly is required.

163 2.3.12 For becoming member in the CDN Executive Committee a 2/3 majority in  
164 favour of

165 all present votes at the General Assembly is required.

166 2.3.13 If several candidates get more then two third majority in favour of all  
167 present votes

168 than the highest number of votes in favor will decide.

169 2.3.14 If one or more candidates get less than 2/3 majority in favour of all  
170 present votes at

171 the General Assembly, then in case of:

- 172 • 1 candidate: the place in the Executive Committee remains empty
- 173 • 2 candidates: an absolute majority of present votes in favour at the  
174 General Assembly in a second round is required. If both candidates get  
175 more than an absolute majority than the candidate with the highest number  
176 of votes in favor will pass. In case there is a draw among the candidates,  
177 the next round of voting should be done among those two. The candidate  
178 with a higher number of votes and absolute majority will become the next  
179 member of EC. In case there is a draw again or none of the candidates  
180 reach absolute majority, the spot in the EC will be left vacant.

- 181 • 3 or more candidates: The candidate with the highest number of votes  
182 considering they have absolute majority in favour in the second round will  
183 pass. In case there is a draw among two or more candidates, the next round  
184 of the voting should be done among those candidates. The candidate with a  
185 higher number of votes and absolute majority will become the next member  
186 of EC. In case there is a draw again a third round of election should take  
187 place. In case there is a draw again or none of the candidates reach  
188 absolute majority, the spot in the EC will be left vacant.
- 189 2.3.15 Statute voting procedure is explained in detail in the Statutes.
- 190 2.3.16 IRP voting procedure:
- 191 • Simple amendments require absolute majority in favour of all present votes  
192 at the General Assembly;
  - 193 • Whole Chapters require 2/3 majority in favour of present votes at the  
194 General Assembly;
  - 195 • Whole document requires 2/3 majority in favour of all present votes at the  
196 General Assembly.
- 197 2.3.17 Political Platform voting procedure:
- 198 • Simple amendments require absolute majority in favour of all present votes  
199 at the General Assembly;
  - 200 • Whole Chapters require 2/3 majority in favour of present votes at the  
201 General Assembly;
  - 202 • Whole document requires 2/3 majority in favour of all present votes at the  
203 General Assembly.
- 204 2.3.18 The Strategy statement, resolutions and any other documents of CDN  
205 requires a simple  
206 majority in favor of all present votes at the General Assembly.
- 207 2.3.19 The Financial Plan of CDN requires a 2/3 majority in favor of all present  
208 votes at the General  
209 Assembly. The Financial Plan has to be approved before closing the General  
210 Assembly.
- 211 2.3.20 The Activity Plan of CDN requires a 2/3 majority in favor of all present  
212 votes at the General  
213 Assembly.
- 214 2.3.21 In case of disapproval, changes can be done during the meeting to put the  
215 Activity Plan of  
216 CDN for the present year to vote again. In case of further disapproval a new  
217 Activity Plan for the  
218 present year based on the comments of the General Assembly has to be done by the  
219 new elected

220 Executive Committee and distributed to the Member Organizations within 2 months  
221 for voting by

222 email. A 2/3 majority in favour of all Member Organizations is required within  
223 30 days.

224 2.3.22. Activity and Financial Report should be presented in comparison with  
225 respective Activity

226 and Financial Plan for the same year (adopted on previous GA), including  
227 deviations and

228 reasons for the same.

## 229 **2.4 Minutes:**

230 2.4.1 The Minutes are to be written by member of the Secretariat chosen at the  
231 start of the

232 General Assembly. The Minutes are to be passed on from the Secretariat within 21  
233 days after the

234 end of the General Assembly to all Member and Partner organizations.

235 2.4.2 The Minutes of the General Assembly has to include all resolutions,  
236 decisions, motions and

237 votes together with the necessary explanatory information.

238 2.4.3 The list of the delegates is annexed to the minutes of the session.

## 239 **3. Executive Committee rules and procedures:**

240 3.1.1 After the end of the General Assembly, the new Executive Committee shall  
241 have it's first

242 meeting together with the members of the former Executive Committee.

243 3.1.2 The summary of the minutes of the live EC meetings have to be published  
244 latest 30 days

245 after the EC meeting, unless there are justified circumstances and accompanied  
246 by an explanation

247 by the Secretariat.

248 3.1.3 On every Executive Committee Meeting the last meeting's minutes should be  
249 checked and

250 approved.

251 3.1.4 Each physical meeting should be announced to the Network at least 15 days  
252 prior to the

253 meeting and regular e-meeting time should be published at website

254 3.1.5 Comments, suggestions and proposals can be sent by any MO or PO and these  
255 motions have

256 to be discussed during the meeting.

257 3.1.6 Each Executive Committee Meeting has a standard form for the Agenda of the  
258 Meeting. This

259 form should be completed, sent to the EC list and published at least five days  
260 prior to the  
261 meeting.

262 3.1.7 The Agenda should be annexed by documents and information needed to  
263 further explain  
264 points of the Agenda.

265 3.1.8 The List of issued calls and report of official correspondence should be  
266 prepared for every  
267 Executive Committee Meeting.

268 3.1.9 The Executive Committee can make decisions on a non-objection basis  
269 between the  
270 meetings, unless requested otherwise by one of the EC members or by the NC and  
271 in that case

272 this issue has to be on the Agenda on the following Executive Committee Meeting.

273 3.1.10 In case of EC member's unnotified absence for over 30 days, the rest of  
274 the EC has a right

275 to co-opt a new person until the end of their mandate upon:

- 276 1. exhausting the means of reaching out to the missing EC member;
- 277 2. informing the Member Organisations about it.

278 The new EC member should be co-opted by consensus of all the remaining EC  
279 members after a

280 dedicated discussion. This person should be satisfying the EC candidate criteria  
281 stated in the  
282 previous GA calls.

283 3.1.11 The procedure for decisions on non-objection basis:

- 284 • A deadline shall be set by the Network Coordinator for the EC members to  
285 give their vote on the issue concerned.
- 286 • In case one of the EC member does not give their vote in due time, their  
287 vote will be automatically counted as positive (approval).
- 288 • Derogation from this is accepted only if the respective EC member has  
289 announced in advance to the rest of the EC and Secretariat that they will  
290 not be available for communication for a certain period of time that  
291 coincides with the decision making period.
- 292 • In this case the decision is either postponed until all EC members are  
293 available or the vote of the absent EC member will be counted as they  
294 specify in their note of absence.



295 3.1.12 The Executive Committee can establish financial regulations concerning  
296 travel expenses for  
297 participants at any CDN activity or meeting of CDN bodies within the confines of  
298 the Financial  
299 Plan. Unless other financial regulations are decided upon by the EC the general  
300 rule for all CDN events  
301 is that participants who are subject to reimbursement can only get reimbursed  
302 for their travel  
303 costs only in the case of 85% of their attendance of official programme  
304 (exceptions can be made  
305 under adequately justified circumstances).

306 3.1.13 These financial regulations have to be transparent to all which are  
307 subject to that.

308 3.1.14 The Executive Committee should comprise:

- 309 • Chairperson
- 310 • Treasurer
- 311 • Secretary
- 312 • eventually Vice-Chairpersons

313 The Treasurer is obliged to make a financial update to the EC at every physical  
314 meeting  
315 (including general expenditures and incomes). The treasurer also presents a  
316 detailed annual  
317 financial report to the MOs and POs at the General Assembly at the end of their  
318 mandate.

319 3.1.15 These Executive Committee positions are to be chosen by Executive  
320 Committee members  
321 from amongst themselves and this decision has to be published.

322 3.1.16 The Executive Committee has the right to delegate a person to represent  
323 CDN. A written  
324 report has to be presented to the Executive Committee during 10 days after the  
325 end of the event.

326 3.1.17 All Executive Committee Members are obliged to respect and represent the  
327 wider interests  
328 of CDN and not solely represent the interests of their organization.

## 329 **3.2 Study visits**

330 3.2.1 The study visit is the tool to get an overview of an organization.

331 3.2.2 The EC mandates one or several persons to perform the study visit.

332 3.2.3 Project study visit is obligatory for every international project and  
333 activity of CDN and it must

334 gather all necessary information concerning the activity, capability and ability  
335 of an organization

336 especially concerning their obligations as a host organization (including the  
337 preparation, facilities,

338 local circumstances and hosting environment of the activity).

339 3.2.4 At the end of the study visit, the appointed persons have to send the  
340 report on the study

341 visit to the members of the EC, not later than 45 days after the study visit.  
342 The report has to

343 provide clear and objective picture of the situation so that, based on that  
344 Report, the EC members

345 can make relevant decisions.

#### 346 **4. Member, Partner and Observer Organizations:**

347 4.1 The definition of Member and Partner organization is explained in detail in  
348 the Statutes.

349 4.2 Observer organizations have the right to fully participate in CDN's events  
350 and Working Groups.

351 Furthermore, observer organizations have the right be present at the General  
352 Assembly.

353 Reimbursement of travel costs to statutory meetings will be done according to  
354 CDN's financial

355 possibilities. Observer organisations are not necessarily bound to Eastern  
356 Europe geographically but express interest in the political and topical issues  
357 of the region and want to get involved and contribute to CDN.

358 4.3 Criteria for becoming a Member, Partner or Observer organization:

359 4.3.1 General criteria:

360 4.3.1.1 Youth organization (NGO, Youth wing of Green party, youth movements,  
361 youth of

362 organizations that are dealing with issues applicable with CDN aims)

363 4.3.1.2 Do not need to be registered, but statutes needed

364 4.3.2 Sustainability criteria:

365 4.3.2.1 Not one project based organization

366 4.3.2.2 Democratic structure (as understood by the GA on an ad hoc basis)

367 4.3.3 Value and issue criteria:

368 4.3.3.1 Compatible with CDN Political Platform

369 4.3.3.2 Open for Green values as a whole, even if actions are streamed towards  
370 specific issues

371 4.4. All Member, Partner and Observer Organizations must name one contact person  
372 from their

373 organisation and provide contact details to the Secretariat.

374 4.5 Member, Partner and Observer organizations can send comments, suggestions  
375 and proposals

376 to the EC or Secretariat at any time. EC or Secretariat has to reflect to this  
377 motion latest 7 days

378 after receiving.

379 4.6 Dismissal and suspension of Member, Partner or Observer Organizations is  
380 explained in detail

381 in the Statutes.

## 382 **5. Working groups:**

383 5.1 The Executive Committee may set up a Working Group if the following  
384 conditions are fulfilled:

- 385 • The initiative working group is active for one year and had at least two  
386 meetings;
- 387 • Working on a specific topic or goal to achieve that is according to the  
388 Political Platform of CDN and its objectives;
- 389 • It has its own aims, goals and has activity plan for the following year;
- 390 • It consists of at least 3 members from different MOs, POs, OOs or other  
391 organizations or interested individuals from different countries;
- 392 • The Executive Committee is keeping the right not to set up the Working  
393 Group even if the conditions above are fulfilled. In that case is EC has  
394 to formulate and published the reasons for that;
- 395 • It is recommended that one EC member is a member of the Working Group. If  
396 there is no EC member in the Working Group EC has to chose one of its  
397 members to follow its work. The EC has to follow the main developments in  
398 the WG and be always able to update the rest of EC regarding changes in  
399 the WG.

400 5.2 The Working Group should have at least one meeting per year.

401 5.3 Working Groups are obliged to send a report on their activities and plans to  
402 the General

403 Assembly.

404 5.4 Executive Committee can terminate the Working Group if there is violation of  
405 CDN Statutes,

406 IRPs, or Political Platform, if there is no activity for a year and no  
407 initiative for the following year,

408 or on the wish of the Working Group it self.

## 409 **6. Preptteams**

410 6.1. Preptteams are temporary bodies for the planning, organisation and follow-up  
411 of specific

412 projects.

413 6.2. Prep team members are selected by the EC via an open call. In case of prep  
414 team member

415 opting out, EC can co-opt a new prepteam member.

416 6.3. At least one EC member should be part of the prepteam and be a  
417 communication person

418 between prepteam and EC.

419 6.4. Prepteam can take decisions regarding the project independently and can  
420 consult EC for a

421 support or in case of internal problems.

## 422 **7. Secretariat rules and procedures**

423 7.1 The daily work of the Network is carried out by the Secretariat under the  
424 responsibility of the

425 Network Coordinator.

426 7.2 The Network Coordinator has to be selected by the 2/3 majority of the  
427 Executive Committee.

428 7.3 All members of the Secretariat are appointed by the Executive Committee  
429 based on the

430 proposal by the Network Coordinator. EC can not dismiss any member of the  
431 Secretariat without

432 the consultation of the Network Coordinator.

433 7.4 The Secretariat is responsible for:

- 434 • Management of the organization;
- 435 • Supervising of development and responsibility of all formal contracted  
436 obligations of projects towards funders;
- 437 • External communications with 3rd parties (administrative responsible contacts)  
438 i.e. fundraiser, partner organizations;
- 439 • Coordination and facilitation of the CDN Activity Plan and Strategy Statement;
- 440 • Support of the EC work and facilitation of EC meetings;
- 441 • Reporting of all of its responsibilities to the EC;
- 442 • Other duties and responsibilities of the Secretariat are explained in the  
443 internal documents of CDN (Project management, Project contract, Network  
444 Coordinator contract, Office Coordinator contract and other).

445 7.5 The detailed explanation of the work and responsibilities of the members of  
446 the Secretariat are

447 written and described their contracts.

448 7.6 The Executive Committee has to publish an open call for candidates for any  
449 paid position

450 longer than 3 months.

451 7.7 Short term employees up to 3 months can be excluded from the open call.

452 7.8 The selection criteria for an employee will be decided by the Executive  
453 Committee.

454 **END**

## **A2** Political Platform

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/07/2020

### Motion text

#### 1 **COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK EASTERN EUROPE**

#### 2 **CDN Political Platform**

3 *As decided by the delegates of CDN General Assembly, March 2020, Ratomka,*  
4 *Belarus*

5 We, the Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe (CDN), are committed  
6 to upholding and advancing the values of the Green movement. We believe that the  
7 well-being of people and the flourishing of the environment are closely linked  
8 and that one cannot defend the interests of one while forgetting the other.

9 We are convinced that a radical change of our current social, political, and  
10 economic institutions is necessary. Eastern Europe – where issues such as  
11 corruption, pollution and discrimination loom large – can only profit from a  
12 Green vision. We strive for a world in which human rights are upheld, the  
13 genders are truly equal, people actively participate in democracy, minorities  
14 are included, and the environment is protected. We believe that human and social  
15 rights are fundamental everywhere and that global affairs must be conducted in a  
16 spirit of peace, solidarity and fairness.

17 As Greens, we know that our values are interrelated and that solutions are  
18 sustainable only when these values mutually support each other.

19 This document lays out the values that inform and motivate our actions.

#### 20 **1 Democracy**

21 We believe in democracy as one of the cornerstones of a free and just society.  
22 Democracy includes more than just elections – a strong and fair institutional  
23 framework, free and diverse media, human rights, and economic and social  
24 equality are all crucial. It is especially important that our political  
25 structures are inclusive and give a voice to minorities and the disenfranchised.  
26 We strive for a democracy that enables and encourages active participation in  
27 the shaping of our common future.

#### 28 **1.1 Democracy**

29 We believe in democracy as the fairest way of governance. But for democracy to  
30 fulfill this promise all citizens must have equal rights and the capacity to be  
31 involved in decision-making processes. Election systems must be representative  
32 and inclusive in order to give a voice to the disenfranchised and to avoid the  
33 unjust accumulation of power. We support self-governance at the grass-root level  
34 as the most non-discriminatory and just manifestation of democratic governance.  
35 We believe in self-determination as all people's right to pursue their

36 independent political status or cultural development without external  
37 interference.

38 We stand for actively engaged civil society as an integral part of democracy. An  
39 appropriate environment for a sustainable and well-functioning civil society is  
40 of utmost importance for the development and stability of democratic practices.  
41 Voluntary action and active citizenship is an important tool to strengthen  
42 democracy.

43 We demand:

- 44 • democratic governance in all social and political institutions;
- 45 • the implementation of grass-root methods on all levels of governance;
- 46 • that community activism and human solidarity be encouraged by the  
47 legislative framework;
- 48 • the recognition and validation of voluntary work by employers and  
49 educational institutions;
- 50 • the guarantee of youth participation in institutional politics;
- 51 • that the voting age is lowered to at least 16.

## 52 **1.2. Human rights and the rule of law**

53 We believe that human rights are universal. A democratic society must ensure the  
54 protection of individual liberties, human rights and the rights of minorities.  
55 Freedom of expression and speech must always be respected. We acknowledge that  
56 respect of human rights cannot be guaranteed without recognizing and combating  
57 hate speech, which affects the most vulnerable groups in society.

58 The protection of human rights depends on the rule of law. Equality before the  
59 law is an imperative for all societies for it ensures that all people,  
60 regardless of their status, get equal access to the rights they are entitled to.  
61 It furthermore allows governmental decisions to be challenged on an equal  
62 footing.

63 The rule of law both depends on and enables transparency, which is an crucial  
64 element and backbone of democratic societies. Transparency provides powerful  
65 tools that enable people to hold their governments to account and help prevent  
66 abuse of power and corruption. We believe that transparency and rule of law are  
67 not only a matter of justice, but it further enables people to empower  
68 themselves.

69 We demand:

- 70 • open and accessible government documents;
- 71 • fair and accessible legislative processes;
- 72 • that states recognize and fight hate speech;
- 73 • that laws are designed in accordance with people's rights;
- 74 • the active participation of civil society in the design and management of  
75 public institutions;

- 76       • that governments ensure full and equal access to justice for all citizens.

### 77 **1.3 Media and digital rights**

78 A free, diverse and critical media landscape is crucial to a well-functioning  
79 democracy, allowing citizens to express their views, gain information, and  
80 engage in political deliberation. We believe that only a media that is not  
81 controlled by a few big enterprises can fulfill its role in holding governments  
82 accountable.

83 Media must be supported in this task by adequate transparency laws and the  
84 protection from government interference and arrest.

85 The internet has quickly become one of the main public spaces where people gain  
86 and exchange information, both among themselves as well as with those who are in  
87 positions of government. For the internet to remain a space where society can  
88 meet and deliberate, we must ensure that the internet is free from mass  
89 surveillance both by government and commercial entities. New online forms of  
90 participatory democracy and culture must be explored. We must encourage the  
91 formation of free and open online social spaces that are self-governed and  
92 inclusive.

93 We demand:

- 94       • an end to censorship and threats to free media - both online and offline;
- 95       • a media law that ensures that media is not controlled by the economic  
96        elite advancing their own interests;
- 97       • an end to the detention and imprisonment of journalists;
- 98       • the protection of journalists' sources and whistleblowers;
- 99       • an end to invasions of privacy online both by governments and by  
100        companies;
- 101       • support for alternative online communities that function according to  
102        principles of self-governance and inclusion;
- 103       • net neutrality, which implies treating all Internet communications  
104        equally;
- 105       • affirmative action programs that foster the active participation of women  
106        and other disadvantaged genders in the digital sphere;
- 107       • ensuring equal access for everyone regardless of geographical disbalances.

### 108 **1.4. Solidarity against nationalism**

109 An inclusive society and long term sustainable prosperity can only be achieved  
110 with a defeat of exclusionary ideologies such as right-wing nationalism and  
111 populism. Applying the populist narrative to politics, social and economic  
112 policy leads to insecurity, divisions and exclusion of the most threatened  
113 groups. This can, in future open space for conflicts between these groups.  
114 Nationalist and xenophobic political agendas further weaken the disenfranchised  
115 and strengthen the powerful. Nationalism is often bound up in racism and  
116 bigotry, organising against which is a key part of Green politics.



117 We believe solidarity to be a foundation on which all progress is built. We  
118 stand for cooperation and mutual collaboration as solutions to the split  
119 societies that exclusionary ideologies create.

120 We demand:

- 121 • the rejection of politics of division and politics that seek to use  
122 nationalistic or any other kind of exclusionary rhetoric at the expense of  
123 minorities and vulnerable groups;
- 124 • not to provide a public arena for rhetoric and policies that aim at  
125 inciting hatred;
- 126 • an end to the discrimination of groups that do not conform to national  
127 customs shared by the majority.

## 128 **2 Social rights**

129 We believe that social rights are essential for all people to be autonomous  
130 members of their societies. Social rights should be considered fundamental and  
131 be provided by all governments. Social rights include equal access to quality  
132 education and healthcare, right to housing and employment. It is crucial to have  
133 strong implementation of social rights to have an inclusive, equal and just  
134 society in peace.

### 135 **2.1 Gender**

136 Gender equality is fundamental to a just society.

137 The capitalistic economic system and mode of production, alongside with long-  
138 standing patriarchal traditions have resulted in the oppressive, exploitative  
139 and discriminatory treatment of non-males, effectively relegating them to  
140 second-class status. Sustained action, guided by a strong feminist perspective,  
141 is needed to overcome this problem. Gender equality is the necessary foundation  
142 for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. The first step in achieving  
143 these rights is proportional representation of people of various gender  
144 identities in representative bodies.

145 We demand:

- 146 • equal access to the labour market, opportunities and fair pay for people  
147 of all genders; the gender pay gap must be eliminated;
- 148 • better policies against gender-based violence with determined combating of  
149 discrimination and hate crime against LGBTI+ people and a legal recognition  
150 of all sexual orientation, gender identities, and gender expression and  
151 sex characteristics;
- 152 • that governments ensure equal access to social rights for people of all  
153 genders;
- 154 • LGBTI+ people should have equal rights with regard to marriage, adoption  
155 and parenting, work-related benefits, pension rights and immigration and  
156 asylum;
- 157 • that sex work is legalised – or at the minimum decriminalised – to  
158 protect the human, health and labour rights of sex workers;

- 159 • proportional representation of all gender identities in assemblies on all  
160 levels of government.

## 161 2.2 Social security

162 We believe that one of the strongest cohesive forces in any society is social  
163 solidarity expressed in practice through state guaranteed social security.  
164 Social security is an important means for achieving prosperity for all, equality  
165 and meaningful lives. A welfare state should enable all inhabitants to lead  
166 dignified lives. In order to achieve this social security should not only ensure  
167 survival but enable people to actively participate in the cultural and social  
168 life of their communities.

169 We demand:

- 170 • free, accessible and adequate healthcare guaranteed by the state;
- 171 • affordable, accessible, adequate housing as well as free public housing  
172 guaranteed by the state with a special emphasis on the housing needs of  
173 young people;
- 174 • the right to an income which covers physical and social needs and which  
175 does not depend on employment;
- 176 • that all citizens have full and equal opportunities for personal and  
177 social development.
- 178 • that the housing market/rental market is regulated on the local level,  
179 through decisions made by the city government, civil society and local  
180 communities as equal partners;
- 181 • that state bans (either by expropriating or purchasing property)  
182 largelandlords in the city and turns the property into free or affordable  
183 social housing.

## 184 2.3 Youth

185 As an organisation of young people, we recognise the key role of youth in  
186 society. Youth is not only the future of society but its present too. Often,  
187 they are not seen as an active and equal actor in the political, social,  
188 cultural, and economic spheres and are excluded from decision-making processes  
189 or treated as mere tokens. We support youth rights in every aspect of social and  
190 political life and strive for making youth's voice heard. We believe that active  
191 citizenship should be encouraged among youth and, as a minimum, youth rights  
192 should be proactively defended in order to strengthen their position in society.  
193 Education is one of the most important means enabling youth to stand up for  
194 their rights and fully contribute to democracy. We believe the current  
195 educational system must be fundamentally reformed enabling the direct and equal  
196 participation of students in the learning process. Education is for progress,  
197 sustainability, diversity, and prosperity. We highlight the value and importance  
198 of non-formal education as an inclusive alternative to current institutional  
199 forms of education and as a major provider of skills to foster participation in  
200 democracy.

201 We demand:

- 202 • free, accessible, and adequate education for all;
- 203 • accessible legal means for youth to insist on their rights;
- 204 • youth centers in every community;
- 205 • independent funds for youth projects by youth;
- 206 • learning processes that are adjusted to individual learners' needs,  
207 competences and interests;
- 208 • support for and recognition of non-institutional and alternative forms of  
209 education.

## 210 **2.4 Inclusion**

211 As a Green organisation encompassing a geographically and ethnically diverse  
212 region, cultural rights and non-discrimination is a vital part of our worldview.  
213 Cultural diversity is of fundamental value to us. Protection of diversity  
214 fosters inclusion and equal participation of every person in state affairs,  
215 public and everyday life, and guarantees that each individual has equal  
216 opportunities for personal and social fulfillment. Inclusion and openness help  
217 create a more welcoming society, where a variety of ideas, efforts and  
218 perspectives may thrive.

219 We believe that every community has the right to use their own language and to  
220 preserve their traditions as long as they do not violate the rights of others.

221 Therefore we stand for social sensitivity, peaceful co-existence, preservation  
222 of local languages and cultural heritage and traditions where their compatible  
223 with non violence and inclusion of vulnerable groups. We condemn any  
224 discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual-orientation, belief,  
225 self-identity et cetera.

226 We demand:

- 227 • that state guarantees for the protection of cultural heritage for all  
228 ethnic and cultural groups in accordance with values of non-violence and  
229 non-exclusion;
- 230 • that discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual-orientation,  
231 belief, self-identity etc. is made illegal;
- 232 • that state guarantees for the usage of minority languages in areas where  
233 accepting them as official languages is reasonable;
- 234 • that states do not impose any defining characteristics, such as  
235 exclusionary cultural norms, as the ones to be followed by citizens.

## 236 **3 Environmental justice**

237 We as Young Greens take ecology and environmental justice as guiding principles  
238 in our world view and political ideology. Out of all species on Earth, human  
239 beings are the only ones drastically using and subduing nature to suit their own  
240 needs. Pollution, the altering of habitats, extinction of species, climate  
241 change et cetera affect all living organisms. A healthy environment and stable  
242 ecosystems are a prerequisite for a healthy society. At this moment many are

243 living beyond the capacities of this planet and have little awareness of the  
244 repercussions thereof. We need to start acting responsibly and humbly, building  
245 a society on the principles of sustainability and respect of nature's  
246 capacities, limiting our own harmful impact.

### 247 **3.1 Climate change**

248 Decisive action to counteract climate change should be taken immediately. The  
249 global scientific consensus has laid out very clear warnings that this is non-  
250 negotiable. As an issue that will have irreversible and tragic effects on all of  
251 humankind, this is something we understand as urgent and a priority. To properly  
252 fight the acceleration of climate change, climate action should be taken at all  
253 levels, from the personal to the global.

254 We condemn the discourses in the mainstream politics relying on future solutions  
255 to mitigate the effects of climate crisis, such as carbon (re)capture, nuclear  
256 fusion and heavily electrified machinery. These instruments promote growth based  
257 economies which are exploitative of our natural resources and most of  
258 individuals in the society. Furthermore, all these solutions shift the  
259 responsibility to the future generations, while it's in fact, up to us to act  
260 today to prevent the worst effects of climatechange.

261 We demand:

- 262 • the ownership of responsibility to mitigate the effects of climate crisis  
263 by the political and business elites;
- 264 • that the biggest polluters – both companies and countries – are held  
265 accountable for their contribution to climate change and care for its  
266 victims;
- 267 • that all states create comprehensive plans to transition to 100% renewable  
268 energy that is produced and controlled locally and affordable to everyone;
- 269 • that no plans for new fossil fuel extraction or burning are made or  
270 approved and divestment from fossil fuel is encouraged;
- 271 • that global climate policy (i.e. UNFCCC) is not a vehicle for corporate  
272 interest and instead puts the needs of all citizens first.
- 273 • the application of present solutions to mitigate climate change instead of  
274 potential future instruments;
- 275 • the dismissal of exploitative growth based economy in favor of a just  
276 degrowth based economy.

### 277 **3.2 Environmental preservation and biodiversity**

278 We recognize that the planet does not serve just humankind but all living  
279 beings. We believe that the protection of natural resources and the earth itself  
280 is crucial. Other living beings and their preservation should be considered an  
281 important part of all decision making. Energy should be produced sustainably and  
282 not do irreversible damage to the planet.

283 We demand:

- 284 • that all policies' effects on the planet are considered and that harmful  
285 extraction techniques (e.g. fracking) are banned;
- 286 • that authorities stop deforestation and support the growth of new forests  
287 and trees;
- 288 • that animals be given legal rights that go beyond their utility for  
289 humankind;
- 290 • more education on endangered plants and animals and the crucial role  
291 plants and animals play in our ecosystem;
- 292 • that the use of agricultural land for fuel is forbidden and that research  
293 into recovering fuels from waste is promoted.

### 294 **3.3 Water and food**

295 Water and food security has to be one of the primary concerns and aims of  
296 society. They are basic for the survival of every human being. Access to clean  
297 water resources and quality food should be unconditionally guaranteed as an  
298 intrinsic right for all living beings. Consumers should be incentivised to  
299 change their habits, prioritising a low carbon diet by consuming local and  
300 organic food. We oppose Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) in food and farming  
301 and any monopolisation in food production and seed. Food production should be  
302 done with great care for their impact on human health, the environment and other  
303 living beings and based on principles of sustainability.

304 We demand:

- 305 • clean and potable water for every household; the privatisation of water  
306 sources should be forbidden;
- 307 • that water and food are of secure and sustainable based on the latest  
308 scientific knowledge and social values;
- 309 • an access to adequate, easy to understand information about the  
310 production, origin, content and health-effects of the food products we  
311 consume;
- 312 • a ban on the use of additives and other substances that harm living  
313 organisms, soil and water;
- 314 • a regulation of the monopolies in food production and water provision.

### 315 **3.4 Urban ecosystems**

316 Urban areas are the most quickly developing human settlements in the world. A  
317 majority of the population now lives there, making cities a crucial part of our  
318 societies. Cities have high demands for goods (e.g. food, water and energy)  
319 which they are not fully able to satisfy themselves, and which are imported from  
320 other areas. As big concentrations of people and human activity, cities produce  
321 and are subject to high pollution and lower standards of living than in rural  
322 areas. Cities should not continue to function in a way that is harmful to their  
323 inhabitants and the rest of the planet and its people.

324 We demand:

- 325 • that measures of precaution are taken to ensure that the Air Quality Index  
326 (AQI) in inhabited areas stays below 100;
- 327 • that public transportation is a reliable, accessible, fast and cheap or  
328 free option of transport for all citizens;
- 329 • that urban areas are transformed to encompass green zones and prioritise  
330 cycling and walking to other means of transport;
- 331 • an uncompromising zero-waste policy for all national and local waste  
332 management systems, with strong incentives (e.g. high fees for unsorted  
333 waste);
- 334 • the promotion of waste prevention and re-usage of materials from an early  
335 age and to all generations of society, and simple and accessible recycling  
336 for everyone.

## 337 **4 Economy**

338 We believe that we urgently need a new form of organising our economy. Our  
339 societies should orient themselves away from consumerism and the accumulation of  
340 wealth and instead provide everyone with the opportunities needed to live a  
341 fulfilled life. The current economic model has had serious negative consequences  
342 for people and the environment. Firstly, the unequal distribution of wealth  
343 directly affects countless lives and entrenches power imbalances. Secondly, the  
344 use of natural resources to produce more and more material goods endangers the  
345 environment and affects especially the lives of the marginalised and future  
346 generations.

347 We believe that the answer can only be a community-based approach based on  
348 cooperation and sustainability where meeting everyone's fundamental needs –  
349 including our desires for sociality and creativity – take center stage.

### 350 **4.1 Labour**

351 Work constitutes a large part of most people's lives and livelihoods are often  
352 directly linked to income generated by labour. Therefore, fair and just labour  
353 rights are crucial aspects of personal well-being and functioning democracies.  
354 The right not to be exploited in the workplace is fundamental for a healthy  
355 society. Women, youth and minorities are still the most vulnerable to  
356 exploitation in their work- there should be stronger protection for these  
357 groups. Today's economic model has seen a rise in jobs which offer  
358 unsatisfactory working conditions such as low wages, unstable hours, tasks that  
359 are not mentally stimulating, and precarious contracts. These developments are  
360 detrimental to society as a whole. Our economy and concept of work should focus  
361 on providing jobs that give enable for material and mental well-being.

362 We demand:

- 363 • equal labour rights for all people, regardless of their gender, race,  
364 sexual orientation, disability, or nationality;
- 365 • abolishment of unpaid internships;
- 366 • a living wage, or income that is enough to sustain your basic needs;
- 367 • abolishment of contracts that do not guarantee a set number of hours;

- 368 • protection of labour unions and collective bargaining;
- 369 • that the highest salary in a company be no more than 6 times the lowest
- 370 salary.

## 371 4.2 Trade

372 As one of the key drivers of globalization, trade is a crucial aspect of our  
373 societies and current economic model. This has resulted in the proliferation of  
374 economic inequality and instability, rather than creating an economy that  
375 benefits everyone. This has been driven by reckless self-interested behavior by  
376 multinationals and the financial sector and aggressive trade policies that are  
377 created in the interest of corporations, not the wider society. This gives  
378 unequal power to business interests, leading countries to a democratic deficit.  
379 Trade is important and can benefit humanity greatly, but it must be undertaken  
380 in the spirit of fair cooperation and respect for the environment.

381 We demand:

- 382 • that undemocratic trade deals that favour corporate over citizens'  
383 interests are replaced with fair trade deals where partners benefit  
384 equally;
- 385 • that all trade agreements are put under serious scrutiny: negotiations  
386 must be transparent and review from citizens groups and civil society  
387 should play a crucial role;
- 388 • that trade relationships between Eastern Europe and the EU and other major  
389 partners are truly beneficial to all parties;
- 390 • that all trade agreements have a sincere environmental evaluation chapter  
391 taking the center stage of the contract.

## 392 4.3 Alternative economic organisation

393 We envision a system of economic organisation that is based on collective  
394 stewardship of our natural resources and collective control of the means of  
395 production. Communities need to be in control of the production facilities and  
396 decide themselves what their needs are and how they can be best fulfilled. We  
397 need to put an end to the privatisation and commodification of our common goods:  
398 our environment, our cultural heritage and the knowledge produced by the  
399 sciences.

400 Work must allow people to contribute to our common good and realise their  
401 capacities. Less stress should be put on the production of material goods and  
402 more on collaboration, the provision of social goods, and the development of the  
403 arts and sciences. This new economy needs to be sustainable in all aspects and  
404 always include the needs of future generations and of our environment in its  
405 thinking.

406 We demand:

- 407 • a reform of intellectual property rights law;
- 408 • progressive taxation and prosecution of tax avoidance;
- 409 • transparent and participatory budgets controlled by citizens;

- 410 • a stop to the privatisation of common goods;
- 411 • a re-democratisation of privatised public and common goods;
- 412 • support for the establishment of cooperatives.

## 413 **5 Global Affairs**

414 We strongly believe that the social change we envision can only be achieved  
415 through cooperation at the global level aimed at reaching sustainable solutions.  
416 We support international organisations, unions and agreements that work towards  
417 peaceful solutions to armed conflict and foster cooperation on climate issues,  
418 fair international trade and humanitarian support. We call for the economically  
419 more developed nations of the north to assume the responsibility for their  
420 historical behaviour and act to lower the difference with the majority of  
421 countries, which have suffered and still suffer from exploitation. All  
422 international relations should be based on non-violence and conflicts should be  
423 solved in negotiations based on mutual respect and multilateral communication. A  
424 fairer and more equal world, with a more balanced distribution of goods and  
425 resources, is better for everyone.

### 426 **5.1 Peace**

427 We as Young Greens strongly stand for peaceful means as a core principle and  
428 strive to create a world with a culture of nonviolence. War is both the cause  
429 and consequence of great human suffering and as such must be overcome if people  
430 are to live fulfilling lives. International cooperation and peaceful  
431 facilitation of negotiations should be the primary way of addressing conflict.  
432 We condemn all behaviour by public and private stakeholders that aims at  
433 profiting from armed conflict, and see it as complicit in the perpetuation of  
434 the destruction of societies and the earth. We want to build a strong and  
435 sustainable peace by strengthening tolerance, economic equality, environmental  
436 protection, respect of human rights and social security in all parts of the  
437 world.

438 We demand:

- 439 • the abolishment of organizations that propagate military actions, except  
440 when acting in self-defence against armed oppressive regimes;
- 441 • the pursuit of general and complete disarmament and a stop to arms trade;
- 442 • an international agreement to ensure a complete and definitive ban on  
443 nuclear, biological and chemical arms, anti-personnel mines and depleted  
444 uranium weapons;
- 445 • respect for everyone's right to self-determination, specifically the  
446 peaceful separation of countries who desire independence;
- 447 • that the international treaties on armed conflict, such as the Geneva  
448 Convention, are respected in all armed conflicts and that breaches of  
449 these treaties are severely punished.



## 450 **5.2 European Union**

451 We understand Europe as being more than just an accumulation of individual  
452 countries. Cultural, economic, historical and political reasons make Europe an  
453 interdependent and transnational community.

454 The European Union should be a mutual and crucial project to enhance the  
455 cooperation among the countries of the continent. The European Union must be a  
456 community based on mutual respect, transparency, and prosperity. We see the  
457 future of Eastern European countries as being part of this community, however,  
458 not at the expense of becoming a source of underpaid labour or a market for  
459 otherwise unwanted products.

460 We demand:

- 461 • that the EU guarantees equal treatment and rights of Eastern European  
462 citizens coming to work within the EU in law as well as in practice;
- 463 • that Eastern European countries are treated as equal partners within and  
464 outside of the EU;
- 465 • the democratisation of the EU's institutions – direct elections for the  
466 Commission, real decision making power for the Parliament;
- 467 • that accession negotiations are transparent and in the best interest of  
468 all people and that information regarding accession criteria and progress  
469 are publicly available;
- 470 • that every country willing to join the EU asks their own citizens in a  
471 referendum prior to concluding accession talks.

## 472 **5.3 Migration**

473 Both voluntary and involuntary migration has increased in recent years due to  
474 various factors – it is one of the most pressing matters of our age. Economic  
475 uncertainty, armed conflicts and climate change are all driving people away from  
476 their homelands in search of a safer existence. We understand that we all bear  
477 the responsibility of providing a safe environment and a fair asylum system for  
478 the people fleeing conflict, hunger and oppression. We condemn any form of human  
479 trafficking, human rights violation and abuse of power by authorities regarding  
480 refugees.

481 We believe that freedom of movement is the right of every human being. We strive  
482 to create a world in which no person is considered illegal, where people are not  
483 forced to leave their homes, and where societies show solidarity with all people  
484 seeking refuge. Not only does diversity boost the economy and innovation, but a  
485 diverse and culturally rich society is a strong one.

486 We demand:

- 487 • a right to asylum in all countries and the abolishment of the concept of  
488 illegal persons;
- 489 • easing naturalisation procedures;
- 490 • the right to reunite with one's family;

- 491 • the availability and accessibility of institutions that facilitate  
492 integration;
- 493 • that the international agreements guaranteeing the basic human rights of  
494 refugees and asylum seekers (regardless of their official legal status) be  
495 respected;
- 496 • that all refugees and asylum seekers have the same social rights as  
497 citizens and be allowed to settle in the country of their choosing;
- 498 • the abolishment of visa regimes that obstruct the free movement of people,  
499 especially between Eastern European countries and the EU.

500 **END**

## **A3** Statutes

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 02/15/2010

### Motion text

#### 1 **Statutes**

2 The founder institutes hereby the Statutes for the Association and that in the  
3 following  
4 manner:

#### 5 **Title 1: Basic Act**

##### 6 Article 1 – Form -Denomination

7 The form of the Association is an international association with none lucrative  
8 objective  
9 (with international benefits), in compliance to the laws and is being named as  
10 the  
11 Cooperation and Development Network of Eastern Europe, in short the CDN.

12 In all acts, bills, announcements, publications and other pages issued by the  
13 International Association having none lucrative objective a designation of the  
14 Association must be mentioned with above or further added wording “International  
15 Association without a lucrative objective” or the abbreviation IALO (AISBL) as  
16 well as  
17 its’ seat address.

##### 18 Article 2 – Social Seat

19 Social seat of the Association is set to be in Belgium in Ixelles (1050  
20 Brussels) at rue  
21 Wiertz, 31, in the Brussels township.

22 The seat can be transferred in other regions in Belgium according to a Decision  
23 of  
24 simple majority of present or represented members of the Administration Council.  
25 However, in no way can the seat be transferred abroad.

26 Every Act on stating transfer of the Association seat must be submitted (“in  
27 extensor”)  
28 to the Association’s file kept at the Commercial Tribunal, into the  
29 Association’s Registry  
30 and should be published in Annexes of Belgian Monitors Supervisors.

##### 31 Article 3 Objective – Activities

32 As non-profiting Association with none lucrative objective, it has the following  
33 strategies  
34 of international benefit:

- 35 - Promotion of ecology (in its broad sense: environment, social and political  
36 ecology) and the stability with the young Europeans, using all non-violent means  
37 at the disposal.
- 38 - Encouragement for realization of ecology studies and reflections in various  
39 forms (in its broad sense) with the young democrats of the whole Europe,  
40 accentuating Eastern Europe (European countries non-members of European Union).
- 41 - To unite the young people of various European nations, to establish and favor  
42 dialogues on regional and national differences
- 43 - To coordinate joint actions of organizations members towards development and  
44 cooperation of young people and groups in Europe, aiming to bring together  
45 European nations
- 46 - To promote objectives of joint "green" actions at the international level
- 47 - To defend rights of men and women, rights of minorities, equality of genders  
48 and  
49 the democracy, as well as the means for democratic action
- 50 - To promote long lasting development in Eastern Europe.

51 The objectives quest shall specifically be executed through following  
52 activities:

- 53 A. Activities in exchanging  
54 B. Seminars and reunions for studies  
55 C. Training programs  
56 D. Campaign on sensitiveness efforts  
57 E. Meetings  
58 F. Study visits  
59 G. Support to organizations members and partners

60 The Association can execute any act relating directly or indirectly to its  
61 objectives. It can namely assist and get involved in all activities following  
62 objectives being similar to own ones.

#### 63 Article 4 – Members

64 The Association is open to Belgian and foreign persons.

65 The Association is composed of factual members and members supporters. The  
66 factual members are called the "members" while members supporters are called  
67 "partners". Only the members will have full associates' rights assured by the  
68 Law and present Statues.

69 Number of members is not limited, while the minimum is set to be two (2). As  
70 members are also considered the initiators of founding acts as well as all other  
71 persons subsequently admitted with title of member, whose terms, when necessary,  
72 will be renewed.

73 The General Assembly can admit acceptance of partners, which will take part in  
74 the realization of the Association's goals. They would be invited to participate  
75 to Assembly, where their voting right would be a consultative one.

76 The General Assembly can be composed of various committees.

#### 77 Article 5

78 Admission of new members (factual ones and supporters) is conditioned through  
79 following clauses:

80 5.1 To be a member or partner of the CDN, an organization should send a  
81 recommended letter to the Secretariat with enclosed Statutes of their  
82 organization, with all useful information referring namely to their juridical  
83 ranking, to number of members, age limit and activity type.

84 5.2 An organization of young people not founded in time prior to the 1st January  
85 2007 in one of the countries that are not members of European Union can become  
86 member of the CDN through an application procedure whose standards are specified  
87 in the point 5.1, namely following two-thirds majority in favor of their  
88 admission during the General Assembly. Organization of young people being  
89 already established before the 1 st January 2007 in a country that was member of  
90 European Union, can become partner of the CDN through standard application  
91 specified in point 5.1, after two-thirds of Assembly General had voted in favor  
92 of their acceptance.

93 5.3 The factual members and partners must respect the Statutes, decisions taken  
94 by the General Assembly and the CDN political program.

95 5.4 The factual members and partners of the CDN have equal right to participate  
96 to events organized by the CDN.

97 Members (of various categories) can give their resignation under following  
98 conditions:

99 The factual members and partners are free to withdraw at any time from the  
100 Association by presenting their written request to the President.

101 The members having resigned have none right relating to CDN property, nor can  
102 they request refunding of any of their contribution fees.

103 Administration Council can propose expulsion of an Association member, having  
104 previously heard the defense of the member contender. The expulsion Decision can  
105 be pronounced by the General Assembly with two third majority of present or  
106 represented members.

107 The Administration Council can reschedule the case of the member contender until  
108 the Decision of the General Assembly.

109 Member (factual one or partner) can be deferred for duration of a year according  
110 to proposition of the Administration Council or upon proposition of the majority  
111 of the General Assembly, in case when member in question has not settled payment  
112 of annual fee contribution.

113 A member or partner can be expelled if he does not respect the CDN Statutes.

114 A member who stops participating in Association's activities (due to death or  
115 otherwise), does not have any right to social funds.

#### 116 Article 5bis

117 Members and partners pay fixed contribution, being fixed annually by General  
118 Assembly upon proposition of the Administration Council and pursuant to  
119 financial means of the members.

120 Members and partners must pay their contribution fee for the current year by the  
121 month of September. In case of payment failure, rights of member or partner in  
122 question will be temporary suspended by the General Assembly, until payment of  
123 the contribution fee is settled.

### 124 **Title 2: Organization**

#### 125 Chapter 1 – Managing (Administration Governing – Representation)

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126 Article 6 – General Assembly (General Managing Body)

127 The General Assembly has full power enabling realization of objectives and  
128 activities of the Association.

129 All factual members and partners are its constituents, so that supporters  
130 members can be present with only consultative prerogatives.

131 Particularly, the following processes are essential for its functioning:

- 132 a) Approval of budget and accounts
- 133 b) Election, revocation, discharge of administrators and if required, exclusion  
134 of  
135 accounts' supervisors or examiners
- 136 c) Statutes modifications
- 137 d) Approval of acts for interior order
- 138 e) Closing down of the Association
- 139 f) Exclusion of members
- 140 g) Approval of Annual Report of Administration Council

141 Article 7

142 7.1 General Assembly gathers every year, when suited at the social seat or at  
143 other place as set in convocation, under presidency of the President of  
144 Administration Council, or in case of his absence or prevention, under the  
145 Secretary's presidency.

146 Convocations for General Assembly are sent in written form by the Secretariat in  
147 the sufficient time limit before the General Assembly so that the participants  
148 can contribute to the Agenda (submit propositions, functional points etc.), in  
149 order that accompanying documents are at the disposal (via web site) to  
150 participants in such time limit allowing its reading prior the meeting.

151 Convocations are sent by post, fax, electronic mail or other communication means  
152 at least 15 (fifteen) days before the General Assembly, with included Agenda.

153 7.2 Extraordinary General Assembly could be summoned upon request of the  
154 Administration Council or by request of third of factual members under  
155 hereinafter set conditions:

156 Invitation to extraordinary General Assembly must be sent to all members at  
157 least one month before General Assembly with enclosed General Assembly Agenda.

158 7.3 The CDN will cover all costs relating to the General Assembly (voyage,  
159 accommodation, meals and visas) for designated person of an organization  
160 member). If an organization submits request to adhere, the CDN will cover the  
161 same costs for one representative of such organization requesting the  
162 partnership, when financial conditions would allow it and if the report of the  
163 Executive Committee is  
164 positive one. The CDN will preserve right to cover costs of voyage within limits  
165 being specified in the convocation for the General Assembly and in compliance to  
166 Decision of the Administration Council. The CDN is not obliged to cover costs of  
167 another designated person of the organization member or to cover costs of one  
168 designated person of the organization partner. The CDN should try to ensure  
169 funds to provide for costs of one designated person of organization partner and  
170 of another designated person of the organization member.

171 7.4 In case of lack of financial means to comply to articles 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 of  
172 General Assembly organization, the CDN Administration Council would be then  
173 obliged to inform by written all organizations members and partners about causes  
174 of such situation and to request suggestions and propositions or a postponement  
175 for a year.

176 7.5 The organization members of the CDN have right to designate two members with  
177 voting prerogatives during the General Assembly and have full right to assign  
178 their candidate for any group of organization or to propose amendments for any  
179 document of CDN organization. The genders' equality should be assured.

## 180 Article 8

181 8.1 Excluding the stipulations that are contrary to the present Statutes, the  
182 deliberation of the General Assembly will be valid only when half of members or  
183 their representatives are present.

184 8.2 Each member can be represented at the General Assembly by one or two  
185 delegates or else by another member or a third party, with assured special  
186 authorization.

## 187 Article 9

188 Excepting cases previewed by these Statutes, simple majority presented or  
189 represented members is sufficient to bring resolutions. All members are informed  
190 by electronic mail about the brought resolutions.

## 191 Article 10 – Administration Council (Administration Body)

192 1. The Association is governed by a Council composed of at least three  
193 Administrators. None maximum has been foreseen. Administrators must come from at  
194 least three different countries. However, no more than two Administrators can  
195 come from the same country. The General Assembly has right to decide on  
196 exceptional cases.

197 Beside this, three quarters of Administrators must come from organizations  
198 members, while at least one third of Administrators must be of feminine gender  
199 and at least three quarters of Administrators must be younger than thirty.

200 2. The Council has at their disposal all governing and administrative  
201 authorities as to contribute to the General Assembly.

202 3. The Council chooses from own members a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer  
203 (and eventually a Vice-Presidents etc).

204 4. The Administration Council can, out of two-thirds majority, assign one or  
205 several persons, members or not of the Administration Council, for daily  
206 managing and representation of the Association in matters of the daily managing.  
207 The persons in charge of daily managing can perform individually. Such an  
208 arrangement is set as to face third persons in the conditions previewed by the  
209 law. Any restriction relating to the representation authorities, being accorded  
210 to the person in charge of daily  
211 managing; for the daily managing functioning; can not be questioned by third  
212 parties, even if published. The person in charge of daily managing will have a  
213 title of "Designated Administrator \ Secretary" or a title of "General  
214 Director", as long this person is member or not of the Administration Council.  
215 He could equally have a title of the "Network Coordinator and\or "Office  
216 Coordinator".

217 5. The Administration Council can assign several persons for the daily managing.  
218 In such case, they should act jointly, excluding affairs relating to accounts,  
219 for which a signature of one person in charge of daily managing is sufficient.

220 6. The Administration Council can establish a whole consultative center or any  
221 equivalent if evaluated as useful, whose role would be to counsel or advise the  
222 Administration Council on issues of particular cases.

223 7. Identity of one or more delegates for daily managing shall be forwarded to  
224 the Commercial Tribunal Registry and should be published in Annexes of Belgian  
225 Monitors Supervisors.

226 8. Beside this, the Council can, within its responsibilities, entrust special  
227 and particular authorities to one or several persons.

228 9. The responsibilities of members of Administration Council shall be specified  
229 by the regulations and internal procedures of the CDN. Members of the  
230 Administration Council have no right to vote during the General Assembly, except  
231 when they are in fact the only member of their organization who is member of the  
232 CDN, being present at the General Assembly.

#### 233 Article 11- Nominations

234 The Administrators are named by the General Assembly for a mandate that ends  
235 during the next ordinary General Assembly, with a possibility of double renewal.

236 In case of vacation during their mandates, the Administration Council can assign  
237 a replacement person who will act until mandate termination of the person he is  
238 replacing. The Administrators can be revoked by the General Assembly in session  
239 with two-thirds majority of factual and represented members.

#### 240 Article 12 - Meetings

241 The Council gathers twice a year or upon special convocation of two-thirds of  
242 factual members.

243 The convocation is transmitted by post, fax, electronic mail and all other  
244 communication ways.

245 One Administrator can be represented by another Administrator.

246 The Council can deliberate constructively only when at least two-thirds of its  
247 factual or represented members are present. Its resolutions are brought with  
248 simple majority of present or represented members. In case of voice divergences,  
249 the vote of the President will be decisive.

#### 250 Article 13 – Conflict of interests

251 If Administrator has directly or indirectly an opposing interest of patrimonial  
252 nature towards a decision or an operation relating to the Administration  
253 Council, he has to pass it to other Administrators before deliberation at the  
254 Administration Council. His statement, as well as reasons justifying the  
255 contrary interest of the head of the Administrator in question, should be stated  
256 in the Minutes of the Administration Council who is to bring Decision. Beside  
257 this, he should inform eventual supervisors about it. The Administration Council  
258 describes in Minutes the disposition of Decision or operation with a  
259 justification for the taken Decision as well as the patrimonial  
260 consequences for the Association. The Managing Report should contain the  
261 complete Minutes. The Administrator in question cannot deliberate on session of



262 the Administration Council relating to operation or Decision in question, nor  
263 can he take part in the voting. This article will not apply when decisions of  
264 the Administration Council relate to usual operations taken in normal conditions  
265 for the operations of the same nature.

#### 266 Article 14 - Representation

267 With exception of special authorization, any act inducing the Association,  
268 signed by a delegated Administrator or by General Director acting alone, or by a  
269 member of the Administration Council having particular authorization, does not  
270 have to be justified to third parties, not even if demanded through announce.

271 The juridical actions in demanding or defending cases are to be followed by  
272 Administration Council being represented by a designated Administrator or the  
273 General Director acting alone or by a member of the Administration Council  
274 having special authorization.

#### 275 Chapter 2: Book Keeping

#### 276 Article 15 - Financial Year and Balance Sheets

277 The financial year terminates on the 31 st December. As for book keeping use,  
278 the first financial year begins on this day and will terminate on the 31 st  
279 December 2010.

280 With caution of application of stipulations of the Belgian Law dated seventeenth  
281 July, year thousand nine hundred seventy seven relating to the book keeping of  
282 companies, in cases previewed by articles 53 § 3 of the Law, the Administration  
283 Council is expected to submit Balance Sheets for the past financial year and  
284 following Financial Year Budget for approval of the General Assembly to convene  
285 during the next assembly.

#### 286 Article 16 - Control

287 In the case previewed by article 53 § 5, the Administration Council will confer  
288 financial control of the Association to one or several supervisors according to  
289 own choice.

### 290 **Title 3 : Modifications and Dissolution**

#### 291 Article 17

292 Without legal imposing, every proposition having for objective a modification of  
293 statutes or dissolution of the Association should originate from Administration  
294 Council or from at least (2/3) two-thirds of factual Association members.

295 The Administration Council is to inform members of the Association at least two  
296 moths in advance prior to date of General Assembly which is to deliberate about  
297 given proposition.

298 The General Assembly can properly perform only if two-thirds of members are  
299 gathered, having deliberative, present or represented voting rights.

300 Nonetheless, if that General Assembly does not gather two-thirds of the  
301 Association members, a new General Assembly will be convoked in the same  
302 conditions as above designated, which will then definitely and valuably decide  
303 on the issue, with the same majority of two-thirds of votes, notwithstanding  
304 number of present or represented members.

305 The decisions relating to vital issues such as social objective, attributions,  
306 convocation ways, decision making of the general administration bodies, as well  
307 as manner in which members are informed about the resolutions, conditions for  
308 statutes modification, for dissolution, termination and assignment of  
309 Association' social patrimony shall all be established by an authentic act to be  
310 presented to the Registry kept by the Commercial Tribunal and by Belgian  
311 Monitors Supervisors.

312 Thus, in compliance to article 50, paragraph 3 of the Law, resolution on  
313 modification of Association objective (objectives) would have effect only  
314 following approval of the King that would equally be published in the Belgian  
315 Monitors Supervisors. Other Decisions on modifications of statutory mentions do  
316 not have to be submitted for acceptance to the Belgian minister having  
317 competence or to his delegate.

#### 318 Article 18 – Liquidation and pretension to assets

319 In case of juridical or voluntary dissolution, the General Assembly will assign  
320 one or more liquidators and will set liquidation of the Association.

321 After the liquidation, eventual net assets would be conferred to one juridical  
322 person without a lucrative objective or private claims, being international or  
323 not, in compliance to realization of an objective similar to the one of the  
324 Association or at least not having a detrimental goal.

#### 325 **General stipulations**

##### 326 Article 19 - Choice of quarters

327 For the realization of these Statutes, all factual members or supporters,  
328 administrator and liquidator, residing abroad, shall choose for residence the  
329 social seat of the Association, where any communication for them can be properly  
330 submitted.

##### 331 Article 20 – Common Law

332 For everything not being covered by these Statues, it is through the Law that  
333 the competence is to be sought, while the clauses being contrary to essential  
334 stipulations are considered not written.

##### 335 Article 21 Judicial Competence

336 For any dispute between Association, its members, partners, obliging persons,  
337 Administrators, supervisors and liquidators relating to the Association's  
338 affairs and to execution of present Statutes, exclusive competence is entrusted  
339 to courts at region of the social seat, except if the Association has explicitly  
340 renounced to that.

## **A4** Strategy Document 2019-21

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/07/2020

### Motion text

#### 1 **Strategy Document 2019-2021**

2 This Strategy Document puts forward CDN's core direction over the period 2019-  
3 2021. The document is based on the consultations with member and partner  
4 organisations and is a consolidated outcome of Strategy Planning Meeting 2018.

5 The document is complementary to CDN's political platform and aims at capturing  
6 main objectives of the Network, bringing sharp focus to the work of CDN, and  
7 assisting the Executive Committee and Secretariat in developing and executing  
8 the work plans that are in line with the overall objectives; the document  
9 informs our Partners about the organisation's strategic goals and priorities for  
10 the **nextthree years**; the Strategy also describes the major areas of activities  
11 as well as proposes tools and mechanisms allowing realization of the activities  
12 of CDN in the period of 2019-2021.

#### 13 **☒Support MOs in the process of Organisational Management, Enhancing democratic 14 structures and Political Maturity**

15 Being established as a Network with a main aim of building capacities of youth  
16 Green organisations,  
17 we consider it of utmost importance to keep the main focus on supporting MOs in  
18 their 1) political 2) structural and 3) organisational development.

19 Faced our membership frequently fluctuating on the ladder of the  
20 political/organisational maturity due to internal or external factors, we will  
21 pursue upholding the work that CDN has been carrying out in this regard. Namely:

22 i. CDN will continue its work on supporting MOs in reaching political maturity  
23 and assist transformation of its MOs into youth advocacy organizations capable  
24 of policy making and negotiating. We will strive to facilitate exchange of the  
25 practices and experience between the CDN's Partner Organizations and Member  
26 Organizations with regard to advocacy, campaigning, policy-making and public  
27 communications. This will be reached through statutory activities and  
28 educational activities such as advocacy trainings and Green politics trainings.  
29 We see Green education initiative as a structure within CDN that can, supported  
30 by the EC, work on mapping the needs of MOs in this area and developing the  
31 suitable support for them.

32 ii. CDN envisions its MOs as inclusive and safe spaces for everyone with well-  
33 developed democratic structures that provide space for equal participation of  
34 all and ensure transparency in all the organisational work. Therefore, CDN will  
35 continue to work on assisting MOs with developing their democratic structures  
36 and creating safe and inclusive working environment for different  
37 underrepresented groups. Through its activities on gender and the work of the

38 Gender WG, CDN will keep working on supporting women, trans and non-binary  
 39 people to fight for equal representation within MOs structures. Moreover, we  
 40 believe that work in the direction of structural development of MOs is done  
 41 through exchange of experiences between MOs and especially Boards and  
 42 Secretariats and we will strive to provide space for MOs to exchange experiences  
 43 in this regard. Furthermore, we believe that learning comes from attending  
 44 activities and MOs' having their members represented within CDN structures such  
 45 as EC, WGs, prep-teams etc.

46 iii. CDN encourages and supports MOs in advancing their organizational  
 47 management skills as we see it crucial in order for MOs to work on fulfilling  
 48 their aims. Having this in mind, CDN will strive to  
 49 provide organisational learning opportunities for MOs such as space for exchange  
 50 of experiences between MOs Boards and Secretariats, MOs visits to MOs as well as  
 51 establish platforms for MO- MO communication. CDN will following up on MOs'  
 52 needs and accordingly organising trainings on project writing and management,  
 53 fundraising, membership management etc.

54 Last but not least, in order to perform its role in Eastern Europe, CDN should  
 55 also be strong institutionally and mature into the network with well- developed  
 56 sense of internal solidarity among its members and partners. CDN should strive  
 57 to work towards reviving internal coherence among its membership through prompt  
 58 reaction to the regional dynamics, policy positioning, solidarity actions,  
 59 proactive communication and advocacy. In this regard, we will keep fostering the  
 60 solidarity activities between our MOs.

#### 61 **☒ Geographical scope of work**

62 In order to support MOs in positioning themselves as relevant actors in  
 63 political discussions on local, regional and international level, CDN will  
 64 continue to organize activities on all three levels.

65 Through international activities, such as topical seminars, study sessions and  
 66 summer schools, CDN strives to enhance international cooperation and learning  
 67 between MOs, POs and other young Green-minded activists. We see international  
 68 activities as important space for topical development and accumulation space for  
 69 ideas and good practices as well as positioning CDN as relevant partner not only  
 70 in Green circles but also within networks working on similar topics as CDN.  
 71 Moreover, international activities stay an important opportunity for MOs to  
 72 network and increase visibility of their work in international context.

73 Regional level of work stays especially important as CDN operates in regions  
 74 that share similar issues but provide limited space for youth to cooperate due  
 75 to current and past political tensions between neighbouring countries. We see  
 76 the importance of providing the space for young people to work together in order  
 77 to understand current political and economic situations in the regions and  
 78 discuss and cooperate on topics of regional interest. CDN will continue its work  
 79 in three regions - Balkans, RUMB (Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus) and  
 80 South Caucasus and Turkey - by organising regional meetings, trainings and round  
 81 tables.

82 Apart from organising international and regional events, CDN will keep  
 83 supporting MOs locally by organising study visits, trainings and directly  
 84 supporting MOs in their work by having representatives on MOs' events when  
 85 possible, or through online consultancy. Another way of local support to MOs

86 is by co-organising side events with MOs hosting CDN activities and by this  
87 helping them rise their visibility on local level.

#### 88 **☒ Topical Diversity**

89 Throughout the years that CDN has been operating, the organisation addressed and  
90 provided  
91 exchange of expertise on variety of topics under the Green framework. Selection  
92 of topics and CDN's activities had always been a reflection of regional  
93 dynamics, challenges and needs of our MOs, POs and youth. Such an approach gives  
94 CDN flexibility to meet the demands of the existing underpinnings and  
95 development in it.

96 In order to keep the network up to date with rapid political developments and  
97 challenges in Eastern Europe, and assess their implications on green youth  
98 organisations and their agendas, CDN aims at maintaining the principle of  
99 topical diversity of its activities.

100 Cooperating under Green framework allows us to be needs-oriented.  
101 Therefore, through taking into consideration the Member and Partner  
102 Organisations' needs, CDN will  
103 strive to encompass the topics of Sustainability, Climate Change, Gender,  
104 Digital Rights and Social Justice with the intersectional approach based on  
105 principles of inclusion and democracy\*.

106 Moreover, offering Green idea as overarching framework for the variety of  
107 topics, CDN will spark the debate and continue its work on deconstruction of the  
108 concept of politics and work on its meaning as means for implementation of the  
109 Green values.

#### 110 **☒ Methodological Diversity**

111 Diversity in the activities, methods, approaches, tools and priorities is a key  
112 element  
113 for CDN in its work of empowering youth in their communities.  
114 CDN believes that Non- Formal Education (NFE) methodology – being interactive,  
115 participatory and experiential – responds to the needs and interests of young  
116 people, is based on the values of inclusion and democracy, and offers more  
117 meaningful empowerment for youth.

118 We want CDN to become a reference centre for non-formal education on youth  
119 participation based on Green values. Therefore, CDN will keep track of and  
120 attempt to further upgrade its NFE competency, and invest time and resources in  
121 educating and training members of the EC and Secretariat. By the same token, CDN  
122 will strive to strengthen its MOs' capacities by providing expertise through  
123 adopting NFE methods in its educational or statutory activities.

124 In the era of digital revolution, navigating through the plethora of information  
125 deems to be a challenging task to the individuals. On the other hand,  
126 organisations attempting to deliver the message across their targeted  
127 communities seem to face multiple difficulties and require  
128 additional financial capacities. CDN and its Member Organisations are no  
129 exception in this case.

130 In the period of 2019-2021, CDN will strive to enhance its position in online  
131 domains through stretching its capacities. In partnership with our project  
132 partners, CDN will keep on developing online  
133 courses, podcasts, webinars, among others so that they can be disseminated.

## 134 **☒ Internal Development**

135 Institutional sustainability is one of the big priorities for CDN as an  
 136 organisation stepping up on the maturity ladder, with challenges of constant  
 137 fluctuation of membership in its member organisations.  
 138 We believe the institutionalised memory that the network has accumulated should  
 139 not be stagnated, rather - enriched and matured.

140 Therefore, in the next few years CDN stresses organisational knowledge  
 141 accumulation, preservation, and transfer as one of its priorities and will  
 142 devote energy and resources to upholding the smooth  
 143 generational transfers within CDN structures - such as Secretariat-Secretariat,  
 144 EC-EC, Secretariat-EC exchange and so forth. CDN already has created and is  
 145 constantly updating the Office transfer document. In order to ensure the  
 146 expertise within the Executive Committee, CDN will strive to create the EC-EC  
 147 transfer document as well.

148 In order to successfully transfer the knowledge and capacities onto the member  
 149 organisations, CDN sees the Executive Committees' high engagement in the  
 150 membership management process utterly necessary. In 2019-2021 CDN should further  
 151 strengthen leadership role of its Executive Committee enhancing motivation,  
 152 responsibility and decision-making of the members of its Executive Committee.

153 Additionally, in the next three years CDN will work towards efficient  
 154 distribution of duties and rights among its structures in order to lead to  
 155 better understanding and ownership of CDN activities among its member and  
 156 partner organisations.

157 In order to enhance institutional sustainability as well as internal  
 158 organisational development, it is of big importance to keep CDN alumni engaged  
 159 in the network in different ways: be it trainers, educational advisors or green  
 160 aficionados. Therefore, CDN will strive to initiate the process of  
 161 creating the Alumni Network that will compose of people who had been previously  
 162 engaged within the organisation's structures and maintain close links with the  
 163 green politics.

## 164 **☒ Communication and Outreach**

165 CDN is an organisation based on its membership and one of its primary priorities  
 166 is to strengthen the relationships between its Member Organisations. We have  
 167 been achieving this as a byproduct of our educational and statutory activities  
 168 through providing platform to maintain continuous communication among MOs.

169 We see the need of this relationship to be strengthened institutionally,  
 170 supported by our Executive Committee and mediated through our online and offline  
 171 work, supporting the ideas regarding strategic partnerships and mutual  
 172 activities among the MOs and POs.

173 Realising the importance of the external communications and online presence in  
 174 the era of social media and visual communications, we see the need to  
 175 strategically invest more in building EC's capacities on communications that  
 176 will be positively reflected on CDN's visibility and outreach.

177 Moreover, we strive to boost visibility of the Eastern European Young Green  
 178 community and ensure youth perspectives are included within the wider green  
 179 movement and Green perspectives are mainstreamed within the wider youth  
 180 movement. Therefore, we see the importance of working on intensifying external

181 communication with and with other (potential) stakeholders. CDN is keen to  
182 invest in becoming members of European Youth Forum and thus widen its youth  
183 network, as well as have a representation at this youth lobby in order to  
184 contribute to the increased youth autonomy and inclusion and stronger youth  
185 organisations in Eastern Europe.

#### 186 **☒ Wider Green Family**

187 At the moment, CDN holds a good deal of knowledge, resources and successful  
188 green partnership to be a relevant actor within the wider Green Family. Yet,  
189 these cooperations need to be further strengthened in order for CDN to become a  
190 reference point as a capacity builder in Eastern European Green movement. We  
191 strive to keep these partnerships effective and fruitful: partnerships with  
192 green foundations, pan-european green and youth green networks will not only  
193 enrich our organisational knowledge and ideological stance that we later  
194 translate into educational activities, but also help us gain recognition in the  
195 struggle for youth to assume significant roles in their societies.

196 In the process of gaining green partnerships from Eastern Europe, we will try to  
197 balance between strengthening the existing network and its composing MOs and POs  
198 on the one hand, and keep on searching for potential partnerships from the  
199 societies where we do not have member/partner  
200 organisations from at the moment (Kosovo, Russia, Greece, Baltic states), on the  
201 other hand.

#### 202 **☒ Working Groups**

203 Working Groups are part of CDNs organisational structure and represent mediating  
204 bodies to ensure the bottom-up activities and engage youth that are not  
205 affiliated to organisations in their activities. Therefore, Working Groups are  
206 open to individual members and are not limited by CDN membership.  
207 Working Groups contribute to exploring the topics, regional cooperations as well  
208 as methodological diversities of CDN.

209 CDN envisions WGs as autonomous bodies with a consultative role when it comes to  
210 topical expertise  
211 and support their initiatives to plan and implement projects that resonate with  
212 MO needs and expectations. For this, CDN will put efforts in enhancing the  
213 topical cooperation between Member Organisations through Working Groups.

214 As the level of independence still varies between different working groups, CDN  
215 will strive to secure funding for (bi-)annual WG meeting that will also serve as  
216 a space for WGs to learn from each other's good practices. Moreover, CDN will  
217 support development of WG annual strategies and work plans. This would  
218 significantly help the formulation of WG identities and portfolio of activities.

#### 219 **☒ Cooperation Perspectives**

220 Hereby we'd like to stress out importance of cooperation with different  
221 stakeholders on international (European) level for entire Network. CDN is open  
222 and responsive to all initiatives that correspond to its values, are within its  
223 capacities, and to the interest and benefit for its member organizations and  
224 Eastern Europe.

#### 225 **☒ Shrinking Space for Civil Society**

226 Civil society makes critical contributions to the effective and democratic  
227 policy-making, thus also impeding corruption and societal unrest. The freedom to  
228 discuss government policies and demand  
229 government accountability accelerates positive societal progress. However, over  
230 the past years  
231 concerns have mounted about shrinking civic space across Central and Eastern  
232 Europe, including curtailing civil society organisations (CSOs) and independent  
233 media, criminalizing solidarity, restricting freedom of assembly and creating an  
234 increasingly difficult environment to pursue activism.  
235 While new technologies and interconnectedness have helped to develop civil  
236 society networks, they have also opened up new avenues for threats to civic  
237 space and dissenting voices. To that end, CDN will be exploring alternative  
238 methodologies of doing activism and affecting politics in these kind of  
239 political environments.

240 **END**



## **B1** Strategy Document 2022-24

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/24/2021

### Motion text

#### 1 **Strategy Document 2022-24**

2 This Strategy Document outlines CDN's core direction for the period 2022-24. It  
3 is a consolidated outcome of Strategy Planning Meeting that gathered CDN Member  
4 and Partner Organisations in Ratomka, Belarus in March 2020. The document is  
5 complementary to CDN's Political Platform and aims at capturing main objectives  
6 of the Network, bringing sharp focus to the work of CDN, and assisting the  
7 Executive Committee and Secretariat in developing and executing the work plans  
8 that are in line with the overall objectives. The document informs our Partners  
9 about the organisation's strategic goals and priorities for the next three  
10 years, describes the major areas of activities as well as proposes tools and  
11 mechanisms allowing realization of the activities of CDN in the period of 2022-  
12 24.

#### 13 **1 Support MOs in the process of organisational management, enhancing democratic** 14 **structures and political maturity**

15 Support to its Member Organisations remains the keystone of CDN's mission. The  
16 work of CDN is directed towards supporting MOs in their organisational  
17 management, enhancement of democratic structures and political maturity.

18 CDN will support the further work towards increasing MOs' capacities for  
19 becoming youth advocacy organisations, capable of taking active role in the  
20 political processes in their local/national context, being visible for the wider  
21 masses and referred to by diverse stakeholders. This will be done through  
22 political maturity raising at seminars, trainings, political conferences, and  
23 statutory meetings such as General Assembly, as well as direct support.

24 In parallel, CDN will be working on encouraging MOs to question their democratic  
25 structures, especially in relation to power dynamics, inclusion and ensuring the  
26 factual safe space. This will be achieved with specific trainings, but also  
27 through setting the example by continuous work on improving CDN's internal  
28 structures and mechanisms for cultivating safe spaces.

29 Big part of CDN's work remains cooperation as we see mutual support and exchange  
30 between MOs as a core catalyst for building strong EE Green youth movement. CDN  
31 will continue to support exchange between MOs, not only through international  
32 and regional activities, but also through supporting direct MO-MO cooperation.  
33 This will be done through mediation, advisory and financial support when  
34 possible. We believe this further supports building the international solidarity  
35 and regional cooperation among members and partners. This being mentioned, CDN  
36 will keep fostering solidarity actions, joint campaigns and other activities  
37 directed towards MOs joint reaction and positioning in regards to regional  
38 political developments.

## 39 **2 Topical diversity**

40 CDN has always aimed for an inter-sectional approach towards the topics relevant  
41 to our member organisations. Such approach enables us to meet the demands and  
42 needs in the region while being flexible with the topics our Member and Partners  
43 work on. Selection of topics and CDN's activities had always been a reflection  
44 of regional dynamics, challenges and needs of our MOs, POs and youth in Eastern  
45 Europe.

46 In order to keep the network up to date with rapid political developments and  
47 challenges in Eastern Europe, and assess their implications on green youth  
48 organisations and their agendas, CDN aims at maintaining the principle of  
49 topical diversity of its activities. Taking into consideration the needs and  
50 topics of interest to our MOs and POs, we will strive to work on Sustainability,  
51 Climate Change, Gender, Digital Rights and Social Justice.

52 We will be keeping track of any arising needs in EE and incorporate them in our  
53 work, such as Peacebuilding and Democracy, as well as relevant topics deriving  
54 from the main focus areas (Food and Agriculture, Labor rights, Health,  
55 Education, Energy, etc.) while maintaining intersectional approach in our work.

56 CDN will actively collect feedback from MOs and POs, and analyse actual  
57 political situations in order to assess interest in current topical framework and  
58 define any new focus areas in the network. Through our online engagement we will  
59 strive to spark discussions which will help us identify additional needs,  
60 challenges and topical necessities.

## 61 **3 Methodological diversity**

62 Diversity in approach to young people through different methods, tools and  
63 interactions is a tradition that we aim to maintain. CDN believes that Non  
64 Formal Education (NFE) methodologies respond to the needs and interests of young  
65 people.

66 NFE is based on the values of inclusion and democracy while being interactive,  
67 participatory and experimental methodology which enables people with different  
68 skill-sets and knowledge levels to learn and cooperate, thus empowering one  
69 another. We are upholding the principles of NFE and aiming to learn and  
70 contribute to the new ways of conducting different methodologies within the  
71 Green Values as well as share them in the network with young people. Therefore,  
72 CDN will keep track of and attempt to further upgrade its NFE competency and  
73 invest time and resources in educating and training members of the EC and  
74 Secretariat.

75 By the same token, CDN will strive to strengthen its MOs' capacities by  
76 providing expertise through adopting NFE methods in its educational or statutory  
77 activities.

78 We will explore digital interactive and inclusive methods and implement them in  
79 online events, as we have seen the importance and benefits of creating a  
80 positive online group dynamic and safe online space. In this process, we still  
81 aim towards using open source technologies and promoting their values in the  
82 times of a digital transition of Network members.

83 In partnership with our project partners, CDN will keep on developing online  
84 courses, podcasts, webinars, among others so that they can be disseminated, as  
85 well as open discussions and networking events for the community.

#### 86 **4 Geographical scope of work**

87 In order to strengthen position of MOs and their capacity to take active role in  
88 local communities, we will continue to implement activities in local, regional  
89 and international level.

90 International activities such as topical seminars, study sessions and summer  
91 schools, are the space for gathering knowledge and information that go in line  
92 with the development of new ideas, practices and mindsets. They are also a good  
93 space for creating cooperation and interaction between MOs, POs, WGs and other  
94 green minded EE youth. In this way CDN will keep maintaining its role in  
95 enabling MOs to create visibility and wide network in international context. It  
96 also positions CDN as relevant partner not only in Green circles but also within  
97 organisations working on similar topics.

98 CDN operates in regions that share similar issues and at the same time provide  
99 limited space for youth to cooperate due to current and past political tensions  
100 between the countries. On regional level CDN will be an effective conjunction  
101 between MOs. Through regional activities young people will continue having the  
102 space and possibility to cooperate, exchange practices and work together in  
103 topics of regional interest. CDN will continue its work in three regions -  
104 Balkans, RUMB (Russia,Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus) and South Caucasus and  
105 Turkey - by organising regional events, trainings, round tables, webinars etc.

106 In addition to its regional work, CDN will explore cross-regional approach too.  
107 This comes as a result of the assessment that some MOs share similarities and  
108 needs due to the level of their organizational development or the external  
109 pressures of the environments they operate in.

110 Apart from organising international and regional events, local level of support  
111 is also very important. CDN will continue to be present in MOs' local life and  
112 activities through trainings, study visits and direct support by having  
113 representatives on MOs events when possible or through online consultancy.  
114 Another way of local support to MOs is by co-organising side events with MOs  
115 hosting CDN activities and thus helping them rise their visibility on local  
116 level.

#### 117 **5 Internal development**

118 CDN is growing and changing, so are our Member, Partner and Observer  
119 Organisations - they are changing and thus changes CDN. We are becoming more  
120 political, more diverse and more experienced. We will reflect on all the changes  
121 and adapt, with focus on internal development. Institutional sustainability and  
122 transfer of knowledge have always been essential for CDN. We believe the  
123 institutionalised memory that the network has accumulated should not be  
124 stagnated, rather - enriched and matured.

125 Growth generates and causes some challenges as well. We have more events, more  
126 projects, more ideas and ambitions - therefore we see the need to strengthen our  
127 internal capacities. Consequently, CDN will focus on increasing secretariat's  
128 capacities, strive to have more people employed and improve Secretariat working  
129 conditions. We will also focus on increasing capacities of the Executive  
130 Committee through skill-based trainings and work on strenghtening the role of  
131 treasurer in the EC. Additionally, we will strive to better define and implement  
132 the role of office responsible EC member, a position that will be an objective  
133 body to monitor secretariat well-being.

134 Moreover, CDN will concentrate on engaging in more political work, deepen the  
135 understanding of political realities MOs operate in, help MOs in communication  
136 with each other and other green networks, commenting on important political  
137 news, support organisations vocally and through solidarity actions and  
138 campaigns.

## 139 **6 Working groups**

140 Working groups are autonomous bodies of CDN which ensure bottom-up activities,  
141 provide topical expertise and take on consultative role. Working groups are open  
142 to all youth and engagement in the groups is not limited by CDN membership. CDN  
143 will support their initiatives to plan and implement projects that resonate with  
144 MO needs and expectations through development of work plans, different activities  
145 whether online or live. We are aiming for working groups to become recognized as  
146 topical reference points by MOs and be a starting point for topical cooperation.  
147 Working groups can be topical (Digital [x], Gender, AlterUrb) and regional  
148 (RUMB). CDN will support new initiatives that come up, especially the regional  
149 initiatives and regional working groups that members have shown potential and  
150 need for (Balkans and South Caucasus).

151 As the level of independence still varies between different working groups, CDN  
152 will strive to secure funding for (bi-)annual WG meeting that will also serve as  
153 a space for WGs to learn from each other's good practices. As additional way of  
154 engaging WGs, we will strive to hold annual strategic planning meetings and  
155 support internally organized teambuilding meetings for all WGs in order to spark  
156 discussions about future work and development, as well as provide space for  
157 networking.

158 When it comes to the structure of the working groups, focus will be on making  
159 them sustainable and self-sufficient. This process will be done by leading the  
160 members through different strategic steps, creation of internal documents and  
161 ultimately electing coordinators. CDN will continue providing support and  
162 resources for working groups to become more independent.

## 163 **7 Communication and outreach**

164 We live in an age of communications, as some would say the age of "information  
165 capitalism", therefore in order to reach out, be visible and vocal, one should  
166 invest in communications significantly. As, we also understand the importance of  
167 communications in CDN, we will increase our knowledge and focus on it. We see  
168 the need to strategically invest more in building EC and Office capacities on  
169 communications that will be positively reflected on CDN's visibility and  
170 outreach.

171 There are a few concrete steps to be taken in order to enhance external  
172 communications. CDN will continue improve social-media strategy, enhance visual  
173 identity and improve our quality and presence in social media, in addition, we  
174 will strive to hire a communications officer. We will also help our  
175 organisations in the promotion of their events.

176 Last but not least, we strive to boost the visibility of the Eastern European  
177 Young Green community and ensure youth perspectives are included within the  
178 wider Green movement and Green perspectives are mainstreamed within the wider  
179 youth movement.

## 180 **8 Wider green family**

181 CDN is a part of wider Green family and it is a relevant actor that holds a good  
182 deal of knowledge, resources and successful green partnerships.

183 We have a very close relation with our sister organisation Federation of Young  
184 European Greens and its mother party European Green Party. We plan to continue  
185 the good cooperation and make it even more close.

186 The interaction with Green foundations, pan-European Green and youth Green  
187 networks will enrich our organisational knowledge and ideological stance. This  
188 can later be prospered and translated into educational activities. Partnerships  
189 can also help us gain recognition in the struggle for youth to assume  
190 significant roles in their societies.

191 The fruitful collaboration within Greens is a very important factor on the way  
192 of CDN becoming a reference point as a capacity builder of the Eastern European  
193 Green movement. CDN will continue further strengthening the cooperation with  
194 other actors within the Green Family making it a wider environment of  
195 opportunities.

196 In the process of forming green partnerships in Eastern Europe, we will try to  
197 balance between strengthening the existing network and its composing MOs and  
198 POs, but also keep on searching for potential partnerships from the societies  
199 where we do not have member/partner organisations from at the moment (Kosovo,  
200 Montenegro, Russia, Greece).

## 201 **9 Cooperation perspectives**

202 Besides being part of the European Green family, we strive to expand our  
203 cooperation perspectives and find common grounds with other organisations.  
204 Therefore, CDN is open and responsive to all initiatives that correspond to its  
205 values, are within its capacities, and to the interest and benefit of its member  
206 organizations and Eastern Europe.

## 207 **10 Shrinking space for civil society**

208 We acknowledge the influence that restrictive political environments and  
209 shrinking spaces for civil society in the region have on the work of our MOs. As  
210 we witnessed lack of capability of governments all around Eastern Europe to  
211 respond to the emergency caused with the Covid-19 pandemic without severely  
212 threatening democracy and freedoms of people, we expect the pressure only to  
213 deepen in the post-pandemic period, especially for political actors, civil  
214 society organisations and media with a critical discourse towards governments'  
215 actions.

216 This being said, CDN will intensify its work on exploring alternative  
217 strategies, methodologies and tools for doing activism in restrictive political  
218 environments. The support to MOs in this sense will be provided through topical  
219 and skill-based activities and financially when possible. Particular potential  
220 is seen in Cross-Regional events organised for MOs on the basis of similarities  
221 in regards to the external environment they operate in.

222 **END**

## **B2** Safe Space Policy

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/25/2021

### Motion text

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### 29 **List of abbreviations (by order of appearance)**

30 **CDN** - Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe

31 **EC** - Executive Committee (of CDN)

32 **EE** - Eastern Europe

33 **SSP** - Safe Space Person

34 **PT** - Preparatory Team/Prep Team

35 **WG** - Working Group

36 **HEG** - Home Evaluation Group

37 **MO** - Member Organization (of CDN)

38 **PGP** - Preferred Gender Pronoun

### 39 **Introduction**

40 Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe is a capacity-building  
41 network comprised of different youth and green-minded organisations from Eastern  
42 and Central Europe. Fighting for a Green movement is our common goal but at the  
43 same time we acknowledge that we differ a lot based on the diverse cultural  
44 environments we come from. In addition, patriarchy/sexism/ nationalistic  
45 discourses are highly embedded in our societies, therefore the creation of a  
46 safe space is a crucial component for CDN activities in helping to dismantle  
47 existing power structures and challenge oppressive mechanisms. This way we  
48 ensure the creation of a welcoming environment where participation is equalised  
49 for all despite the ethnicity /religion/ sexual orientation/gender identity/  
50 class background and different abilities of all (participants, Executive  
51 Committee, Prep Teams and Office).

52 In general, Safe space policies are the rules by which a community agrees to  
53 behave. They help in guaranteeing that everyone feels free to express  
54 themselves, and help prevent some of the problems common in our societies (such  
55 as racism, sexism, transphobia, etc.) from becoming part of the community.

56 This document provides an overview of what safe spaces are, definition of  
57 inappropriate behaviour, and what key principles/mechanisms should be followed  
58 when establishing such spaces in CDN's activities and structures (CDN Executive  
59 Committee and Office, Prep Teams and Working Groups). This document is developed  
60 by a Working team comprised of some of the members of CDN Executive Committee/  
61 Secretariat/ Gender Working Group, and adopted by General Assembly as an  
62 internal document of CDN in 2021. CDN aims to create a respectful, understanding  
63 and open space, and we encourage everyone, from organisers to participants, to  
64 be pro-active in creating an atmosphere where the safety of everyone is  
65 validated.

66 This document is a result of consecutive meetings of the Working team throughout  
67 the period between November 2020 - February 2021. The document refers to  
68 experiences documented by previous CDN EC members and Secretariat, who have  
69 recorded cases where safe space was breached at CDN activities. Guidance has  
70 also been taken from other similar youth-oriented organisations, which have

71 documents in establishing safe spaces, and we are grateful towards all the  
72 organisations who shared with us their resources (see more on page 12).

73 This document is just a set of mechanism/ techniques for constructing a safe  
74 space environment, but is not a definitive document. We welcome you all to give  
75 us feedback and further suggestions for ensuring safe space on the following  
76 email address: [office@cdnee.org](mailto:office@cdnee.org).

## 77 **Types of unacceptable behavior**

78 In this chapter we will explain the types of behaviors that violate the safe  
79 space as a whole and which we aim to prevent. In case of recognizing some of  
80 these behaviors, please report to Safe Space Persons (SSP). We are aware safe  
81 space is an individual perception, and this list contains general behaviors,  
82 whilst other violations are not excluded. Any other situations that are not  
83 mentioned here but would lead to someone feeling uncomfortable, unsafe or  
84 excluded will be assessed as a violation of safe space and that people are  
85 welcomed to voice them out.

86 *Disclaimer: This chapter contains examples of unacceptable types of behavior*  
87 *which some readers might find triggering. Examples are listed for the purpose of*  
88 *better understanding of these types of behavior. The following behaviours can*  
89 *vary from moderate to severe violations of safe space, and the measures are*  
90 *taken accordingly (elaborated further on the last chapter).*

## 91 **Physical :**

### 92 **Breaking personal boundaries**

93 Indicating personal boundaries, whether physical or emotional should be a basis  
94 prior to interaction and should be respected at all times. The boundaries are  
95 often defined internally and presented with body language and verbal statements.  
96 These need to be observed, recognized (or verbalized) and respected.

97 *Example: Person X has said they do not want to be touched, and person Y teases*  
98 *them and “jokingly” touches the person X, and gets within their personal space*  
99 *without their consent.*

### 100 **Physical assault**

101 Inflicting physical harm or unwanted physical contact upon someone. Any kind of  
102 physical violence or touching without consent is completely unacceptable. Any  
103 kind of touching between people has to be consensual and thoroughly  
104 communicated. Physical assault can also be sexual harassment and is a severe  
105 violation of safe space and personal boundaries. In the physical form of sexual  
106 harassment, assault can be anything from inappropriate touching and teasing to  
107 severe sexual assault and rape (further explained in point Sexual harassment).

108 *Example: Person X punches person Y because of a disagreement of their opinions*  
109 *during an intense informal discussion about some topic .*

### 110 **Usage of hate/disrespectful symbols**

111 Carrying (jewelry, clothing, accessories) or physically presenting (writing,  
112 drawing, mimicking) disrespect and/or hate symbols connected to religious,  
113 national and extreme ideological beliefs. List of international recognized hate  
114 symbols (link: <https://www.adl.org/hate-symbols>).

115 *Example A: During an art session on a CDN activity, participant draws a swastika*  
116 *on a piece of paper and shows it to others.*



117 *Example B: participant comes to an activity wearing a T-shirt with disrespectful*  
118 *writings about muslims.*

119 Verbal

## 120 **Stereotyping and discrimination**

121 Stereotyping is acting based on assumed ideas or beliefs regarding someone based  
122 on their gender, sexual orientation, national, religious identity, physical  
123 appearance. Includes assuming facts about someone based on their identities. For  
124 example: assuming that a feminine man is gay. Discrimination is the act of  
125 making unjustified distinctions between individuals on basis of race, gender,  
126 age, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, disability or other  
127 characteristics. It involves restricting members of one group or an individual  
128 from opportunities that are available to others. Extreme discriminatory  
129 behaviors like racism, chauvinism, nationalism, linguicism, homophobia,  
130 transphobia and similar will not be tolerated in CDN activities.

131 *Example: A group of participants in a session refuse to involve a participant*  
132 *with hearing difficulties because this person speaks in a manner the group finds*  
133 *uncomfortable.*

## 134 **Objectifying**

135 This behavior conveys the idea of treating a person as a commodity or an object.  
136 Another form, sexual objectification is the act of treating a person as a mere  
137 object of sexual desire. Everyone's individuality and autonomy are their own and  
138 objectifying behavior is destructive of these characteristics.

139 *Example: participant X is told by another participant "hey girl! You would be*  
140 *prettier if you smiled".*

## 141 **Sexual harassment**

142 Even though sexual harassment can be physical, its verbal form is explained in  
143 this chapter. Along with objectifying and bullying, it is the root of other  
144 unacceptable behaviors that can lead to physical assault. Sexual harassment  
145 involves the use of explicit or implicit sexual overtones, non-verbal cues and  
146 signals, unwanted and non-consensual touch and sexual assault.

147 Sexual harassment includes a wide range of behaviors and interpretations,  
148 examples of which can be found here

149 (<https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/pdf/whatish.pdf>)

## 150 **Mansplaining**

151 The explanation of something in a patronizing manner, usually by someone who is  
152 privileged because of their gender. This behavior is often present in group  
153 discussions, when the privileged person or a group of people are not allowing  
154 others to present, speak and behave in authentic way. Mansplaining severely  
155 disturbs dynamics and create a sense of hierarchy and domination of a privileged  
156 person or group.

157 *Example: A cis-gender white man dominates discussion about gender equality and*  
158 *argues with the points of wage gap and denies the existence of inequality.*

## 159 **Invisibilising / belittling**

160 The act of not giving chance to speak, speaking over someone, ignoring opinions  
161 etc.

162 Excluding someone from the conversation on purpose by either not giving them a  
 163 chance to speak, speaking over them or ignoring what they are saying. To  
 164 marginalize someone and to erase or ignore their presence or contribution.

165 *Example: During an event, participants are divided into small groups and working*  
 166 *on some presentation. Within one group, one participant is missing because has*  
 167 *gone to the bathroom, Meanwhile the rest continue with the work and take some*  
 168 *important decision without the presence of this participant.*

### 169 **Shaming and blaming**

170 Shaming is the act of bringing negative attention to an individual or a group  
 171 because of their opinions; actions; physical, racial, ethnic, religious or  
 172 cultural characteristic or activities. Blaming an individual or a group is a way  
 173 of shaming them based on actions and development of a situation. Unexpected or  
 174 undesirable results are not a responsibility of the action doer, and no one  
 175 should be blamed or feel guilty.

176 *For example: participant X is approached by another participant and asked: "What*  
 177 *is wrong with you? Why do you behave like this?" or "The situation that happened*  
 178 *is your fault and you should face consequences"*

### 179 **Ridiculing/bullying**

180 Using dismissive language or behavior towards someone. Especially problematic  
 181 when done based on someone's gender identity, sexual orientation, language,  
 182 national or religious identity. Bullying can be verbal, but also physical and  
 183 then is seen as physical assault.

184 *Example: Participant X calls participant Y offensive names and laughs at them.*

### 185 **Criticism without constructive feedback**

186 Criticism, if presented in a constructive way, is a tool for growth and  
 187 development, however it is often misunderstood. If offered without constructive  
 188 feedback, criticism can be connected to insulting, ridiculing and similar  
 189 behaviors. However, everyone must be aware of different levels of knowledge,  
 190 language, experience, and different opinions, and give feedback accordingly.  
 191 *(maybe to add: and be more understanding that not everyone has the same command*  
 192 *of English, therefore it takes time to make their points clear).*

193 *For example: While discussing over a topic participant X responds to participant*  
 194 *Y in the following way: "This is stupid, you should stop talking".*

### 195 **Threatening and blackmailing**

196 Threatening behavior includes physical or verbal actions that don't involve  
 197 actual contact/injury (moving closer aggressively), general verbal or written  
 198 threats to people. Blackmailing is a manipulative behavior that includes the act  
 199 of demanding personal and material belongings, or degrading and non-consensual  
 200 activities with threat of revealing personal information or compromising  
 201 autonomy.

202 *Example: Person X found out person Y is queer, and forces person Y to give them*  
 203 *money or they will "out" them on social media.*

### 204 **Ideological claims**

205 (Extremist) Ideological claims are strict beliefs about a certain groups,  
 206 geographical locations, religious beliefs, cultures and similar identifications  
 207 that lead to conflict or violent thoughts and actions.

208 *For example: As it is stated in CDN Political Platform, we should strive to*  
209 *acknowledge and reject the politics of division and politics that seek to use*  
210 *nationalistic or any other exclusionary rhetoric at the expense of minorities*  
211 *and vulnerable groups.*

## 212 **Tools and mechanisms**

213 This chapter enlists some practical tools and practices that can help making and  
214 obtaining a safe space environment. These tips are mostly associated with  
215 activity planning and executing, but most of them are suitable for an  
216 organizational level as well.

## 217 **Before an activity**

218

### 219 • **Inclusivity**

220 One of the first steps in creation of an inclusive environment is enabling  
221 participation of people of different backgrounds. When selecting participants,  
222 CDN Secretariat, EC member(s) and Prep Teams (PT) are paying special attention  
223 to underrepresented groups and ensuring their participation. Depending on the  
224 topic of the activity, CDN will spread its calls for participants to various  
225 channels, putting efforts into reaching out to these marginalized groups even  
226 outside of the Green family. Both regional and gender balance (a minimum of 50%  
227 of participants are young people that self-identify as woman, trans or  
228 genderqueer) are taken into consideration.

### 229 • **Ability**

230 Addressing needs of everyone prior to the activity with a simple questionnaire  
231 (e.g. question box within an application form) will help organizers (CDN) to be  
232 aware of everyone's needs and assist accordingly, if needed. Local PT (hosting  
233 the activity) will secure that the venue/hotel is accessible for all  
234 differently-abled people.

### 235 • **Accessibility**

236 When checking potential venues for the activity, Local PT should take into  
237 account a provisional number of participants and search for working areas that  
238 can host this number of people comfortably (and in different arrangements - e.g.  
239 sitting in circle). It is recommended to choose well-lit venues and ensure  
240 accessibility to all different venues/toilets/rooms of use to participants/Prep  
241 Teams/EC Office members, as toilet rooms.

### 242 • **Information**

243 Prior to activity, Local PT should assemble an Infosheet with all the essential  
244 information (local transport & hotel), including a brief cultural and political  
245 background, as to make participants more comfortable with their traveling. CDN  
246 will provide all the other key information about the event itself, along with  
247 the schedule (agenda) and this policy, to familiarize new participants with the  
248 Safe Space.

## 249 **During an activity**

250

### 251 • **Introduction**

252 At the beginning of each activity, CDN organizes an introduction session, going  
253 through agenda, background of the project and CDN. During the Introduction  
254 session PT will go through moderation rules and introduce diverse communication  
255 tools that will be used throughout the activity. During an introduction session  
256 or shortly after, CDN will propose a round where participants will express their  
257 needs on obtaining a safe space throughout the activity.

258 • **Spatial organisation**

259 How CDN arranges participants and chairs in the room depends on a session itself  
260 - whether there's a movement involved, small groups division, etc. However, it  
261 is recommended arranging participants in a circle/horizontal arrangement, rather  
262 than having a classroom arrangement, for having a more inclusive environment.  
263 Moreover, working room/venue should be noise sensitive.

264 • **Language**

265 Facilitators (CDN) will take steps to equalize participation, ensuring all  
266 participants are heard and diverse gender identities are respected - at the  
267 beginning of an activity, all participants will be asked to share their pronouns  
268 and have them along with their name attached visibly.

269 Facilitators will make sure to speak slowly, clearly, avoiding jargon and  
270 excessive academic language. Acknowledging that the activity is held in English,  
271 participants will be encouraged to use the language sign 'L' when a  
272 word/phrase is unclear. Moreover, participants should be encouraged to speak in  
273 English also outside of sessions, not to exclude participants - when someone is  
274 using their native language, anyone can raise it with 'Bora Bora' rule. This  
275 will be a gentle reminder for everyone to speak in English. Nonetheless, if  
276 someone does not speak English well, this should not be a basis for excluding  
277 person from activity and that CDN will strive to have at least one more person  
278 speaking some other language that person understands and help with translation.

279 • **HEGs and Morning circles**

280 HEGs are designated groups of smaller number of participants, organised almost  
281 every day of the activity after a full-day programme and moderated by one of the  
282 PT members. This is a space where participants can reflect and share how they  
283 felt throughout the day in a more intimate environment.

284 Morning circles are organized every day, before the actual programme begins and  
285 are moderated by one of the PT members. During this circle with all of the  
286 participants, PT will go through any changes/announcements/technical reminders  
287 for the day in question. This is also a space for PT to remind everyone of safe  
288 space and raise a point if anything had happened against safe space guidelines.

289 • **Safe Space Persons**

290 *Elaborated in the fourth chapter.*

291 • **Question/Feedback box**

292 During the event there shall be a box where participants can leave written notes  
293 to facilitators and the PT members with feedback and questions. Some people  
294 might prefer this way of flagging something up, asking a specific question, or  
295 asking for support or a need to be met. The question/feedback box should be  
296 placed in a visible place where everyone can access it, and its purpose should  
297 be explained at the beginning of the activity.

## 298 **After an activity**

299

### 300 • **Evaluation**

301 Participants share how they felt during the event and tell if there were any  
302 situations that made them feel uncomfortable. Safe space persons can also be  
303 contacted online after the activity for the purpose of improving CDN safe space  
304 regulations.

### 305 • **Privacy**

306 No pictures shall be posted on public sites or social networks without the  
307 explicit consent of the individuals who can be identified in them. In the  
308 participants list, every participant will sign a separated column regarding the  
309 consent to be photographed and the consent to disseminate these pictures.

### 310 • **Data storage**

311 CDN stores personal data (collected through application forms) of the  
312 participants/Prep-team members and ensures the safety of data. Data erasure can  
313 be done on demand of the participant.

314 *Finally, the best and most basic preventive measure is to **educate ourselves**,*  
315 *acknowledge privileges we have and build understanding and solidarity for one*  
316 *another.*

## 317 **Reporting and measures**

318 The aim of this chapter is to create a sustainable system to prevent, identify  
319 and react to different types of unacceptable behavior (outlined at chapter 2),  
320 which is not in compliance with the rules for the provision of safe space  
321 environment in CDN activities (online and offline). These guidelines are written  
322 from the perspective of an international umbrella youth organization.

323 *Disclaimer: This chapter contains hypothetical cases of unacceptable behavior*  
324 *which some readers might find triggering. Examples are listed for the purpose of*  
325 *better understanding of these types of measures taken against these behaviors.*  
326 *The following cases can vary from moderate to severe violations of safe space,*  
327 *and the measures are taken accordingly.*

## 328 **Definition of SSPs**

329 The central pillar of the Safe Space preventive measures and reporting mechanism  
330 evolve around the concept of **Safe Space Persons (SSP)**. The SSPs are elected by  
331 the organizers prior to the event, and are usually members of CDN EC /  
332 Secretariat/ Prep-teams that aim to prevent, identify and react to cases of  
333 unacceptable behavior not only during activity sessions but applicable to breaks  
334 and informal parts of events. An SSP should be a person who is internalized with

335 the Safe Space document and preferably has participated in previous CDN events.  
336 Depending on the capacities, it is recommended to elect two SSPs.

337 Safe space persons are beforehand provided with Safe space Toolkit, a document  
338 created by CDN along with Safe Space policy document, which provides knowledge  
339 and detailed procedures of creating safe space and dealing with its potential  
340 violations.

341 SSPs are present at events to help raise awareness about the topic, intervene in  
342 questionable situations where Safe space principles are breached, and provide a  
343 listening ear to participants who have felt harassed. **Nonetheless, we highly**  
344 **encourage everyone to be proactive in creating an atmosphere where the safety of**  
345 **others is validated.** In case of a safe space breach, there are three stages that  
346 a SSP goes through: 1- Prevention; 2- Identifying; 3- Reporting.

### 347 **Prevention**

348 The main aim is always to prevent unacceptable behavior from happening and safe  
349 persons should guarantee this. Before the start of an offline/online event, they  
350 can briefly present the Safe Space document and measures/mechanism entailed in  
351 the document. Prevention methods are elaborated in chapter 3.

352 Since the document will be sent to participants in advance, the safe space  
353 person should open the floor for questions from the participants, in case that  
354 there is something unclear from the document. After the presentation, the safe  
355 space person should let participants know that he/she/they are the right person  
356 to approach, in case that somebody faces unacceptable behavior, and this  
357 behavior goes unnoticed from the safe space person.

358 Along with the preventive measures from chapter 3, participants and SSP should  
359 conduct regular emotional screening and be observant.

### 360 **Identifying**

361 Safe Space persons are trained to identify unacceptable behaviors in CDN  
362 activities, and observe participants in a non-intrusive way for the sake of  
363 timely reactions. Unacceptable behaviors are not necessarily obvious and visible  
364 for bystanders and (if not verbalize) can be recognized through body-language.  
365 SSPs are trained to recognize subtle signs and react if someone feels  
366 uncomfortable. This of course depends on the specific context.

367 Key action in creating safe space, along with prevention, is identifying the  
368 breaches of safe space and boundaries in groups and on personal level. There are  
369 different ways of recognizing and identifying safe space violations:

- 370 • **Direct report to SSP;**

371 These are usually subtle cases, when the SSPs are notified or approached by  
372 participants/ or active bystanders who have noticed some kind of violation or  
373 strange situation. This can be a person directly seeking action to prevent  
374 further harassment, a complaint against other participant, seeking advice etc.  
375 If someone from bystanders notices someone else is feeling uncomfortable, they  
376 can inform SSP who will take further measures.

- 377 • **SSPs observation ;**

378 As mentioned previously, SSPs are observant and notice disturbed power dynamics,  
 379 uncomfortable situations etc. by observing body language of participants  
 380 (*Example: Person A repeatedly sits next to person B on a break, each time person*  
 381 *A moves away and appears uncomfortable. This keeps on happening and person B is*  
 382 *retreating to their room*). SSPs in these cases approach these participants and  
 383 make sure to understand if there is some underlying issue that needs to be  
 384 resolved.

#### 385 • **Feedback from the box**

386 The box represents an opportunity specifically for reporting of safe space  
 387 violations. The tips can be reported anonymously, and will be researched further  
 388 by SSP and PT members. Messages in feedback box don't necessarily have to be  
 389 reports, but also suggestions, for example to rearrange groups or be aware of  
 390 some situations happening outside the venue (for example accommodation). Box is  
 391 checked daily for feedback along with other preventive measures, but should not  
 392 stop participants of contacting SSP or other PT members on anything relevant.

### 393 **Reporting:**

394 The SSP serves as a first line of contact and provides a type of first aid.

395 Depending on the context, there are different ways of reporting the incident:

#### 396 • **immediate reaction from the SSPs**

397 In this scenario the SSP are reacting immediately on spot to address the issue  
 398 that have disrupted the safe space. This is sometimes done in a very intrusive  
 399 way.

400 *Techniques: educating participants, collective emotion check, body awareness*  
 401 *exercise etc.*

402 *Examples: For instance, an SSP notices that only some participants are speaking*  
 403 *in a discussion, therefore the SSP suggest to leave space for others who have*  
 404 *not engaged much with the discussion.*

#### 405 • **communication with victim/perpetrator**

406 In case when there is a breach of Safe Space, SSPs try to identify the victim  
 407 and perpetrator and have a moderated conversation separately with each of the  
 408 sides involved in the dispute. Through this conversation, the SSP can understand  
 409 the reasoning behind the perpetrator's behavior and provide emotional support to  
 410 the victim.

#### 411 • **communicating with the PT;**

412 After consulting with both sides involved in the incident, SSPs sum up the case  
 413 to the PT. This way, the PT can adjust the sessions accordingly in order to  
 414 avoid similar cases for the rest of the programme, and make sure that everyone  
 415 feels included and comfortable.

### 416 **Measures**

417 Based on the scale of the misbehavior (mild-severe-extreme) there are different  
 418 measures to be taken by the SSPs and PT of the activity. We will exemplify this  
 419 by showing one hypothetical incident and different escalation of it from mild to  
 420 an extreme incident. Let's imagine that we are facing a case where a transgender  
 421 participant is being misgendered by another participant.

- 422 • **Mild case:** After the SSPs approach the “harasser”, it turns out that this  
 423 is done unintentionally due to the lack of information on the topic/  
 424 misuse of the PGP.

425 *Measures: moderated communication/ SSPs remind participants again to read the*  
 426 *Safe space document and ask if something is unclear.*

- 427 • **Severe:** After the SSPs approach the “harasser”, it turns out that this is  
 428 done intentionally due to the discrimination based belief. For instance,  
 429 person believes, that only ciswoman are categorized as women and  
 430 transwomen are men.

431 *Measures: Emotional support to the victim, explanation to the harasser why their*  
 432 *behavior is unacceptable and they are asked to apologize to the harassed person.*  
 433 *We can communicate with the problematic participant that if the behavior will be*  
 434 *repeated, then further measures will be taken. This will be taken into*  
 435 *consideration for their future participation at CDN events, follow-up from the*  
 436 *EC. If the participant is part of CDN MO, CDN EC will proceed with contacting*  
 437 *the MO contact person.*

- 438 • **Extreme:** when it involves instances of physical harassing/unwanted touch  
 439 etc.

440 *Measures: They can bring people to a safe place, away from whomever they felt*  
 441 *harassed by. Furthermore, decisions and actions regarding what happens to people*  
 442 *and an event remain with the organizers and/or CDN EC.*

#### 443 **Other measures:**

- 444 1. Group discussion can also be made during the event, where people  
 445 collectively discuss the situation, and then participants can propose  
 446 measures.
- 447 2. In case if there's an extreme situation (ex. if there is a fight, if the  
 448 safety of participants is risked), then next measure will be:

449 2.1 contact the authorities;

450 2.2 expel the participant involved in the physical incident.

#### 451 **Resources**

452 Hereby we would like to thank the following organisations for providing  
 453 materials and resources with us in the process of creating the Safe Space  
 454 Policy.

- 455 • Col·lectiu Eco-Actiu/ The Ulex project [“Anti-oppression toolkit: A](#)  
 456 [facilitator’s guide”](#)
- 457 • Association des États Généraux des Étudiants de l’Europe (AEGEE) [“Smash](#)  
 458 [guidelines: Structural measures against sexual harassment”](#)
- 459 • Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) [“Smash Glass ceiling: Handbook](#)  
 460 [for brave feminist leaders”](#)
- 461 • Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG) [“Internal Rules of Procedure”](#)
- 462 • European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet) [“Safe Space Policy for](#)  
 463 [Equinet Events”](#)



## **B3** Resolution on Eastern European Smart Cities

Organization: CDN

Resolution date: 03/25/2021

### Motion text

#### 1 **Resolution on Eastern European Smart Cities**

2 We, the youth of the Eastern European cities see digital technologies becoming  
3 an important aspect of our cities, and embrace their transformative potential to  
4 our urban environments. We acknowledge that implementation of new technologies  
5 in our cities can be beneficial if directed at improving everybody's life in the  
6 cities. However, we are concerned that at the moment, digitalisation and  
7 technologies are used to further increase inequality, racism, bureaucracy,  
8 corruption, climate and social crisis under the pretence of neoliberal growth  
9 narratives. We want to end this kind of abuse of new technologies, and take  
10 ownership of their transparent implementation in our cities, making sure that  
11 they are used to achieve green values.

#### 12 • **Digital Economy**

13 Currently, cities are providing significant tax subsidies, repurposing urban  
14 spaces, and taking loans to provide infrastructure for new tech based businesses  
15 in hopes of them providing economic growth and raising employment. However,  
16 these kinds of practices can create a race to the bottom between cities, and  
17 make them hostages of large corporations and their threats to move their  
18 operations elsewhere. Furthermore, despite investing into showing a friendly  
19 face to the public, these corporations have proven to be hostile to workers'  
20 unions, oftentimes banning them, as well as having a large turnover rate of  
21 their workforces.

22 Even when these companies provide economic growth, which is not connected to the  
23 general economic wellbeing of the majority, it is based on the extraction of  
24 rare metals and high energy consumption which is especially problematic in  
25 Eastern European countries which are still largely relying on fossil fuels, as  
26 well as dependency on the global economic trends. When the latter take a turn to  
27 the worse, like during the COVID-19 pandemic, the first ones to be affected are  
28 the workers and their families. Accordingly, multinational technology  
29 corporations often times keep their headquarters in their home countries, while  
30 outsourcing manufacturing or customer support to EE countries, relying on their  
31 low labour standards and leaving the highly qualified workforce with little  
32 choice but to emigrate to rich countries.

33 We demand European level regulation of tech companies to stop competition  
34 between cities. We demand the end of extreme surveillance software pushing  
35 workers into top efficiency while having a negative effect on their mental  
36 health. We demand for the tech companies to be obliged to create more  
37 sustainable jobs which create value for the local urban community they are based  
38 in. We demand a stop to the neoliberal narratives connected to the

39 implementation of economic growth, which push economic growth at any price, as  
40 well as extreme consumerism. Instead we push for higher standards in labour laws  
41 and implementing them in order to create decent, socially and environmentally  
42 sustainable working conditions.

43 The new digital economy in our cities must provide clear benefits to all the  
44 citizens. The benefits tech companies are given, must also oblige these  
45 companies to assist in lowering inequalities and promoting a better standard of  
46 living in cities in a meaningful way, by engaging in dialogue with the municipal  
47 governments and citizens' organizations. They must take responsibility for the  
48 environmental impact that they make and invest in sustainability, including  
49 energy conservation, renewable energy production and sparing, circular use of  
50 metals and other materials.

51 • **Environment and technologies**

52 As we are diving further into climate crisis, the neoliberal economy is trying  
53 to adapt, instead of changing. This is creating a false solution of "green"  
54 economy and "green" technology that more often than not avoids real climate  
55 action and continues already existing approach to consumption which is not  
56 feasible for the foreseeable future. We demand that new technologies and  
57 innovations are used to systematically achieve our climate goals. Climate change  
58 cannot be tackled without restructuring our economy, therefore, we demand that  
59 green tech will not be used to advance consumption. Green tech should help us  
60 reduce greenhouse emissions, foster democracy and reduce social and economic  
61 inequalities. Our smart city should not be someone else's civil war or  
62 environmental disaster.

63 We must put narratives of self driving, electric and/or private vehicles as a  
64 solution to the environmental impact of a city to a stop. These means of  
65 transportation are individualist, based on consumption, increase the need for  
66 paved areas, raise the temperature of cities and produce negative environmental  
67 outcomes in the places where the lithium, cobalt and other necessary metals are  
68 mined.

69 We want the municipalities to streamline the processes of installing new energy  
70 solutions that are cost-efficient and environmentally friendly alternatives. As  
71 outlined in the 'Charter for the Smart City', local generation of renewable  
72 energy offers a unique opportunity to create new commons. Collective solar  
73 roofs, neighborhood heat pumps, collective batteries, and distributed smart  
74 grids, managed by energy cooperatives, can speed up the energy transition,  
75 democratize the energy system, forge new bonds between neighbors, and prevent  
76 sensitive data on the energy use of households from coming into the hands of  
77 large energy corporations. Renewable energy cooperatives deserve municipal  
78 support.

79 • **Digital inclusion and democracy**

80 Nowadays, we see the implementation of new digital technologies in the Central  
81 and Eastern European cities as concentrating hierarchies of power as well as  
82 bringing dangers of excluding the most vulnerable groups from the society. The  
83 implementation of new technologies is prone to be contained to the wealthy and  
84 visible areas of the city and its access reserved for the wealthiest and most  
85 privileged individuals.

86 Furthermore, the development of new 'smart city' neighborhoods must not be  
87 simply a way to create huge areas of practically privatized land and a way to  
88 further gentrify parts of our cities. We have to ensure that the public spaces  
89 in our cities remain so. Implementation of new technologies should be made in a  
90 way where it equalizes the living standards of the different parts of the city.

91 The implementation of new digital tools in municipal governments without a clear  
92 view of how user-friendly it is for all the groups in the society can lead to  
93 the exclusion of elderly people, immigrants, differently-abled and other  
94 vulnerable groups. Implementation of these kind of technologies without  
95 extensive public consultations and studies can turn out to create democratic  
96 deficits in a city, and therefore, these kinds of practices must be avoided.

97 Procurement of digital technologies must be done in a transparent way, allowing  
98 fair and objective public tenders as well as the debate of citizens regarding  
99 the benefits of a specific technology. The data collected by these technologies  
100 must remain in the hands of the public and its transfer to private companies  
101 must be transparent and in the public's interest as well as based on clear  
102 conditions. We demand for the benefits of the implementation of new technologies  
103 to be clearly communicated to the public, that the advantages to be available  
104 and accessible to everyone in the city, and in all areas of the city, rather  
105 than being contained to the wealthiest groups.

#### 106 • **Digital participation**

107 Digital tools can strengthen democracy in numerous ways, from facilitating  
108 access to public sector information to broadening citizens' participation in  
109 decision-making. Digital platforms and social media provide a forum for public  
110 debate and for contact between elector and elected. There are good examples,  
111 especially at the local level, of politicians who do not exclusively send, but  
112 also receive. They reply to questions online, answer for their decisions and  
113 pick up ideas, as outlined in the 'Charter for a Smart City'.

114 We want Eastern European cities to provide free and accessible education in  
115 digital literacy, and equip the citizens with the knowledge on how to use any  
116 new digital tools made available by the municipalities. Digitisation and digital  
117 transformation have to become an empowering force for all citizens to make our  
118 smart cities more democratic. Currently, many EE cities use digital  
119 participation tools accessible only to the individuals who can afford their own  
120 equipment, and have the technical and legal knowledge to include themselves in  
121 the debate. We want for the urban governments to ensure, that digital tools are  
122 used to help all stakeholders to have a better conversation in public debates on  
123 the upcoming projects about the interventions planned and for the design  
124 participation process to be more inclusive, agile and open. This should be done  
125 by making these digital tools available in public spaces such as libraries, with  
126 officials tasked with facilitating the participation of citizens.

127 **END**