

Introduction

The beginning of the year 2022 still bore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the public health and safety measures were decreasing more and more after the first couple of months. This allowed for EGP activities to be organised live to the full extent. After two years of pandemic, this was an important and much awaited moment for the Green Family.

EGP was able to organise several successful events starting with a very well-attended local councillors' event in Valencia, the first such big event since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The first in-presence Council was organised in Riga, where we welcomed Progresīvie from Latvia and Hållbart Initiativ from Åland as our new candidate members. The Riga Council also elected the new EGP Committee. In December 2022 we organised our big Congress in Copenhagen, where we managed to bring together over 1000 Greens from across Europe, including eight Green Ministers and one Green Prime Minister, as well as various high-level guests.

Throughout the year EGP also organised a variety of other activities collaborating with our member parties, partners and supporters to prepare for the upcoming 2024 elections.

The report below focuses on the activities achieved by the EGP Committee and team in 2022.

1. Statutory affairs

A) EGP Committee meetings

The Committee organised the EGP's 35th Council in Riga, Latvia and the 6th Congress & 36th Council in Copenhagen, Denmark, in-person. At – and in between the now-Congresses – 9 Committee meetings were organised to manage the party and its political priorities.

The 2022 Committee meetings were held on the following dates and places:

- 21 22 January, Committee meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 4 5 March, Committee meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 22 23 April, Committee meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 13 May Flexi Committee meeting, online
- 2 June, Committee meeting at the Council, Riga, Latvia
- 29 June 1 July, Committee retreat, Lac de Genval, Belgium
- 16 18 September, Committee meeting, Belgrade, Serbia
- 28 29 October, Committee meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 1 December, Committee meeting at the Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark

B) EGP Council meetings

There were two Councils organised during 2022 with the first one being a separate event while the second Council was organised as part of the 6th EGP Congress.

35th Council of the European Green Party, Spring 2022, Riga



The 35th Council was organised in Riga, Latvia with events taking place from Friday 3rd of June to Sunday 5th of June. Compromise Amendments Sessions were held from Wednesday until Sunday. On Friday, the programme included parallel sessions, a meeting of the working group on EGP Rulebook and Statutes, a keynote speech of the Prime Minister of Montenegro Dritan Abazović, and a plenary session on the future of the European security and defence policy in light of Putin's war against Ukraine, a keynote speech by Anna Lührmann, Minister of State for Europe and Climate, Foreign Ministry of Germany, as well as the presentation of candidates to the EGP Committee. On Saturday, the day started with a speech from Virginijus Sinkevičius, the European Commissioner of Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, and continued with a variety of different parallel sessions, the presentation of the applicant parties for EGP membership, the plenary session "Building a Green Future: A Just Transition in a Time of Crisis" and network meetings.

Sunday focused on reporting and voting sessions during which the delegates voted to welcome two new candidate members Progresīvie from Latvia and Hållbart Initiativ from Åland, Finland as well as the election of the new Committee.

We also adopted the following resolutions:

- Stop Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine
- Conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe: Time has come to deliver and build Europe better
- Offensive cyber warfare must be banned
- The Care of Older Persons
- Stop the Akkuyu Nuclear Plant

Programme: <u>https://europeangreens.eu/riga-2022/programme</u> Livestream (videos): <u>https://europeangreens.eu/riga-2022/live</u> Adopted documents: <u>https://europeangreens.eu/riga-2022/adopted-documents</u>

36th Council of the European Green Party, Copenhagen

The 36th EGP Council was organised as part of the 6th EGP Congress, with its programme focusing on statutory issues: financial and membership reports, presentation of candidacies to different bodies and presentation of URA candidacy for full membership. Delegates adopted the Reform of the Statutes and Rule Book, activity plan, budget and membership fees for 2023, and they elected representatives to different bodies and welcomed URA as a full member of EGP.

Adopted Documents: https://europeangreens.eu/copenhagen2022/adopted-documents

C) EGP Congress meetings

6th Congress of the European Green Party, Copenhagen

The 6th Congress was organised in Copenhagen, Denmark, with activities happening from Friday 2nd of December to Sunday 4th of December. Compromise Amendments Sessions were held from Tuesday 29th of November to 4th of December. The opening day started with a large set of parallel sessions, then followed by an official opening session, keynotes and a plenary featuring Greens in Government. Annalena Baerbock, Minister of Foreign Affairs gave a live online speech to the 1000 participants. Friday also had an extremely successful and well-



attended Ministerial Programme. Saturday continued with the presentation of candidates for EGP bodies, plentiful parallel sessions, plenary sessions and network meetings.

The final day focused on voting sessions for the Council as well as Congress during which delegates adopt the following resolutions:

- The 6th EGP Congress Presidium
- Hope in challenging times: Let's make a green future possible in the 2024 European elections
- Green and social solutions to the energy crisis
- On women's rights, gender and climate change in Europe
- Restore and protect nature and climate
- The EGP calls for a new binding legal regime to protect the Arctic
- Help the Odra river revive and make it free-flowing again
- Tackling current challenges hindering animal welfare in the EU and beyond
- Establish a red and a social taxonomy: stop unsustainable finance
- Defending Democracy, Delivering Answers
- Right to abortion is a human right. It is under attack, let's fight for it!
- On Human and political rights for the people with disabilities in Europe: the Right for Independent Living all over Europe now!
- Mental health is political: Addressing Europe's mental health crisis holistically
- European Greens continue to stand in undivided solidarity with Ukraine
- Solidarity with and support for the people of Iran
- Green Transformation of EU Trade Policy
- Myanmar and the EU-ASEAN summit
- No EU money for autocrats protect Europe's rule of law!
- Need to reduce tensions and build confidence in the North-Eastern Mediterranean
- White Paper Revolution: Solidarity with the Chinese protesters

Programme: <u>https://europeangreens.eu/congress2022/programme</u> Livestream (Videos): <u>https://europeangreens.eu/congress2022/live</u> Adopted Documents: <u>https://europeangreens.eu/congress2022/adopted-documents</u>

2. Non-statutory meetings/activities

A) Green Party Leaders' Meetings (PLM)

In 2022, the EGP organised one online Party Leaders' Meeting. On the 24th of February 2022, following the brutal war of aggression Russia launched against Ukraine, we called for an emergency PLM. We were able to bring party leaders together to exchange on the Green response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine as well as our joint position and messages. As a concrete outcome of the meeting, we published the following statement on the 25th of February 2022: https://europeangreens.eu/content/european-greens-stand-ukraine

B) Greens In Government

Green parties in government in the EU are facing similar challenges, in particular in the current political environment with difficult decisions to be taken. At the same time, the parties have similar opportunities and potential as they can highlight that Greens in government are ready



to take responsibility and are taking necessary political steps to address the multiple crises we find ourselves in.

In close cooperation with the Green Group in the European Parliament, the EGP took part in the ministerial exchanges between the Greens in Government related to processes and files going on at the Council level.

In addition, the EGP organised a meeting for Secretary Generals of the Green parties in government in the EU as a one-day in-person meeting on Friday, 18th of November 2022, co-hosted by the German Greens in Berlin.

As a parallel programme to the Congress in Copenhagen, we organised a meeting between all Green Ministers and the Green Prime Minister. The goal of this meeting was to allow for a strategic exchange between our ministers, especially with regards to the current political challenges.

C) Study visits and Fact-Finding Missions (FFM)

FFM to Riga, Latvia from 14th to 16th of March

The EGP delegation consisted of Thomas Waitz (Co-chair), Mar Garcia (Secretary General), Jean Lambert (Committee member) and Oras Tynkkynen (Committee member). Throughout the mission, EGP met with several representatives of Civil Society Organisations, German and British Embassies as well as members of the Progresīvie Board and Riga City Council.

FFM to Åland on 22nd and 23rd of March

The EGP delegation consisted of Evelyne Huytebroeck (Co-chair), Mar Garcia (Secretary General) as well as Oras Tynkkynen (Committee member). Throughout the mission, EGP met several representatives of HI, the head of government of Åland, as well as stakeholders of the Åland civil society. To further the understanding of the EGP delegation on the interconnections of HI with the Finnish Green Member Party of EGP, Vihreät - De Gröna, the mission was preceded by a visit of the EGP delegation to Helsinki on 21st March 2022 and by a meeting with the Swedish Greens the day after.

D) Network meetings

Balkan Network

With the aim of enhancing regional cooperation, the 2nd Balkan Regional Meeting took place in February 2022 in Serbia where network priorities were outlined: 1. Conferences and capacity building, 2. EU accession and WB6 and 3. Policy. A Coordination Team was formed to steer the implementation of the activity plan.

The Network participated in several activities including with a regional delegation at the Pride in Skopje (June 2022) and the EuroPride in Belgrade (September 2022) together with the EGP Committee and the Gender & Queer Networks.

The network met and organised parallel sessions during the EGP Council in Riga and the Congress in Copenhagen, with a visit to the Danish Parliament to discuss prospects of WB6 EU integration with representatives of different parliamentary structures and CSOs.



Mediterranean Network

During 2022, the Mediterranean network (MedNet) has consolidated the monthly meeting with stable participation of around 12 people from almost all the Southern member parties. The network has focused on preparing to the Spring Council and Autumn Congress, drafting two resolutions: one on energy poverty and one on the impact of climate change on women. In addition, they organised two sessions in each Council/Congress. During the year, some of the internal working groups of MedNet have been meeting regularly as well, especially the Tourism WG.

Gender Network and Queer Network

Both networks have worked closely together throughout 2022, mainly developing the Trans Inclusive Feminist campaign through the sessions in both Council and Congress. One of the most relevant activities of 2022 was the Gender, Queer and Balkan Networks gathering in Belgrade on the week of EuroPride (September 2022) which brought together queer feminist activists from all over Europe to learn more about the struggles of the LGBTIQ+ community in the Western Balkans. A three-day programme was developed, which included a visit to the Serbian National Parliament, attendance of the EuroPride, sessions with MEP and MPs and exchange among the networks.

Disability Network

2022 has been the year of consolidation of the Disability Network, with a very active group of 5 people leading the network, which organised a webinar on the EU's Disability Strategy 2021-2030 (to analyse it from a Green perspective with Green MEP and the European Disability Forum); two sessions in both EGP Council and Congress; and the preparation of Guidelines on how to make political participation accessible for all (with the aim of translating it into different languages upon member parties' request).

European Network of Senior Greens (ENGS)

The network met during the Spring Council to hold its General Assembly where a new board was elected and also during the Autumn Congress, where a workshop on "Age friendly Cities and Communities" was organised.

Local Councillor's Network

The Local Councillors' Network organised a very well-attended conference for Local Councillors in May 2022 in Valencia, Spain. EGP brought together more than 300 participants exchanging on the current challenges for local authorities and on how to make their municipalities more resilient. It was an important success and participants' feedback was very positive.

Thanks to the conference and the ongoing outreach activities, EGP was able to reach 946 active users on the Local Councillors' Platform by the end of 2022.

Finally, EGP started a webinar series that began with a webinar on "Business Plans for Local Councillors" in October and a "Q&A on the local and regional level at the UNFCCC COP27" in November 2022. The series continues in 2023.

E) Working Group Revision of Rule Book and Statutes

The Working Group Revision of Rule Book and Statutes, mandated and established by the 34th online EGP Council in the end of 2021, met in an online setting four times throughout 2022



to work on an in-depth review of the Statutes and Rule Book of the European Green Party. Following the green principles of transparency, inclusion, accountability we opted to simplify the Statutes and the Rule Book to make it more effective, guiding our work and streamlining processes. We also acknowledged the reality of political growth of the Green family, ensuring that our Statutes and the Rule Book were a tool to further support our political cooperation and results, adapting structures and procedures to changing needs of the organisation and the reality we operate in rather than to monitor and regulate every step of every procedure.

The Committee representatives in the Working Group were first Mar Garcia, then Benedetta De Marte as Secretary General, as well as Mélanie Vogel and Ute Michel. In between meetings, the WG members were consulted further multiple times.

Key proposals were presented to the Council delegates in an information and discussion session at the 35th EGP Council in Riga in June 2022 to take on board feedback and concerns.

Deliberations in the Working Group and in the Committee continued after the Riga Council with the aim of presenting proposals for decision to the Autumn Council. The 36th EGP Council held at the 6th EGP Congress in Copenhagen in December 2022 adopted the revised Statutes and Rule Book as presented.

3. Outreach

A) Green Recovery Campaign

The Green Recovery Campaign was created as a response to the Covid pandemic. EGP together with its member parties wanted to discuss and design a Green European response entailing our vision how to move through and beyond the crisis. At the 31st EGP Council in June 2020 we adopted a resolution that outlines the Green common position.

The campaign consisted of an outdoor exhibition and a series of discussion panels. The exhibition was displayed in public spaces and travelled between cities every 1 - 2 weeks, so that it could be displayed in the same city in which the discussion panel was organised that week.

As part of this project in 2022 we have organised:

- Final event of the Polish Green Recovery campaign on the 15th of January in Warsaw, Poland.
- Green Recovery in Serbia which comprised of 4 events in Subotica, Uzice, Niz and Kragujevac between 3rd and 6th of February.
- Green Recovery in Slovenia which comprised of 3 events in Ljubljana and Maribor between 20th of January and 20th of March.
- Green Recovery in Czechia which comprised of 8 events in Opava, Olomuc, Brno, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Usti Nad Labem, Plzeñ and Prague between 6th of May and 15th of November.
- Green Recovery conference in Spain which comprised of 9 sessions between 1st and 2nd of October in Madrid.
- Green Recovery in Estonia which comprised of 5 events between 1st of September and 15th of November.



B) European Ideas Lab

The Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament, in collaboration with EGP and the Polish Green Party Zieloni was set to organise an EIL in Wrocław, Poland, in October 2022. The event was eventually postponed to be held in Warsaw in March 2023. A smaller conference 'Civil Society Talks: Resilience and Resistance' was held in Wrocław between 22-23 October with about 100 participants from civil society in Poland and Europe.

C) The Green Screen

The Green Screen project continued throughout 2022 until its conclusion in November. It featured a series of online film screenings that encouraged citizens to actively participate in contemporary debates about the future of Europe and the pursuit of more resilient and sustainable societies. The movies covered key themes such as climate change, feminism, housing, pesticides, and memory politics, followed by a live online debate featuring politicians, experts, activists, and movie directors.

The following film titles were featured: "The Forum" (January), "Woman" (February), "Maidan" (March), "My Favorite War" (May, including a live screening in Riga), "Earth: muted" (September), "Push" (November).

D) Green Talking Heads

The Green Talking Heads project continued in 2022, aiming to enhance the perceived competencies of European Greens in certain policy areas towards external audiences through its main package of outputs: podcasts, content-rich articles, and social media posts. The project offers in-depth analyses to an audience that follows European politics and wants to learn more about Greens positions on the issues that are part of the public debate. It has also been a tool to present EGP events and to profile the speakers to showcase Green priorities and positions, within the family.

During 2022, 10 thematic packages were published covering topics like healthcare, improving working conditions of platform workers, Digital Services Act, Green cities leading on energy transition, Greens in Government, Greens in opposition, Gender Based Violence in Europe during the pandemic, and the LGBTIQ+ community in Balkans.

E) New Year's reception

Due to COVID-19 regulations, the EGP's New Year's reception was held online on 8 February 2022. EGP co-chairs Evelyne Huytebroeck and Thomas Waitz welcomed the guests and shared their reflections on the challenges and successes of the past year. The event was graced by the presence of Rokia Bamba, a renowned Belgian sound artist, DJ, and radio producer, who added a special touch to the evening. The event was expertly hosted by Dena Vahdani, a Belgian-Iranian TV host and comedian. The festivities concluded with a virtual cocktail session.

F) Comms networking meeting

In 2022, the European Green Party hosted the Communications Network Meeting, coorganised with the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament. The event brought together



communications staff from all member parties with the objective of reconnecting following the COVID pandemic, building infrastructure to prepare for the 2024 EU election campaign, and sharing expertise through workshops on topics such as election campaigning, marketing, TikTok, and meme creation. The creation of a Slack workspace to which all network members were invited took place after the event. This room for exchange was requested by the participants and put into action by the EGP and the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament. This successful event has paved the way for future collaborations, with a follow-up meeting planned for October 2023.

G) Tilt

In 2022, *tilt!* continued some of the successful campaigns that were launched in 2021. These included the campaign to ban bottom trawling in the EU Action Plan on ocean protection, and an effort to save European forests by banning clear-cutting.

Moreover, we launched new campaigns to build on previous experiences. Some of the more successful campaigns in 2022 were the campaign to stop the planned first octopus farm in the world, the campaign to ban private jets in Europe and the campaign to stop empty flights in Europe. We also campaigned on banning fossil fuel imports from Russia, stopping the burning of usable goods by mass retailers, ending tampon tax in Europe and guaranteeing everyone decent and affordable housing. The latter was the topic of a street action in connection with the EGP Council in Riga in June 2022.

The campaign to ban private jets took off surprisingly well after highly mediatised revelations in the summer of 2022 of US celebrities' use of private jets. *Tilt!* started to track private jets in Europe and published a report on Spain in November 2022. *Tilt!* has continued gathering data as well as teaching members of the *tilt!* community to do it since then. These community-building activities will be particularly useful in planning the EGP election campaign 2024.

H) Digital Communications

In 2022, we continued to effectively use our digital channels to communicate with our target audiences. Through these channels, we shared our political positions on various topics, such as climate change, updates on our projects, like the Green Screen, and extensive coverage of our events, such as the Council meetings. Notably, the team paid particular attention to covering the start of the war in Ukraine, which garnered significant engagement from our followers. We also experimented with meme creation and introduced a TikTok and LinkedIn presence. Especially the use of memes and more engaging social media formats were very successful and generated the most interactions and impressions. Consistent data analysis has allowed us to evaluate our activities in a more data-driven way, leading to improvements in our digital output. We also extended the use of digital advertising, for example in the context of the Congress in Copenhagen, the Green Talking Heads and the Green Screen. We further experimented with new advertising methods like programmatic ads (i.e., display ads on websites) and Google Search ads. In 2022, we sent several emails to our newsletter list, including multiple flash newsletters about current events which were perceived very positively by our audience. Our improved email strategy led to an increased opening rate and growth in our list. Finally, we initiated work with a digital agency to develop a new website and CRM in preparation for the 2024 EU election campaign.



I) Fundraising

In 2022, EGP continued its donor acquisition activities for the general audience, but also intensified its efforts for our green family. Apart from the two fundraising drives in May and in December for EGP's wider supporters, successful fundraising raffles were organised for the delegates at the June Council in Riga and at the December Congress in Copenhagen. EGP has also continued its donor engagement activities and has thus sent four donor impact reports to its existing donors.

J) Trans-inclusive Feminist Campaign

In 2022, EGP launched the Trans inclusive feminist campaign in response to the 2020 adopted resolution on trans rights as well as to the concern expressed by some EGP member parties regarding the appearance of trans exclusionary tendencies, including among some of their members. This is why EGP focused on the internal work and organised Gender and Queer network meetings on the topic at the Riga Council, at the EuroPride in Belgrade, and the Copenhagen Congress. EGP also organised a few webinars, one of them in cooperation with the Local Councillors, an evening panel in Riga featuring speakers from the EU and local CSOs and political level. EGP also presented the campaign at the EELV summer school and had meetings on the issue with the GPEW. EGP created a distinct visual identity and produced merchandise which trickled down the campaign message within the member parties.

K) Research

In 2022, EGP concluded the research project focused on the Green electorate in Southern and Eastern Europe and continued work on developing the EGP's capacities in research, namely with on-topic research, for the preparation of the 2024 European campaign.

4. Partners

The EGP Committee and its partners strive to find synergies, align strategies and work in a complementary way – always within the boundaries of the financial and legal regulations set by the EP and the Authority for European Political Parties.

A) Greens-EFA in the European Parliament

The EGP as a whole as well as the Committee more specifically continued its strong working relationship collaborating with MEPs where relevant. The EGP Committee is represented in the Green Group Bureau meetings and vice versa. In addition, we continue to have daily bilateral contacts between the staff of the EGP and the staff of the Group across different departments (advisors/press/campaigners/outreach).

Concrete cooperation included the following projects:

Climate campaign including cooperation before the COP meeting

- Greens in government and ministers' meetings
- Conference 'Civil Society Talks: Resilience and Resistance' in Wrocław, Poland



- Plenary Session at the Riga Council
- Plenary Session at the 6th EGP Congress

B) Green European Foundation (GEF)

EGP continued its fruitful cooperation with GEF, especially exchanging and relying on their expertise research and political analysis.

EGP is represented in the GEF General Assembly and can attend the board and strategy meetings. The GEF is also represented in the EGP Committee meetings, and there are regular bilateral contacts on leadership and staff level. The members of the GEF General Assembly nominated by EGP are Malgorzata Tracz and Rasmus Nordqvist as well as Emma Nohrén and Marie Pochon. EGP also collaborated with GEF on a number of events across Europe and its Committee members were featured in GEF events. EGP co-chair Thomas Waitz participated on 9th July 2022 in the discussion "The future of Romania's forests", and co-chair Mélanie Vogel as well as Secretary General Benedetta De Marte and Committee member and MP Malgorzata Tracz were featured as panellists in the Green Academy hosted in Warsaw from 15th to 17th July.

C) Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG)

EGP continued to enjoy close cooperation with its youth partner, which proved consistent and very fruitful overall, especially in the framework of the climate and recovery campaign. The FYEG was represented in the EGP Committee meetings while EGP Committee members participated in FYEG events. The EGP and FYEG continued the programme of joint activities in areas of overlapping priorities and interests, which has proven to be beneficial to both partners.

EGP/FYEG joint projects in 2022:

- Young Greens Forum (5 6 March, online)
- Green Feminism is Trans-Inclusive (3 June, Riga. In the context of the 35th EGP Council)
- Young Greens Decentralised Training (1 2 October, Brussels. And then online various weekends)
- Young Greens lab: All Politics is Mental Health Politics (12 13 November, Brussels)
- Tax the Rich To Save the Climate (3 December, Copenhagen. In the context of the 6th EGP Congress)

D) Global Greens

The Global Greens are preparing for their next congress, in Incheon, South Korea, in June 2023. To bridge the long time between the previous (Liverpool, 2017) and this next congress, they organised a 24-hour online conference in February 2022. EGP was involved in it by organising two sessions on local councillors and on Greens in Government. Spanning all time zones, the conference had more than 30 online sessions, organised by the Global Greens, the federations, and Green parties across the globe. More than 950 people attended the conference.



The Global Greens were present at COP27 in Egypt, and also (virtually) at the biodiversity COP15 in Montreal, Canada.

E) Committee of the Regions (COR)

EGP continued the collaboration with the Green Group in the European Committee of the Regions, especially in the realm of reaching out to local and regional authorities. They are supporting EGP in promoting the Local Councillors' Network and regularly contribute with content.

Additionally, a successful collaboration in view of COP27 was realised, when an online Q&A session with Marieke Schouten, who is Greens in CoR member and part of the official CoR delegation to the UNFCCC COPs, was hosted on the role and impact of the local and regional levels at COP27.

Finally, CoR Greens participated with their delegation at the 6th EGP Congress in Copenhagen, and co-organised two sessions together with the Local Councillors' Network.

F) European Movement International (EMI)

Since 2018, EGP has been member of EMI. The cooperation in 2022 comprised participating in EMI events (webinars and in-person events) and, more notably, the Federal Assembly and Members Council. The EGP has also supported Monica Frassoni as the EMI elected board member nominated by the Greens. Further cooperation between the EGP and EMI occurred in policy development and in the process of the Conference on the Future of Europe.

G) Das Progressive Zentrum

Das Progressive Zentrum is an independent think tank founded in 2007 as a non-profit initiative. Throughout 2022, the EGP cooperated with the Progressive Zentrum and codesigned a session during PDS 2022 "Narratives that renew the promise of Progress", held on the 13th of October.

5. Organisation

The year 2022 started with the loosening of health and sanitary measures related to Covid and staff members slowly returned to working from the office again. Teleworking measures regulating weekly working from home, from the office, and occasionally from abroad were put in place. In the years during the pandemic, EGP staff expanded and return to the office was very welcome in terms of team building, motivation, and efficiency. Online meetings are still a regular occurrence; thus, the EGP office is equipped with a teleconferencing system and hybrid meetings are enabled whenever possible.

The main organisational change that marked 2022 was the election of the new Committee and new Secretary General. The transfer between the previous and new Secretary Generals was smooth and took place over the summer. The office retreat was organised soon after to consolidate the team. In late Autumn the office director resigned. Despite these changes, the office continued its work without significant interruptions and successfully organised the extended Congress and Council in Copenhagen.