

## REPORT OF MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OFFICER Kristine Stikane

### YEE ANNUAL MEETING 2019

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Dear colleagues,

As this working year is slowly coming to an end and there is still some work to be done, I can still remember the day I became a part of YEE Board as Member Organisations (MOs) officer. It was exciting and promising, I had my intentions and will to devote myself to the network and people within it thus spreading the good, raising the awareness and preserving the Environment throughout Europe and even further its borders. Even though there are lots of things that could have been improved and done better during my mandate, my intentions have grown bigger and the will to help the planet stronger.

To start with, I have to say that 5 out of 6 Board members, including Chairperson, were at Board for the first time, also the Office team was just formed and the rotation of EVS volunteers happened shortly afterwards. Along with that we had a very short first Board meeting right after the Annual Meeting, therefore it made some confusion in the team and lack of cooperation at the beginning of our mandate. Only after a while we figured out the best means of internal communications that strengthened the trust and collaboration within the team.

When the team spirit raised I jumped into all the tasks set at my work-plan for this year and, in my opinion, I succeeded in many of them even though there were still some things to fulfill. First of all, together with Secretary General **online meetings with MOs** were introduced which seemed successful considering that it was done for the first time, though some things and approach might be changed for the future meetings (to be kept in mind for the next MOs officer). Second, in collaboration with EVS volunteers a **list of potential organisations** was created for expanding the network into countries where YEE does not have members. Now when the list is ready, the communications and bonds should be made for the future purposes.

Apart from my work-plan I found myself naturally taking over some tasks of Chairperson when she couldn't manage her personal life with volunteering. I wanted to keep the Board motivated, to spread the positive vibes into the Team, to make everyone to get and make the best of what they were doing in order to make us feel good and grateful for what we were doing. To be honest, this was the time I truly realised the natural leader within me. Along with that I participated at three internal **Working Groups (WGs)**, one for creating the **YEE Strategy 2020-2022**, another one for creating the **YEE Social Media Strategy** and last but not least one WG was for refreshing and re-modeling the **Office Cuisine (for now on - YEE Foodprint WG)** that used to be the internal project of EVS volunteers and is going to be an open WG for all the members of YEE. Not only did I support the team and participate at WGs but also helped with social media posts, especially at **Instagram** where I found myself useful. Additionally I have to mention that I attended the annual event (**COMEM**) of the **European Youth Forum together** with

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External Relations officer Tiarnan that was a great experience to hear from other Youth organisations and discuss important issues of the Youth in Europe.

However, along with what's mentioned above I learnt a lot of practicalities and gained new skills, f.ex. how to work online in a team, how to cope with difficulties and challenges, how to moderate online meetings, how to make agendas and minutes of them and how to work within a youth organisation that I had never done before.

Overall, I believe that this was a challenging tough successful year that have taught me a lot and changed my life forever. I am grateful to each and everyone that has worked and been with me, helped me, and most of all about friendships made and lessons learnt.

Looking forward to hear from the next Board, Office and EVS good work,

With kind regards and greetings from Latvia,  
Sincerely yours,

Kristine Stikane  
Member Organisations officer 2018/2019