ELECTORAL PROGRAMME · VICE-PRESIDENCY · EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM 2026–2028

It's time to...

Advance Connect Transform

From strategy to action. ›››



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YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

PROUDLY NOMINATED BY

Youth and Environment Europe

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Why I'm running

Europe doesn't need more promises. Europe needs impact that young people can feel; impact that can be measured.

I'm running to strengthen the connection between the Forum, its Member Organisations and the young people they represent, and to turn that connection into power.

THE HUMAN REASON

Behind every policy there is a person: the intern working unpaid, the family priced out of a first home, the activist close to burnout, the young person who has never heard of the Forum. I'm running so that it is these people that our work reaches, and so that they can reach us.

WHO I HAVE IN MIND

Unpaid · Priced out · Burnt out · Unheard

Four realities I will bring to the Board table.

THE TECHNICAL REASON

My method is precise: connect our NYCs and INGYOs to the decisions where power sits—the next MFF, the EU Youth Strategy 2027–2034, the Council of Europe, the UN. Then, measure what we win: binding rules instead of declarations, core funding instead of project cycles, a Youth Check instead of a consultation.

WHAT I WILL DELIVER

Binding rules · Core funding · Youth Check

Results we can count, not declarations.

A STRONGER FORUM.
A MORE POWERFUL MOVEMENT.

It's time to ACT.

Strategy is what we write. ACT is what we do.

ACT
The movement: show up and take part.

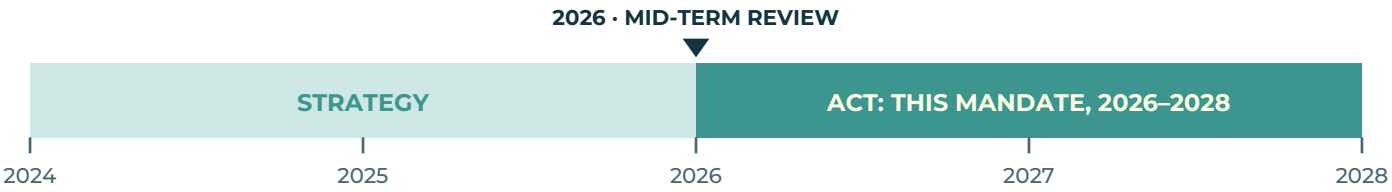
ACTion
The method: turn strategy into delivery.

impACT
The promise: positively change how young people feel.

Why now?

The strategy exists. The decisions are being made now. This mandate is where they meet.

The Strategic Plan 2024–2028 is our shared strategy. Its 2026 mid-term review asks one question: what has it delivered for young people? The Board elected this November holds the second half of the plan, while Europe decides its budget, its youth strategy, and its social and digital rules.



On the table during this mandate

YOUTH ORGANISATIONS
Next EU budget (MFF) · Erasmus+
Erasmus+ is undervalued and needs a bigger budget. We fight to protect and strengthen its Youth Chapter.

DEMOCRACY
EU Youth Strategy 2027–2034
Co-create it with young people, with a Youth Check built in.

DEMOCRACY
New Congress of Europe
Youth civil society as co-architect of Europe's democratic future.

YOUTH RIGHTS
Council of Europe and UN
Towards a binding Convention on the Rights of Young People.

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC INCLUSION
Quality Jobs Act · Traineeships Directive
An end to unpaid internships and zero-hour contracts.

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC INCLUSION
European Housing Act
Binding rules on speculative rentals and housing young people can afford.

CLIMATE JUSTICE
European Green Deal · 2040 climate target
90% by 2040 is set. We make it fair and funded, with youth at COP31 (Antalya, 9–20 November).

DIGITAL & AI
Digital Fairness Act
Addictive design banned, privacy and encryption protected.

30

1996–2026 · THE EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM TURNS 30

Thirty years of youth voice in Europe. This mandate turns that voice into enforceable youth rights.

From strategy to action. »»

Advance

Youth rights as enforceable standards, not declarations.

Democracy · Youth Rights · Youth Organisations · Social & Economic Inclusion · Climate Justice · Digital & AI

A binding Convention on Youth Rights

Youth Rights

Advocacy at Council of Europe and UN level, with a dedicated UN Special Rapporteur on Youth Rights.

Equality for all

Youth Rights · Inclusion

Against age-based prejudice, racism, gender injustice, ableism and LGBTQI+ discrimination, and an end to menstrual poverty.

Protect Erasmus+ and its Youth Chapter

Youth Orgs

Erasmus+ is undervalued and needs a bigger budget. Keep a dedicated Youth Chapter in the next MFF, with the Solidarity Corps included and youth participation fully funded.

Protect young defenders

Democracy · Youth Rights

Concrete protection mechanisms and emergency protocols against legal harassment and shrinking civic space.

Right to a healthy environment

Climate · Youth Rights

Formal recognition in European human rights frameworks, with duty-bearers accountable for intergenerational equity.

A seat for youth at the New Congress of Europe

Democracy

Secure a youth delegation with a real voice in the New Congress of Europe, so the continent's democratic future is co-designed with young people, not presented to them.

A Youth Check on every law

Democracy · Climate · Digital

Systematic youth and intergenerational impact assessments, including for digital and climate laws, plus co-decision models instead of tokenistic dialogue.

WHERE WE MUST BE PRESENT · PROGRAMMES, LAWS AND CONVENTIONS

UN · Pact for the Future · UN · Youth2030 Strategy · UN GA Res. 76/300 · healthy environment · CoE · Rec. CM/Rec(2022)20 · CoE · Youth Sector Strategy 2030 · CoE · Advisory & Joint Councils on Youth · EU Charter of Fundamental Rights · EU Better Regulation · Youth Check · EU Youth Dialogue · Aarhus Convention

Connect

A member-led Forum with funding that lasts.

Democracy · Youth Rights · Youth Organisations · Social & Economic Inclusion · Climate Justice · Digital & AI

Core funding in the next MFF

Youth Orgs · Climate

Multi-year structural grants that end the cycle of short-term project funding, including for environmental youth organisations through Erasmus+, AgoraEU, and LIFE.

Mobility and fair visas

Inclusion · Youth Rights

Learning-mobility visas for volunteers, interns and youth workers, and a defended Schengen Area.

One voice across pillars

Youth Orgs

A bridge between INGYOs and NYCs, with stronger outreach to candidate countries, the Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, and the Euro-Mediterranean.

Reach beyond our usual structures

Digital · Youth Orgs

Map what members already do, find where we are not reaching young people, and connect existing initiatives, tools and networks: in schools, universities, workplaces and online, with civic tech.

Simpler Erasmus+ and ESC

Youth Orgs

Lighter reporting and audit rules so volunteer-led grassroots groups can access funds fairly.

Statutory recognition

Youth Orgs · Democracy

Legal recognition of NYCs and INGYOs as social partners, and defence against arbitrary restrictions and funding bans.

Youth work recognised

Democracy · Inclusion

Cross-border validation of non-formal learning, and youth centres as local hubs of democracy.

WHERE WE MUST BE PRESENT · PROGRAMMES, LAWS AND CONVENTIONS

Erasmus+ · KA1 · KA2 · KA3 · European Solidarity Corps · AgoraEU · democracy, citizens, rights & values · CoE · European Youth Foundation · EU Youth Strategy 2027–2034 · DiscoverEU · Pact for the Mediterranean · Enlargement · Western Balkans · Eastern Partnership · Schengen

Transform

Decent jobs, a home of your own and a livable planet.

Democracy · Youth Rights · Youth Organisations · Social & Economic Inclusion · Climate Justice · Digital & AI

Ban unpaid internships

Inclusion · Youth Rights

A binding EU Directive guaranteeing pay, learning standards and social security, and a Quality Jobs Act that ends zero-hour contracts and sub-minimum youth wages.

Housing emancipation

Inclusion · Climate

Binding rules on speculative short-term rentals and investment in public, cooperative and student housing, with energy-efficient renovation and a Right to Stay for rural youth.

Democratic renewal

Democracy

Campaign for Vote at 16, with the right to run aligned, inspired by young people's visions for European democracy towards 2049.

Just ecological transition

Climate

Sufficiency-based path to 100% renewables, fossil subsidies ended by 2030, binding material footprint caps, and heatwave protection for workers.

Human-centric AI and digital rights

Digital · Youth Rights

Human agency in AI, addictive design banned under the Digital Fairness Act, and end-to-end encryption protected.

Well-being of youth and activists

Inclusion · Digital · Youth Orgs

Public healthcare addressing precarity and eco-anxiety, alongside anti-burnout protocols within member organisations.

WHERE WE MUST BE PRESENT · PROGRAMMES, LAWS AND CONVENTIONS

Traineeships Directive · Quality Jobs Act · Youth Guarantee · European Housing Act · European Pillar of Social Rights · ESF+ · Social Climate Fund · Just Transition Fund · Digital Fairness Act · Digital Services Act · AI Act · Nature Restoration Law · UNFCCC · COPs (COP31 Antalya)

What I bring to the Board

The Board is 11 volunteers who must cover seven competencies together. This is my contribution to each.

INGYO + NYC
I know both pillars from the inside.

Economist + auditor
Associate Professor of Economics, former PwC auditor.

EU · CoE · UN
From the EESC to COP and the Council of Europe.

Builder from zero
Euroregion Youth Assembly, ImpulsEurope, Palumba.org.

Leadership

Executive Board Member of YEE. First President of the Euroregion Youth Assembly, then co-president of the Mediterranean Youth Council, across 40 nations. Founder of ImpulsEurope: conducted 70 policy workshops, received the Medal of Honour of the French Republic.

Governance

Executive Board roles at YEE and the MYC, from statutes and policies to staff contracts. Audit Associate at PwC. Member of the Senate, Governing Council and Social Council of the University of Barcelona, and chairman of the Montcelimar Foundation.

External representation

Youth advocate leader at COP25 and COP29, the UN ECOSOC Youth Forum, the Council of Europe, and the Union for the Mediterranean. EESC Youth Representative. Active in YFJ General Assemblies, working groups and motions as YEE's representative.

Financial management

Associate Professor of Economics at UAB and teacher at UPF; cum laude in International Business. Approved multi-million-euro budgets at the University of Barcelona. Managed EU-funded projects under Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, LIFE, and Interreg.

Policy and advocacy

Drafted EESC opinions on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, lifelong learning, non-formal education and the circular economy. Authored YEE's Strategic Priorities and led youth lobbying on the EU Nature Restoration Law. Shaped student representation in Spain's university law.

Teamwork

Eight months abroad at the Bel Espoir peace school ship, and ESC volunteering in Portugal. Fluent in Spanish, Catalan, and English, with advanced or intermediate French, Italian, and Russian. Vast experience and daily collaboration with diverse, multicultural teams.

Members and stakeholders

Led institutional relations with over 100 stakeholders for Palumba.org. Partnerships with the governments of Catalonia and Spain, EU institutions, NYCs and INGYOs. Always putting the priorities of Member Organisations first.

Plus: civic innovation

Helped build Palumba.org, a youth-led voting advice app that helped young people across Europe make informed choices in the 2024 European elections. Established YEE's organisational policies on AI and cybersecurity.

Ten years of building

From the University of Barcelona to the European stage, I bring 10 years of experience driving change for youth.

2017–2020 — **Student leader, University of Barcelona**
Founder of Som Universitaris. Member of the Governing Council and the Social Council. EPSO Ambassador.

2020–2022 — **Vice-President, CREUP**
International relations of the Spanish university student councils. Represented students at CEUNE and ESU.

2022–2024 — **President, Equipo Europa Catalunya**
Citizen projects around the Conference on the Future of Europe, with more than 200 international participants.

2023–2025 — **President, Euroregion Pyrenees-Mediterranean Youth Assembly**
A new youth platform built from zero, connecting young people with regional governments and the EU.

2024–2026 — **Co-President, Mediterranean Youth Council**
Youth advocacy across 40 nations on the New Pact for the Mediterranean.

2024–today — **Institutional Relations and Project Manager, Palumba.org**
Digital platform for youth democratic participation, with more than 5 million data points.

2024–today — **Founder, ImpulsEurope**
Full-time Erasmus+ non-formal education and youth expertise, and a youth-led think tank. Received the Medal of Honour of the French Republic.

2025 — **Ambassador, Europe on Track (AEGEE)**

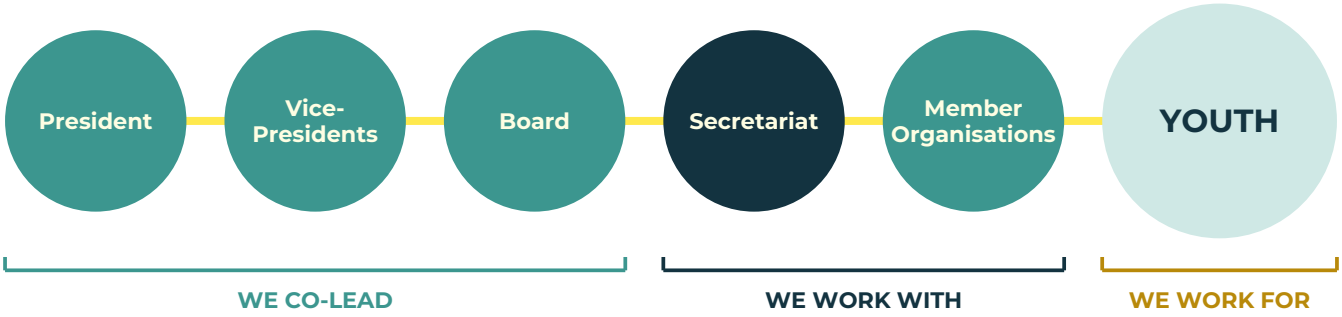
2025 — **Ambassador, Bel Espoir**
The peace school ship sailing the Mediterranean for eight months.

2025–today — **Vice-President, Catalan Council of the European Movement**

2024–2026 — NOMINATING ORGANISATION
Board Member, Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)
External relations and advocacy, representing youth at COP, UN processes, and EU institutions such as the EESC.

How I will co-lead

A catalyst for collective action: an action multiplier who turns the Forum's collective capacity into collective action.



One team. Shared responsibility. Open communication.

Co-lead with the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Board	A strategic partnership built on shared vision and mutual accountability. Political strategy, sensitive negotiations and institutional messaging agreed together, with clear responsibilities and space for constructive challenge.
Work hand in hand with the Secretariat and the Member Organisations	The Board sets vision and oversight, the Secretariat executes, and the Member Organisations hold the mandate. Decisions stay connected to the people they affect.
Open doors in the Council of Europe and the UN	Scale the co-management gold standard, protect civic space and strengthen the Advisory Council on Youth. Defend, strengthen, and advance youth rights, and amplify youth voices within the United Nations system.
Break the silos	Democracy, youth rights, social inclusion, climate, and digital policy are interconnected and inseparable, and every campaign must reinforce that.
Answer to members and young people first	An open interlocutor, so advocacy always reflects the mandates given democratically, and reaches young people where they are.

My first 100 days

The steps I will take first will lead to a public report addressing the members.

Days 1–30

Listen and align

- Agree on working rules and cross-portfolio coordination with the President, the Board, and the Secretariat.
- Open a listening round with NYCs and INGYOs: what are the members already doing, and where is the Forum not yet reaching young people?
- Review the Strategic Plan mid-term review, the budget and the risks with the FCC and CBMA.

Days 31–60

Connect

- Publish a simple map of "who does what" on the Board, with open office hours for Member Organisations.
- Launch one joint campaign brief linking housing, decent jobs, climate and democracy.
- Set the institutional calendar with the President: the MFF, the EU Youth Strategy 2027–2034, the Council of Europe and the UN.

Days 61–100

Deliver

- Support one united message to the MFF negotiators on core funding and simpler Erasmus+ procedures.
- Pilot outreach to young people outside our usual structures, with a few willing Member Organisations.
- Report back to members on day 100: what was delivered, what was not, and what comes next.

My commitments to you

Cohesion across portfolios

No silos between democracy, rights, inclusion, climate, and digital policy. One integrated force.

Accountable to members

A public report at day 100, and regular open updates to members on what was delivered and what was not.

Faithful representation

External positions that follow exactly what Member Organisations have democratically adopted.

YFJ GENERAL ASSEMBLY · 13–14 NOVEMBER · BRUSSELS

Let's ACT. Together.

1

Meet with me

Member Organisations, youth groups, partners and everyone who is interested. After the launch on 14 October, let us sit down and talk.

2

Talk with me

Share with me what you want the Forum to take on, and I will make sure the whole team is on board: the Board, the Secretariat, and the Member Organisations.

3

Vote!

At the General Assembly of the European Youth Forum, 13–14 November in Brussels.

Less promises. More ACTion.

WRITE TO ME

francesc@yeenet.eu

DM me on Instagram @falmendros

Francesc Almendros Viladerrams

Candidate for Vice-President

YEE! YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

NOMINATED BY

Youth and Environment Europe

The largest independent network of environmental youth organisations in Europe.