

Report

Organisations applying for membership in YEE at the Annual Meeting 2018

Dear YEE Member Organisations,

This year there are **two organisations applying for membership** in Youth and Environment Europe, both of them are applying for full membership:

1. *Common Sense Youth Organization*
2. *Milieukontakt Albania*

1. Common Sense Youth Organization

Year of foundation: 2006

Country: Azerbaijan

Website: <http://www.csyo-az.org/>

Description Of The Organisation: CSYO is actively involved in Erasmus+ and strongly encourages local youth to take part in European mobility by promoting Erasmus+ opportunities at universities. The organisation has begun to implement projects in the framework of EU programs since 2013 (Youth in Action, and then Erasmus+). CSYO has been accredited as a both sending (since 2012) and host (since 2016.) EVS organisation whose license is valid till 2020.

Youth Organisation: Yes, Common Sense is a Youth organization and organisations decision-making bodies are between 18-30 age

Members of the organisation: 120 members. Their members are individuals. Most of them are students.

What is the average age of organisation members: The average age of their members is 23.

Age Limit : 18-35

Mission / vision:

- to make the youth be aware of their civic responsibility and increase active citizenship;
- to advocate for human rights and equality;
- to promote social inclusion for the young with special needs;
- to promote healthy lifestyle and show the consequences of bad habits;
- to raise environmental awareness and the significance of ecological protection among the youth;
- to underpin peace building and conflict prevention;
- to support local schoolchildren and students in their self-development process.

Types of projects organised (e.g. campaigns, training courses etc.)

Find Your Rights with the nature TC (1-8 September 2013, Sheki, Azerbaijan) This training course was aiming at empowering and developing competences of young people using outdoor as a tool in the topics of human rights and youth participation.

Let's Define Our Rights through outdoor TC (16-22 September 2013, Sheki Azerbaijan) - 7-day project brought together activists, youth workers/leaders and multipliers with fewer opportunities and youth from culturally diverse backgrounds from Turkey, Azerbaijan, England, France, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, and equipped them with various tools and methods of outdoor education, and taught how to transfer their knowledge in their countries.

Youth in Conflict Prevention and Peace building (22-29 January 2014, Sumgait, Azerbaijan) – During 8-day program, participants had a chance to reflect how to make TC one of the main directions of their organizations and to explore the benefits of using training as a tool when promoting human rights, peace building and environmental conflict issues.

projects implemented by “Common Sense” Youth Organization in Azerbaijan with the support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Commission:

“Sport 4 Change” Youth Exchange (12-18 May 2017, Baku, Azerbaijan) was aiming to mobilise sport for development to promote skills, encourage cultural engagement among people of different backgrounds and conflict resolution.

Connection with the Environmental field :

Common Sense organised **“Share your Road”** velo tour with Nature Friends organisation. The main aim of this project was enlightening both drivers and cyclists about their rights and duties.

CSYO organised **Eco camp for pupils with NGO council**. The purpose of this camp was informing pupils, and creating responsibility about ecology and to organise environment protecting activities with using their potential.

*One of the main direction of “**Common Sense Youth Organization**” is protecting environment and ecological education. They do believe the solution to the ecological problems is not the job that one organisation can do by itself. Organisation is always keen to cooperate with other organisations that share same interests with them. “Common Sense Youth Organization” is following the YEE activities in last two years. Organisation’s members have participated in the training course of YEE in Czech Republic in November 2017 and gave positive feedback, the board of “Common Sense Youth Organization” decided to apply for the YEE membership.*

*As “**Common Sense Youth Organization**” fulfils all the necessary criteria (youth organisation, dealing with environmental topics) we recommend the General Assembly to accept their application for full membership.*

2. Milieukontakt Albania

Year of foundation: 2009

Country: Albania

Website: <http://www.milieukontakt.org/>

Description Of The Organisation: Milieukontakt Albania works with civil society on environment, nature and sustainable development issues in Albania. In all programs Milieukontakt Albania conducted, three elements were leading: building capacities, involving citizens and solving environmental problems. They provided training, coaching, support and advice for organisations working for sustainability.

Milieukontakt Albania stimulated and supported the involvement and empowerment of citizens and developed processes of participative strategy development and decision making. Milieukontakt Albania’s approach, competences and projects have:

- Served as an awareness and advocacy tool for ensuring local ownership over capacity development processes;

- Fostered environmental CSOs participation in policy making process and capacity development;
- Provided a framework for active environmental CSOs involvement and integrating civil society feedback to major national priorities and policies;
- Served as a platform for NGO-government dialogue and increasing demand for public participation, transparency and democracy.

Initiating and maintaining dialogue: The strategy of Milieukontakt Albania is based on the development of dialogue and partnership between different stakeholders in the fields of nature and environment protection.

In Albania organisations assisted in strengthening dialogue and partnership between civil society, authorities, business and other stakeholders on different levels (local, regional, national and international).

**Youth
Organisation:**

No, but the vital part of Milieukontakt Albania is volunteer group composed of students and other young people from local communities where they work.

**Members of the
organisation:**

Milieukontakt is a foundation and according to the legislation it is not membership based.

**What is the average
age of organisation
members:**

27

Age Limit :

No age limit

Mission / vision:

Organisation strategy is characterized by an integrated approach, democracy, and a common strategy and implementation at local level. Milieukontakt Albania fosters a participatory approach in developing an environmental movement in Albania.

**Types of projects
organised (e.g.
campaigns,
training courses
etc.)**

Monitoring and assessing urban waste management service in Kruja, Permet and Saranda Municipalities;

Green Lungs for our cities – alternative and bottom-up monitoring platform for air quality, noise pollution and urban greenery for policy influencing at local level;

Education For All by practicing Sustainable Development Goals (EFA);

CSOs practicing EIA in all phases “**Civil Society Act for Development of Socio-Economic Basis of a Healthy Environment**”;

The School that I Love;

HELP-CSO - Horizontal Enforcement Legislation Promotion- CSO Financially supported by REC in the frame of ACHIEVE Project;

Waste Management Plan in Shijak Municipality;

Environmental alternative for the small HPPs in Albania.

Connection with the Environmental field :

The long-term goal of organisation.

“Milieukontakt Albania” wants to share experience and get to know other youth organisations and people around Europe with similar interests, exchange information and ideas in the fields of nature and environment protection, take part in high-quality training courses, find reliable partners. At the same time the organisation wants to offer opportunity to their volunteers to participate in European initiatives and learn from positive examples all over Europe.

“Milieukontakt Albania” applies for full membership. According Statutes of YEE organisation organisations that apply for Full Membership should be youth organizations, youth groups or the autonomous youth sections of organisations. “Milieukontakt Albania” is not youth organisation. As they showed huge motivation (working with youth, dealing with environmental topics) to become member of the network we recommend the General Assembly to accept their application for Associate membership.

The General Assembly shall decide their membership status during Annual Meeting 2018.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in Olomouc!

Sincerely,
YEE Executive Board & Secretariat