



YOUNG
EUROPEAN
FEDERALISTS

ACTIVITY REPORT
2022-2023



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EDITORIAL

Dear JEFers and Friends of JEF Europe,

Advocating for a better Europe and a brighter future is a weighty endeavour. To achieve this, it is crucial that we position ourselves where our presence and voices can make a difference.

Right after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, we took to the streets to assert that war and imperialism can no longer find a place in our Europe and to express unwavering support for the Ukrainian people, an integral part of the European family. We have stood with the Ukrainians, both politically and physically present in Ukraine, initiating discussions on how to overcome the war and take steps toward an enlarged and better Europe.

I start with this critical moment because it exemplifies what JEF stands for—a diverse community characterised by a multitude of ideas and cultures, all united by a profound commitment to act wherever and whenever freedoms and rights are violated.

Freedom, peace, and democracy cannot be taken for granted and this lesson applies not only to Ukraine. Nationalist and imperialist tendencies are gaining ground, accompanied by xenophobia, racism, violations of the rule of law, and arms races. Therefore, **we must be the alternative and the Resistance**. This Resistance does not originate in Brussels but rather in every city, big or small, at our events, meetings, and even in the late-night emails we send. The Resistance is you; it is all of us.

This collective “we,” fueled by the JEF Spirit, has endured for over 50 years, as we celebrated in 2022, always rising to the challenge of staying **“Simply a Generation Ahead.”**

We accepted the challenge of the Conference on the Future of Europe and successfully conveyed our proposals in the official conclusions. We took to the streets to ensure they were respected during the Strasbourg Summit, organised with invaluable contributions from JEF France and JEF Strasbourg. Our presence extended to meetings with European institutions and civil society to advance our proposals, actively contributing to the goal of the much-needed **reform of the EU**. We have stood by Parliament’s side, supporting the EU reform proposal, and we must continue to do so as we approach the upcoming European elections.

These elections will be a crucial moment for the entirety of Europe, not just the EU. That's why, we launched the biggest campaign JEF ever had, **EurHope**, and, for the first time in JEF's history, we paired it to a campaign aimed specifically at countries that are not yet part of the EU, titled "**Europe What If?**" because Europe is much more than the EU.

To safeguard its values, we protested in numerous European cities, decrying the fact that not only is **Democracy under Pressure**, but it is also under attack, and we must reaffirm it.

Our political action also involves continuous political reflection and the updating of federalist thinking. That's why we have successfully launched the **Federalist Academy**, making it one of the pillars of JEF's future.

Many other initiatives and efforts deserve recognition, as we've tried to summarise them in this Activity Report.

The efforts and passion that define JEF today cannot be taken for granted either. I extend a big thank you to the Executive Board team and to our Secretary General, Judit Lantai, and all members of the Secretariat for your hard work.

Finally, **thank you all, dear JEFers**, friends, and companions of countless adventures. You are the *raison d'être* of this organisation. JEF Europe is nothing but a tool to channel and support your commitment toward a more just, democratic, and federal Europe.

We have all worked tirelessly, and we will continue to do so, together.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antonio Argenziano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Antonio" and the last name "Argenziano" clearly distinguishable.

Federalist regards,
Antonio Argenziano





ABOUT US



JEF Europe is an independent, transnational, nonpartisan, political youth NGO operating in 37 European countries with 10.000 registered Members.

OUR VISION

A federal Europe based on the values of peace, democracy and the rule of law.

OUR MISSION

JEF Europe promotes active European citizenship, works for the widening and the deepening of the EU and strives for a more just and integrated society on the European continent.

OUR POLITICAL PLATFORM

The Political Platform is JEF Europe's main guiding political document. Through the political platform, JEF Europe formulates its key convictions and ideas that provide inspiration to move on from the current political constellation in Europe and enable progress towards a true European Federation.

It outlines the necessary institutional changes that pave the way towards a European Constitution, describes Federal policies in major political areas. It pictures the role of a Federal Europe in the world and finally envisions the role of JEF in this framework.



THE PEOPLE

Executive Board

JEF Europe is guided on a daily basis by the Executive Board (EB).

The EB is responsible for the management, coordination and daily actions of the organisation.

The EB meets physically at least 4 times a year and every 2 weeks through online meetings.



ANTONIO ARGENZIANO
President



CHRISTELLE SAVALL
Vice-President



JUKKA JÄRVINIEMI
Vice-President



ROBIN MUDRY
Treasurer



FLAVIA-GABRIELA SANDU
Board Member



KNUT ANDRÉ SANDE
Board Member



GERGANA BLAZHEVA
Board Member



**HELENA ROBERT
I CAMPOS**
Board Member

Federal Committee

The Executive Board implements the decisions taken by the Federal Committee (FC), which supervises the work of the EB. The FC meets twice a year and formulates the political and organisational policies.

The FC is composed of 16 members elected by the Congress and one representative for each national section. FC members also actively contribute to the work of JEF Europe and participate in at least one Political Commission (PC) or Task Force (TF).



EMMA FARRUGIA
Presidium



LAURA GAISSMAIER
Presidium



HÅVARD RØRTVEIT
Presidium



KALOJAN HOFFMEISTER



ANNEMARIE HERTNER



VICTOR LÉPINE



RICCARDO MOSCHETTI



KATI SYSTÄ



PAULINE LALOUX



XESC MAINZER



GUILLAUME KAYSER



MARIE POULIQUEN



MORITZ SCHLEICHER



MAX NORDIN



CAMILLA BRIZZI



FILIPPO PASQUALI

Co-opted FC members:



ALEKSANDRA ALEKSEJEVA



MELANIE THUT

Arbitration Board

The Arbitration Board is composed of 5 members elected by the Congress. Its function is to settle statutory conflicts between members, sections and statutory bodies.



MAIJA MAUNU



LEONIE MARTIN



SEBASTIANO PUTOTO



OPHÉLIE OMNES



GERHARD SOYKA

Auditors Committee

The Auditors Committee verifies the accounts of the association at least once a year. It is composed of at least 2 members and a maximum of 3, elected by the



EMILIA CHEHTOVA



PATRICK L. VON
WILDENRADT



GERMAIN JACQUINOT
2021 - 2022

JEF Europe Secretariat

The Secretariat, under the leadership of the Secretary General, is in charge of the daily management of JEF Europe: organisation of statutory meetings, European projects, lobbying and advocacy in Brussels, finances and administration, coordination with sections, communications.

You can meet the Secretariat when you visit JEF Europe's new office at 14, Rue des Deux Églises in Brussels.



JUDIT LANTAI
Secretary General



MICHELA PROCOLI
Program Manager



INES CONSONNI
Policy Officer



PIERRE LOUWERSE
Admin and Finance Officer



ERICA BECCARELLO
Communications Officer



ANDREW MICALLEF
Membership Officer



AMY MCAULEY
Project Officer



ALEX GOMEZ
Project Assistant



ZITA KARACSON
Project Consultant



THIBAUT LE FORSONNEY
Policy Officer 2023



MIRJAM DE JONG
Project Officer
2021 - 2023



MICHAL RYBACKI
Project Officer 2018 - 2020,
Policy Officer 2020 - 2023



LORÈNE WEBER
Admin and Membership
Officer 2021-2022



THÉO LECARPENTIER
Project Assistant 2020,
Project Officer &
Senior Project Officer,
Project and Financial Officer
2021 - 2023



ANA FIGUERAS
Communications Assistant
2022 - 2023



ALEXANDRA HUBER
Project and Financial Officer
2020 - 2022,
Senior Project Officer 2022



**BEATRIZ GARCÍA-MARINA
PÉREZ**
Communications Assistant
2022



MILOSH RISTOVSKI
Secretary General
2018 - 2022



ELITSA HADZHIEVA
Project Assistant 2020,
Project Officer 2020 - 2022



SEAN ELLUL
Communications Officer
2020-2021



JEF's Visibility & Outreach

DIGITAL REACH & IMPACT

JEF Europe is actively committed to being at the forefront of developing strategic and effective communication and dissemination tools and strategies and reaching young people across Europe through digital communication.

Over the past two years, JEF Europe activity on social media platforms focused on the engagement of a wider and diversified audience of youths and managed to expand its overall number of followers and impressions with more than 6.5k followers on Instagram and 200k impressions on Twitter between 2022 and the first months of 2023. The innovative use of GIPHY allowed JEF Europe to attract an additional 16.1 million views for its projects, policies, and memes.

The constant growth of JEF Europe's visibility gave the chance to experiment and focus on higher goals and new targets. For the improvement of our social media platforms, the broader involvement of the audience has been central.

The launch of a new TikTok profile was an opportunity to reach a new audience and to spread our values among a public that is usually unfamiliar with topics related to the EU.

The first part of 2023 has been a pivotal moment for JEF Europe's communication with the Democracy under Pressure campaign and the launch of the EurHope campaign for the European Elections in 2024. The Communication Team built on the achievements of growth in our social media presence in the past years and accumulated even bigger numbers in terms of reach, impact, content, volume, and visibility.

During the past months, thanks to JEF campaigns and projects, the work on Social Media has been focusing on different topics of actuality such as democratic participation, equal rights, climate change, and the rule of law, to grant fair and extensive communication and information.

JEF Europe aims to build on these already-existing capacities to ensure higher levels of quantitative growth in both our visibility and outreach and to involve our audience.

COMMS STATISTICS

TWITTER

2022

422 tweets

140,900 impressions

2023

until august 2023

97 tweets

78,600 impressions

Total Twitter
Impressions

219,500

FACEBOOK

Facebook Reach

January 2022
- August 2023

215,061 impressions

INSTAGRAM

Instagram Reach

January 2022
- August 2023

6,945 followers

270 likes average

824 views average

LINKEDIN

Follower Count

2022 -
August 2023

4,557 followers

STICKER & GIF VIEWS

Follower Count

2022 -
August 2023

16.1 million views

PRESS RELEASES

Total

2022 -
August 2023


47



The New Federalist

The New Federalist is JEF's online magazine, which publishes daily articles & interviews. It exists in seven independent language editions (Le Taurillon in French, The New Federalist in English, Treffpunkt Europa in German, Eurobull in Italian, El Europeista in Spanish, Kurier Europejski in Polish, România Europeană in Romanian) and also has an additional multilingual edition. Several language editions have also released their own podcasts, such as “A Nous l'Europe!”, “We Belong!” and “Brüsseler Bahnhof”.

Entirely run by volunteer editorial teams, all editions together gather over 200,000 monthly readers. They conduct additional projects such as the yearly European Press Days (Le Taurillon), or the yearly European media seminar (Treffpunkteuropa), as well as facilitating online debates. Their work has received several noticeable awards: Treffpunkt Europa was nominated for the Charlemagne Youth Prize 2021; Le Taurillon was laureate of the 2012 European Citizen's Prize and of the 2020 Prix de l'Initiative Européenne; The New Federalist was shortlisted for the European Press Prize 2019.



200K Readers per month

7 languages

1 multilingual platform



PROJECTS, EVENTS & CAMPAIGNS



FEDERAL COMMITTEE SPRING 2022

Luxembourg - 8th - 10th April 2022

The Spring Federal Committee 2022 was held in Luxembourg from 8th to 10th April and was co-organised bWWy JEF Europe and JEF Luxembourg. The Spring FC marked the launch of the 50-year anniversary celebrations of JEF Europe as well as the confirmation of JEF Ukraine as a candidate section. One of the key moments during this FC was the appointment of Judit Lantai as JEF Europe's Secretary General, succeeding Milosh Ristovski, who had held the position since 2018.

Adopted Resolutions:

The Structure of a Federal European Parliament, Towards genuine completion of the Banking Union, On the future UK-EU Relations, From the lead candidate system to renewed European democracy, For a United Digital Europe, Environment does not stop at borders: Towards a Sustainable Europe and a Sustainable Global Climate Policy, Calling for an ethical and efficient EU policy framework on Artificial Intelligence, Establishing a European Security and Defence Union, For a European Space Common Policy and Protecting the value-based partnership with the US.

I ONLINE CONGRESS

29th June 2022

The 1st Online Congress of JEF Europe was held in order to comply with Belgian law of associations, which obliges the organisation to hold annual general assemblies to close and adopt its financial year. During the Online Congress, no political debates or elections took place, rather, the financial year for 2021 was introduced and explained and finally voted on.

FEDERAL COMMITTEE AUTUMN 2022

Prague, Czechia - 11th - 13th November 2022

The Autumn Federal Committee 2022 took place in Prague, Czechia, between 11th to 13th November and was co-organised with JEF Czechia. The FC took place during the same week as the European Democratic Academy and the IMPACT training on political event organising. Some of the highlights of the FC in Prague were the confirmation of JEF AlbaniWa, JEF Estonia and JEF Serbia as candidate sections as well as celebrating JEF Europe's 50 year anniversary.

Adopted Resolutions:

Resolutions were adopted On the institutional design and governance of the Eurozone, Strengthening the economic and political union within the Lisbon Treaty, Calling for a European Constituent Assembly, Better integrated and more sustainable mobility infrastructure for an Ever Closer Union, Calling for a fully fledged health union for the European Union, Towards a real Federal Budget, Towards the accession of the Western Balkan countries, Towards a strong future-oriented relationship with Africa, The EU response to the Russian Federation's aggression of Ukraine, For a common European Response to the invasion of Ukraine and the future of Ukraine.



FEDERAL COMMITTEE SPRING 2023

Mellieha, Malta - 17th - 19th March 2023

From 17th to 19th March, JEF Europe's Spring Federal Committee meeting was held in Mellieha, Malta and was organised with the support of JEF Malta. During this FC, a large number of resolutions covering a range of policy areas were revised and re-adopted and it also included the re-adoption of the resolution on the Continuation of JEF Europe President's role as a full-time position, as well as an internal resolution on JEF Europe's European Elections 2024 Campaign. The last resolution set the stage to present the upcoming EurHope campaign to sections. During this FC, the Democracy under Pressure campaign for 2023 was also launched with a panel debate.

Adopted Resolutions:

During the Spring FC, resolutions were adopted on A European Response to Organised Crime, Giving a strong voice to the citizens by a renewed European Citizens' Initiative, Towards truly European Elections through a renewed European Electoral Act, Towards sustainable, reliable and affordable energy for Europe, Combatting disinformation in the modern media landscape, A federal strategy for sustainable, safe and healthy food for all Europeans, Advancing the European Union's Social Dimension, Strengthening European Citizenship Education, A united Europe in a fairer and more balanced relationship with China, For a Free, Fair and Sustainable Trade Policy.

II ONLINE CONGRESS

31st May 2023

JEF Europe's 2nd Online Congress took place on Zoom on 31st May 2023. During this annual statutory event, JEF Europe's financial year for 2022 was adopted as required by Belgian Law of Associations. The Online Congress brought together various sections and their delegates, providing them with the opportunity to gain a deeper insight into and comment on the organisation's report for the previous financial year.

FEDERAL COMMITTEE AUTUMN 2023 & XXVII EUROPEAN CONGRESS

Madrid, Spain - 10th - 12th November 2023

The XXVII European Congress, organised with the support of JEF Spain in Madrid, is the final statutory event of the 2021-2023 JEF Europe mandate. JEF Europe's Congress is organised every two years, and is the moment where JEF Europe gathers for its general assembly, where over 150 participants decide on the logistical and political strategy of the organisation and elect its new leadership and its other statutory bodies such as the Federal Committee.









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JEF TURNS 50!

Throughout 2022, JEF celebrated the 50th anniversary of its rebirth all over Europe: from Luxembourg where it all started in 1972 to the March for Europe in Strasbourg 2022. To mark the celebration of such a landmark event, a time capsule was created as the best testimony of what Europe and JEF looked like in 2022. The capsule included letters from present JEFers of today, a letter from the current Board to the Board of the Future, physical photos from JEF through the years, important newspapers from 2022, a map of Europe in 2022 and a crocodile toy (homage to the historic Crocodile club) among other items. The time capsule was sealed on 11th November at the Federal Committee meeting in Prague. It will be opened in 10 years, but there it also includes a small box inside, which will represent a second time capsule which will be opened in 50 years - when JEF Europe celebrates 100 years

For the past 50 years JEF Europe has been advocating for a European federation as a guarantee for peace, democracy, rule of law and human rights. We do not yet have a European federation, but we have definitely come a long way since the early 70s. Quoting Robert Schumann's speech from 1950: "Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which create a de facto solidarity."

During 2022 we have reflected on how far European integration has come, and reminded ourselves why federalism is still worth fighting for and what are the next steps we should take.

Happy Birthday JEF! To another 50 years!





EURHOPE

On 9 May 2023, JEF Europe together with Make.org, launched EurHope, a participatory campaign towards the 2024 European Elections. EurHope is supported by the European Parliament, the Committee of Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, has the official patronage of the Vice-President of the European Commission, Dubravka Šuica, and brings together over 40 partners from civil society organisations and local institutions.

During the first phase of the campaign, a multilingual online platform gathered the voices of Europeans in all 27 member states, collecting more than 3.6k proposals and 665k votes (data from September 2023, 25 days before the end of the consultation). The proposals that emerged from the consultation are shaping the drafting of an Agenda of Hope, that will promote the dialogue with European political parties, allowing them to submit their solutions to the identified priorities.

JEF Europe, with the support of national sections, also started a communication campaign to promote and amplify the initiative, focusing on discussion topics, to develop a debate and engage the audience. Over the summer, EurHope was presented during multiple events taking place all over Europe. Events such as the European Youth Event 2023, in Strasbourg (FR) and EuroPCom, the largest annual European conference for experts in public communication organised by the European Committee of the Regions in Brussels (BE), were fundamental occasions to raise awareness and spread the campaign.

A series of trainings were organised around the campaign, to involve youths and enable them to become certified EurHope Ambassadors with skills and knowledge on how to find new and innovative ways to debate for the future of Europe. These trainings, taking place both online and in Brussels (BE), focused on new ways of debating and communicating on the future of Europe and the upcoming EU elections in 2024.







COYV

'Co-operation Youth Vote: Enabling future active European citizens' aims to understand the challenges of youth engagement and democratic participation amongst first time voters and abstainers ahead of the 2024 European elections.

JEF Europe has partnered with some of its national sections which are JEF Belgium, JEF Bulgaria, JEF Italy, JEF Latvia, Young Educators, the Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions (OBESSU), and the Lifelong Learning Platform (LLL) to develop trainings, a toolkit, and an informal alliance of young people in order to develop an action plan for youth organisations to contact as many first time voters as possible ahead of 2024.

Two in-situ multiplier events were carried out in Lisbon and Sofia which allowed participants to learn about effective communication styles, networking and campaigning. The trainings were aimed at both first-time voters and youth abstainers. In Lisbon, participants learned about the importance of voting and brainstormed ideas for the development of a voting toolbox for young people. In Sofia, participants gave their feedback on the first version of the voting toolbox and Young Educators used this feedback to develop a final version which will be shared amongst partners and young people before the end of the year. Furthermore, action plans were developed to encourage young people to engage in democratic processes.

Online crash courses allowed participants to learn about effective campaigning and communication styles when working on their action plans and projects. JEF Europe followed up on this by creating social media posts which focused on ways to physically engage youths on voting mechanisms and participatory initiatives across Europe. Through these aforementioned activities, volunteers from JEF sections were trained to implement various activities including debates, parliament simulations, and workshops to better connect secondary school students to the EU. As part of COYV, JEF sections have also carried out Europe@School activities focused on youth participation. The project will culminate in a final conference in February 2024.



EUROPE@SCHOOL

The objective of Europe@School is to raise awareness among students about European citizenship. Volunteers use non-formal learning methods in schools which are part of the formal education system to carry out civic education activities. Thousands of primary, secondary school, and vocational education students have benefited from the activities of our local and national member sections. These voluntary youth workers have been equipped with skills to design and carry out activities to inform young people about European affairs. Activities have ranged from workshops, debates, and parliament simulations.

These activities have been incorporated into various ongoing projects by JEF Europe such as COYV. Volunteers exchange best practices and develop synergies between the formal educational system and the non-formal educational environment. Reflections have been made on existing educational resources and workshop resources have been shared among partners. Different section volunteers implement a variety of activities with the united goal of sparking enthusiasm and curiosity for European opportunities. Trainings have taken place in Lyon, Lisbon, and Brussels this year where educational tools have been exchanged to inform young people about benefits available to them as European citizens.

During the COVID pandemic, we also developed the Europe@Home project to examine and develop digital civic education. Participants developed their digital skills and competences and new online tools for civic education were created. A Europe@Home manual was created filled with ideas and activities focused on civic education which individuals can access from their phones.





MEET

MOBILISE EUROPE = ENGAGING TOGETHER

In the lead-up to the 2024 European Elections, the MEET project serves as a platform for a wide range of European citizens' groups. Its purpose is to bridge the gap between Europe and local communities by organising activities that foster sustained activism and facilitate direct engagement with European politicians.

The MEET project is carried out in partnership with the European Youth Forum, AGE Platform Europe, The Assembly of European Regions (AER), JEF Italy and JEF France, among other partners.

JEF Europe is the main coordinator for the first pillar of the project, titled 'Debating Europe'. This pillar's main objective is to bring the European dimension of politics to a local level and address the outcomes of the Conference on the Future of Europe, exploring how those can be the basis for political engagement in European politics.

In the beginning of 2023, we organised training sessions focused on how to carry out activities within the project in a way that is diverse and inclusive. These sessions were organised physically in Brussels with 30 participants, and also online, with a total of 105 participants taking part.

Throughout the Summer and Autumn of 2023, we are collaborating to host debate training sessions in partnership with our sections. The aim is to foster a healthy, inclusive and impactful debating culture and also equip prospective participants of the upcoming regional debates with the necessary skills.

The project will be concluded with a European-wide debate that will invite selected participants from the regional debates to join and discuss together the future of Europe during Spring 2024.



WORDS OF EUROPE

Encouraging young people to engage in the democratic life of the EU is one of JEF Europe's main aims. The Words of Europe project directly complements this as its objective is to encourage EU citizens, especially young people and those belonging to marginalised groups, to participate in and contribute to the democratic life of the Union. The project aims to bring together the artistic, cultural and emotional dimension with the political one, which is too often associated with a distant bureaucratic bubble.

As part of the project, JEF Europe implemented a number of workshops around Europe involving over 150 JEFers from all over the continent. These included an open debate on the European keywords in Brussels, three workshops on the European Union in Nice, Riga and Maastricht as well as two workshops on the different forms of democratic participation in Malta and Sofia. As part of the project, JEF will also publish a number of podcasts as well as hold further workshops, a pilot launch of the project's participatory model and concluding with a final transnational event, the Festival of European words in Brussels where we the collected ideas will be transformed into artistic works.



MYCOMM

The MyComm project aims at strengthening youth organisations committed to migrant and refugee inclusion, and therefore JEF, by connecting them at EU level and reinforcing their capacities to communicate and influence policies and public perception. It has a specific focus on audio-visual capacity of such organisations and the creative production of videos which tell narratives of youth migrants and refugees. The project also includes capacity building for these organisations to increase their public advocacy skills, allowing them to better address key policy issues for migrant inclusion.

As part of MyComm, during September and October 2023, two hybrid modules on social networking techniques and techniques for audiovisual production took place in Romania and Ireland, as well as an online training organised by JEF alongside Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE) focused on public policy, advocacy and organisational sustainability aimed at staff working on refugee-based organisations. This training has been followed by an internship at the offices of the consortium-organisations directed to the participants involved in the project, one of them being JEF.

During 2024, further events will take place such as a makeathon where the organisations will film artistic video productions tackling refugee and migrant issues and a final conference will be organised and held by JEF to highlight the main outcomes and milestones of the entire project.



EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT 2023

JEF Europe was at the EYE edition of 2023, facilitating the participation of a diverse group of 20 young people from all across Europe. This experience not only provided many of them with their first opportunity to interact with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) but also enabled engagement with a variety of organisations and a firsthand visit to the European Parliament building in Strasbourg.

The EYE allowed JEF Europe to promote the entire organisation with attendees, which totalled around 10,000 youths, putting a strong focus on the work of JEF sections as well as ongoing projects and campaigns.

JEF Europe also organised three events in the EYE village with a diverse array of speakers. During the first event, our speakers, Ines Holzegger, Vice President of

LYMEC, Stevie Valles, Executive Director from Chicago Votes and MEP Mohammed Chahim, explored how young people can engage in politics through a federalist approach for the future of Europe.

We went on to deliver two workshops. One led by our members from JEF Estonia, Selbi Komekova, Susie McAdam and Benedetta Veneruso, which focused on digitalisation and democracy inviting participants to a common reflection of how their communities and Europe could benefit from this.

The final workshop was done with Gilda Isernia, Projects and Research Officer from OBESSU, and Stevie Valles from Chicago Votes. Here the speakers addressed the challenge of first time voters and why young people might be disengaged from going to the ballot, as well as the issues they rally around.

Finally, thanks to the initiative of JEF Strasbourg, we inaugurated a new European bench at Parc de l'Orangerie, in the presence of local elected officials and JEFers from across Europe.



Europe - What If?

With The “Europe – What If?” Campaign, JEF Invites People To Ask What Europe Would Look Like If Non-EU Countries Were Already In The EU. While The EurHope Campaign Focuses On The 2024 European Parliament Elections, Europe Is Not Limited To The EU.

The Campaign Theme Has Been Running Throughout The Second Half Of 2023 And Will Continue For A Year. Different Events Centred On The Campaign As Long As Content On JEF’s Social Media Pages Have Been The Main Outputs To The Campaign.

Some Highlights Of The Campaign Included The Following:

- Country-Specific Info Graphics, Asking “What If?” Questions – E.G. “What If Ukraine Were Already In The EU In 2014?”, “What If The UK Had Never Voted To Leave The EU?”, “What If Russia Were A Peaceful And Democratic Country?”
- Articles On The [The New Federalist](#), Discussing The Questions
- Statements From JEFers Via Social Media Channels; Press Releases
- Local Debates With The “What If” Theme, Arranged By Sections, Such As The One Held By JEF Albania.
- [JEF Book Club](#) Session Around The Theme



Between May and June 2023, JEF Albania implemented activities under the “Europe – What if” campaign posing the question of “What if my country was in the EU: how would it benefit me, my country and Europe?” to participants. They featured the campaign on social media and also held a local educational seminar in June where the reality of Albania joining the EU was considered and the consequences for Albania from such a process were also explored.





NEXT CHAPTER EUROPE

The Next Chapter Europe project, co-funded by the European Union, was a joint initiative led by JEF Europe and Association des États Généraux des Étudiants de l'Europe (AEGEE Europe), to raise awareness for youth-led priorities and ideas surrounding the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). Starting in the previous mandate in May 2021, the project ended in 2022.

2022 included two notable events as part of Next Chapter Europe: the participation in the Strasbourg Civil Society Summit within the framework of the project in May 2022 and a final conference in June 2022. Aside from the Strasbourg Summit itself, the event mainly addressed the end of the CoFoE and the follow up on the implementation of citizens' wishes. During the event, JEF also joined the March for Europe in Place Kléber where JEFers united together with civil society organisations from all over Europe to share their enthusiasm for a better Europe. In the context of the undefined follow up process of the Conference on the Future of Europe, we demanded that citizens' voices are heard and their proposals made during the Conference are implemented, in order to bring about a Europe we want and deserve.

The final conference of Next Chapter Europe then covered the two main topics: the CoFoE and how it is seen by European politics and Civil Society as well as how the Euro-bubble works and how young people can be part of it. This concluded the project, where through different activities we promoted the CoFoE as a place for each and everyone to be heard, especially young people, as the future is ours!



DEMOCRACY UNDER PRESSURE

Since 2006, JEF Europe has been organising the “Free Belarus Action” to raise awareness about the Lukashenka regime. In 2014, the action was rebranded as “Democracy under Pressure” to address the pressure being put on fundamental democratic values, not only in Belarus, but all across Europe.

The 2022 edition of Democracy under Pressure, which took place on 18-25 March, was subtitled ‘Democracy Under Attack’ and centred on support to Ukraine after Russia’s full-scale invasion. JEFers across Europe answered the call and stood up for democracy, for a Free Belarus but also for Ukraine. JEF Europe joined forces with activists and organisations across the political spectrum to denounce the increasingly violent authoritarian regimes in Belarus and Russia and their aggression towards Ukraine. The Council of European Municipalities and EURACTIV joined us to organise a Twitter chat on threats to democracy and Europe’s role in the world. JEF Europe held online talks where our members and partners discussed democratic challenges faced by Hungary, Ukraine and Belarus.

The 2023 action week of Democracy under Pressure took place between 18-25 March. JEFers took action all over Europe in 62 different cities in more than 20 countries, raising awareness in the streets through protests, gagging statues, flash mobs, and interviews. They wrote letters to political prisoners in Belarus and Russia, and participated in conferences and debates.

An Instagram live was organised on International Women’s Day discussing women’s role in war and peace, as well as a twitter chat, the launch of the campaign at the Federal Committee in Malta and a hybrid conference on safeguarding youth civil society was co-organised with the European Economic and Social Committee.



CENSORED

⚠️ ENDANGERED
LIBERAL DEMOCRACY

SPEAK UP FOR
DEMOCRACY



EU-KRAINE

JEF stands for peace, democracy and justice. The Russian war against Ukraine stands against all of these principles. JEF-Europe and its national sections work tirelessly to support Ukraine, and advocate for Ukraine's place within the European Union.

On 1st March 2022, we launched the #EU-kraine petition calling for EU candidate status for Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia, new energy in enlargement of Western Balkans and a genuine Foreign, Security and Defence Union.

We co-organised the #YouthResponseEUkraine initiative, urging National Youth Councils and other youth organisations to coordinate the youth sector's response to the war.

Our whole network of local and national sections continue to organise demonstrations and events such as helping refugees from Ukraine access their rights, raising money for a water purification plant for Mykolaiv among others, joining solidarity convoys.

In 2022 and 2023, Ukraine was at the heart of our advocacy action during our human rights activism seminar in Budapest and JEF Europe joined a civil society delegation travelling to Ukraine to meet young activists and civil society organisations. Here, steps to imagine peace beyond war were discussed together and the convoy got a chance to meet with several

Ukrainian activists and organisations in both the cities of Kyiv and Chernivsti.

A year on from the EU granting Ukraine and Moldova candidate status, and Georgia a pre-accession status, JEF Europe renewed its calls for sections to extend friendship and support to the Ukrainian people in the war and its EU accession.

WP 2022

HUMAN RIGHTS AND YOUTH - THE RIGHT THING TO DO!

With the Work Plan 2022 'Human rights and Youth - the Right thing to do!' JEF Europe raised awareness on human rights among European youth and equipped them with the right tools to counter human rights violations.

This Work Plan was kick-started with a 3-day online consultation on civic education with youth centred around human rights, leading to the first international capacity building seminar organised in Budapest, Hungary in May 2022 with support of JEF Hungary. The main aim of this seminar was to develop the skills of the participants to

implement solidarity actions as well as transferring these newly-acquired skills and knowledge to their peers through 10 local follow-up training sessions. This first seminar was followed by a second one taking place in Edinburgh, the United Kingdom, with support from JEF UK and that built up on the objectives of the Budapest seminar.

On the second half of 2022, national school visits were organised by JEF sections (JEF Aragon, JEF Spain, JEF Serbia, JEF Romania, JEF Malta and JEF Greece) on the framework of the WP2022 and a final conference on Human Rights Day was held, with the main hub of the event being in Brussels, but with several events being held in different parts of Europe organised by JEF Italy, JEF Albania, JEF Greece, JEF Latvia and JEF Valencia.





WP 2023

REVIVE - REVITALISING VOICES OF YOUTH IN EUROPE

With the 2023 REVIVE WorkPlan (Revitalising Voices of Youth in Europe), JEF aims to enhance the situation of youth civic spaces in Europe through building capacities of young people and supporting the implementation of the new Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting youth civil society and young people.

In order to safeguard and counteract the shrinking of youth civic spaces, JEF Europe has successfully implemented one European seminar in Budapest, Hungary, and two regional seminars in Lublin, Poland, and Bucharest, Romania, to focus on Central-Eastern Europe and the Balkans respectively.

During the second half of the year, several local actions are being implemented by REVIVE participants and JEF sections in order to sustain and spread the goals of this project further and in December a final conference will be held in Brussels to analyse the outcomes of the project and share best practices among participants and important stakeholders. It will comprise presentations of the different regions about the work they did in the WP, as well as Brussels-based youth organisations.



FEDERALIST ACADEMY

Helping young people better understand the concept of federalism is a key part of JEF's social mission. Inspired by JEF-Europe's 50th anniversary, the Federalist Academy initiative consists of a series of training sessions, hosted by academic experts and long-standing activists, to explain what federalism means.

In 2022, JEF-Europe organised a year-long open online course, and an in-person Federalist Academy seminar in Prague. Moreover, JEF-Europe developed an online library of key readings on federalism to enable participants to deepen their understanding.

In 2023, JEF continued the Federalist Academy initiative by participating in organising the European School on Memories seminar at the Jean Monnet House in Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France. All in all, in 2022/23, more than 150 JEFers participated in Federalist Academy activities.

The Federalist Academy represents the spirit of the federalist movement: learning and engaging with ideas, with the clear goal of using knowledge to change the world for the better. Thanks to initiatives like the Federalist Academy, JEF passes on federalist thinking from one generation to another. The initiative contributes to renewing and evolving federalist thinking, including in light of the societal, political, ecological, economic and technological issues of our century.

CAPACITY BUILDING

JEF's strength lies in its Europe-wide network of sections and activists. Capacity-building activities, coordinated by JEF-Europe, help spread wisdom and best practices of activism across Europe. In 2022/23, the JEF-Europe Task Force on Capacity-Building continued its activities to ensure the sharing of ideas across the network.

In 2023, JEF Brussels and JEF Turku took the initiative to organise an online Local Sections Summit, inviting local sections to discuss their challenges and successes. The Summit was attended by JEFers from more than 10 countries, and enabled local-level JEF activists to create new international connections.

The Task Force Capacity Building continued operating its online library of toolkits and resources, covering themes such as social media communication, organising demonstrations, and creating a twinning partnership with another section.

The JEF Europe Twinning scheme continued, with sections organising joint seminars, in-person visits, and joint online activities. In doing so, the programme contributes to the European spirit of JEF, and exchanges across borders.





EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC ACADEMY

The European Democratic Academy seminar, held in Prague in November 2022, brought JEFers together to debate federalism from new perspectives. The seminar was a part of JEF's Federalist Academy initiative, which deepens young people's understanding of federalist ideas.

The seminar included sessions on topics such as federalism's relationship with feminism and intersectionality, as well as Europe's postcolonial liabilities. The seminar served as a continuation

for the 11 sessions that took place during the Federalist Academy open online course throughout 2022.

Besides diving into the essence of federalism and the relationship between federalism and other ideas, the European Democratic Academy trained the participants in advocating for federalist ideas in their local communities. The advocacy training was complemented by the possibility to engage with participants at the JEF-Europe Federal Committee meeting, which took place in Prague in conjunction with the seminar.



NEXT GENERATION JEF

The Next Generation JEF re-granting scheme was part of the Operating Grant of JEF Europe for 2023, which was funded by the Citizens, Equality, Rights, and Values (CERV) programme of the European Commission. This scheme aimed to complement the core work of JEF Europe, which was to work towards a United Europe and bring young citizens closer to the European Union, enabling active citizenship in all its forms.

In order to strengthen its network of volunteers who did this work on the ground daily, JEF Europe has already implemented capacity-building initiatives in the past. Next Generation JEF aimed to build upon this foundation and also prepare JEF Europe's members for the period

surrounding the European Elections in 2024. Through the scheme, €28,000 were allocated to 10 sections to implement actions, while also involving them and all other JEF sections in a tailor-made capacity-building programme to aid their development. These JEF sections included Spain, Italy, Belgium, Slovenia, Finland, Hungary, Estonia, Romania and the Netherlands.

Next Generation JEF also introduced an element of self-reflection for sections when it came to assessing their internal practices in terms of accessibility for people with intersectional barriers. The grants targeted improving sections' internal structures and activities to become more accessible, all in order to increase the number of volunteers with marginalised and/or minority backgrounds actively participating in democratic processes.

IMPACT



IMPACT

The IMPACT project, funded by the EU as part of the European Year of Youth, had the main aim of training young people from different backgrounds who are involved in advocacy to learn how to design campaigns in an inclusive and successful way. This was especially significant in the lead up to the European Elections in 2024.

The main highlights of the project included two seminars that took place in Molina, Spain in September 2022, in the framework of the University on Youth and Development, and a second one that was held in Prague, Czechia in November 2022.

IMPACT also funded a number of local actions, which were delivered by participants from the two seminars as well as JEF sections, as the final conclusion of the project. This further served to multiply the learnings of the seminars and further promote the message of diversity in inclusion. The sections that delivered the local actions included JEF Regensburg, JEF Lecco, JEF Hungary, JEF Piraeus Athens, JEF Bulgaria and JEF Lithuania.

DIVERSITY IN INCLUSION

Building upon the positive learnings of the IMPACT project, JEF Europe launched 'Diversity in Inclusion' a social media campaign featured on JEF Europe's and sections' social media pages that promoted positive and practical measures on how youth activists (and anyone) can make communication and physical and online events more accessible. The campaign also included a recap on what the EU is doing in matters of diversity and inclusion, the announcement of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Awards and a watchlist and a reading list with topics related to diversity and inclusion. This tied in with an online book club session that was held during the campaign week on "The Shift to the Rights Model of Disability in the EU and Canada" that was organised by JEF. This session discussed the 'welfare-based' and 'rights-based' approaches to disability policy, and about what federalism has to do with the emergence of the rights-based approach.



YOUTHSDGS

The project Youth Sustainable Development Goals (YouthSDGs) funded by the EU, aimed to develop the capacities of youth leaders and youth led organisations to improve young people's access to rights through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) implementation plans. The project prepared a group of youth leaders, who became multipliers and drivers for change in their environments. Through the skills they acquired during the project, they were able to design activities promoting active citizenship, tolerance and respect for the rule of law, thus contributing to the local realities from an international perspective. The project was based on the principle of learning by doing, being designed in a logical flow that ensured participatory learning and development.

As the events in the project were organised globally, it gave young people a unique opportunity to better understand the frontlines of climate change, while also bridging local and regional efforts to key intergovernmental and multilateral engagements on climate change, including the UN Oceans Conference in New York and the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 25).



DIRECT

DIGITAL RIGHTS IN EUROPE CITIZENSHIP TODAY

The DIRECT project, led by JEF Spain with JEF Europe and TalTech University as its partners, is an Erasmus+ funded project aiming to enhance digital skills and competences among young people. Aligned with the strategic priorities of the Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027), the project places a special emphasis on reaching young participants facing fewer opportunities due to economic and social barriers.

At its core, the DIRECT project aims to empower young individuals to comprehend and implement digital rights regulations in their everyday lives. To achieve its mission, the project involves pro-European youth associations, intending to engage young people from more than 32 countries. By creating a platform for debate and learning, the project empowers young people to actively shape digital principles that promote a human-centred, inclusive, prosperous, and sustainable digital society, upholding European values.

Ultimately the project aims to equip young people with the necessary tools to participate in shaping the digital transformation and advocating for democratic values and fundamental rights in the online world.



CHECK'EUROPE

Check'Europe is a project aimed at raising public awareness of the issues surrounding fake news in democracy and providing European citizens the keys to understanding how to become fully fledged actors in the fight against fake news. To fight against this misinformation surrounding the European Union, JEF Europe and JEF France joined forces together with other partners to create a European Coalition for reliable and inclusive information.

The main targets of Check' Europe are:

- a public distant from the EU sphere that could be particularly exposed to EU fake news.
- Journalists who are not specialised in European issues and may have difficulties analysing fake news regarding the EU.

The project goal is to give media and information literacy a real transnational and European dimension, working on a series of field reports in several European countries, on major electoral events and multilingual training modules, with educational multimedia resources. During the past months, JEF Europe was involved in different meetings around Europe and in some trainings in France and North Macedonia.

Check'Europe also enhances the development of accessible resources, tools, and educational methods providing the public with informational content about disinformation and EU-related topics with some paper editions of educational newspapers and monthly live Twitch.



SECTION ACTIVITES

JEF BELGIUM

TRAINING DAYS

JEF Belgium's Training Days, held over three days in October 2022, included training and socialising opportunities. Participants engaged in workshops on public speaking, citizen activism and climate, team management, youth activism, communications, hate speech, Model EU, and increasing voter participation. Action plans were developed, and a follow-up event was scheduled to further support participants' projects. Overall, it provided a comprehensive and engaging training experience for attendees. Some participants of the Training Days became more involved by joining the follow-up event and JEF Belgium's activities in general. Other participants also became board members of both JEF Belgium's national and local sections.

JEF BULGARIA

GUARDIANS OF THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY

JEF Bulgaria hosted the 'Guardians of the European Democracy' international seminar from 23rd April to 1st May 2023 in Sofia. It empowered young activists with skills to promote democratic values and envision a more democratic and federal Europe through discussions, working groups, and simulation games. Environmental awareness and a healthy lifestyle were also emphasised via outdoor activities. Participants shared knowledge on tackling challenges, organising events, and lobbying at European and national levels to strengthen European democracy based on CoFoE proposals. The project supported the European federalists' campaign for structural reformation of the EU, contributing to a more coherent and stronger Union. The valuable ideas and knowledge generated during the seminar can now be applied by each participant at the local level in preparation for the upcoming European elections.





JEF ESTONIA

LGBT+/HIV+: BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ART AND STORIES

JEF Estonia hosted a workshop around identity and community for people from a HIV+ and LGBT+ background. This project was made possible by the support of a local HIV+ charity in Tallinn, EHPV, and a grant from Youth and Environment Europe. This workshop utilised art and storytelling to foster understandings of identity and community in these spaces. Participants experienced a day of discussion, reflection, and creative expression.

JEF GERMANY

INTERNATIONAL BERLIN SEMINAR

In June 2023, JEF Germany hosted the 23rd edition of their famous International Berlin Seminar, which they have organised in Germany's capital since 1999. For four days, they brought together around 40 young people of 13 different nationalities from all across Europe to debate "Our European Future – The European Elections between a Convention and Enlargement." Apart from engaging expert talks, e.g. at the Foreign Office, the focus laid on various workshops in which the attendees could participate directly. The demonstration in front of the Brandenburger Tor as a self-organised contribution to the EurHope campaign was also one of the highlights.





JEF LATVIA

YOU(TH) IN DEMOCRACY

In summer 2022, JEF Latvia organised its first Erasmus+ “You(th) in democracy”. Together with JEF Norway, JEF Bulgaria, JEF Greece and JEF Brussels we discussed about problems in democracy, tried to find a solution for them, learned about what is the role of higher institutions in European Union, such as European Commission or European Parliament and most significant - exchanged our experience with democracy level in our own country and tried to find reason why it differs. Ultimately, this week-long event resonated as a positive experience for all involved.

JEF ITALY

100 EUROPEAN BENCHES

The JEF Italy campaign, supported by the European Parliament Liaison Office Italy and the European Commission Office in Italy, aims to enhance European identity by painting benches with the European flag in as many cities as possible. This initiative has successfully reached a milestone of 100 benches! The project was initiated in August 2021, following the act of vandalism that defaced the European Bench in Lecco, Italy with Nazi-fascist symbols. In response, JEFers took action to reintroduce this initiative in other cities. Today, European Benches have become a well-established reality in Italy, and with the help of JEF local sections, they have also extended to Belgium, Slovenia, Malta, Spain and France.

JEF SLOVENIA

YOUTH IN (UN)PEACEFUL EUROPE

In September 2022, JEF Slovenia organised an Erasmus+ youth exchange titled 'Youth in (un)peaceful Europe'. The exchange brought together young people from different countries across Europe (Portugal, Greece, Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus and Slovenia). The project enabled them to have an intercultural exchange in a safe environment in the context of non-formal learning with a special emphasis on topics related to conflicts and peace. The aim was for participants to get to know the participating countries as well as different conflicts through the exchange of experiences, and to also upgrade their skills in non-violent communication through different approaches. With the help of multicultural dialogue, the project challenged stereotypes and strengthened mutual understanding in order to promote peace.



JEF FINLAND, JEF DENMARK & JEF NORWAY

NATURE AND DIVERSITY IN THE NORTH SEMINAR

In the largest Erasmus+ project for JEF Finland in recent years, an all-international group gathered in Rovaniemi in the Finnish Lapland to listen to speakers and presentations and join workshops and a social programme focused on the North's diversity both in terms of nature and culture. The participants got to hear how the warming climate changes the Arctic, as well understand minority politics in the North, especially familiarise with the current status and livelihoods of the only indigenous people of the EU, the Sámi.



Nature
& Diversity
in the **NORTH**



70

Co-funded by
the European Union

JEF NORWAY

EU ACADEMY

The EU academy took place in November 2022, with the focus of EU-Norwegian relations and our place within the European continent, sadly still as an outsider. The participants had the opportunity to visit Brussels for a week of meetings in the parliament, EU institutions, the NATO headquarters and with corporations tightening Norwegian trade bonds with Europe. They networked with MEPs as well.

As non-EU citizens, Norwegian youth generally have low expertise on EU institutions. Hence the EU academy is a unique possibility to see the structures and people behind the cooperation first hand. The experience deepens the organisational and political motivation behind the fight for Norwegian membership. The participants took part in leadership coaching and speech - and debate technique instruction as well, contributing to an overall successful project.

JEF SPAIN

EU ACTIVIST NETWORK EVENT

JEF Spain, under the coordination of the European Youth Forum and with the financial support of the European Parliament, implemented the EU Activist Network Event in Zaragoza (Aragon) in April 2023. A total of 100 young participants were given 20-hours training with the focus on pro-European activism, communications and campaigns. They counted with high level speakers, with regional and local representatives and young professionals that are working in different fields of interest. The participants had the opportunity to learn about their experiences, listen to their advice and ask questions. The participants had to design the development and implementation of a campaign about the next European elections in 2024. The activity increased their personal, professional and communicative skills.

JEF STYRIA

64TH EUROPEAN YOUTH EXCHANGE

The 64th European Youth Exchange in the Europaburg in Neumarkt in der Steiermark in July 2023 was dedicated to individual and societal resilience in a time of multiple crises. Under the motto: "RADIO GAGA - Building resilience in challenging times" 38 young people from Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Denmark and Spain participated in the project and acquired useful skills and competences in a non-formal way. The highlights of the project were the Cultural Evening, the five-day digital detox, the excursion day and the intercultural exchange. The project was funded by Erasmus+, as JEF Styria has been accredited in the Erasmus+ Youth Programme since 2023.

JEF FRANCE

ACCESSIBLEU

The COVID crisis has made us even more aware of the following fact: educational resources and training on European citizenship are not adapted to people with disabilities, nor to a digital format. That is why, JEF France decided to launch the AccessibleU project, which aims to overcome the lack of inclusivity in these fields.

Co-funded by Erasmus+ and gathering six grassroots associations across four European countries, the project included different phases, not only the creation of educational tools, but also specific training sessions and dissemination events, all with the same goal: make the European Union more accessible to all its citizens!





JEF MALTA

JEF TALKS

JEF Malta has for many years organised talks about pressing issues, themes, and topics pertaining to European and Maltese society. This year was no different as many such talks were held, with topics ranging from Identity Politics in Post-Soviet Ukraine and Russia, to Democracy under Pressure as part of JEF Europe's international campaign. At these talks, JEF Malta has had the continued honour and privilege of inviting notable speakers who have a background in the topic at hand to address the event; generally academics but oftentimes also people who have personal experience with the matter being discussed.



SECTION CAMPAIGNS

JEF BULGARIA

SUSTAINABLE YOUTH LIFESTYLE

JEF Bulgaria held a campaign titled Sustainable Youth Lifestyle throughout Autumn 2022. The campaign was implemented with the financial support of the Ministry of Ecology and Waters of Bulgaria and it aimed to raise awareness and strengthen youth participation and cooperation in the topic of climate crisis and environmental risks among the youth. The activities included discussions with representatives of Bulgarian and European institutions and NGOs, production of a digital handbook with useful instructions, video materials and an initiative to reduce the carbon footprint during the Bulgarian student holiday through sustainable consumption. The project familiarised young people in Bulgaria with European and national goals for combating climate change, sustainable development and positive consumption patterns.

JEF GERMANY

DIGITAL ADVENT CALENDAR ON EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE

In December 2022, JEF Germany launched a digital advent calendar on Instagram. During the first 24 days, we presented different European Capitals of Culture. With this campaign, they targeted people beyond the usual target group. The aim was also to showcase the rich diversity of all participating Member States and to engage with people who had a connection either to the city itself or to the CoC-programme. The campaign was a successful series which raised awareness of European topics through an alternative approach to different groups.

JEF ITALY

SATURDAYS FOR EUROPE

JEF Italy, in collaboration with the Movimento Federalista Europeo (UEF Italy), has promoted the “Saturdays for Europe” campaign in Spring 2023. As part of this campaign, numerous local sections across Italy have organised flash mobs and set up stands in the streets. The primary objective of these activities is to support the European Parliament’s call for a European Convention that would bring about reforms to the EU treaties. Through these actions, Italian federalists, along with the Ambassadors of the CoFoE Citizens’ Panels, aim to highlight the Council’s silence and obstruction, which are impeding the potential of the Conference on the Future of Europe. They emphasise the urgent need for the Convention to be convened as soon as possible.







JEF ESTONIA

ACTION FOR IRAN

JEF Estonia has been working closely with the Iranian community in Estonia to protest against the Iranian regime. This involved attending and co-hosting protests with the Iranian Supportive Organisation and inviting an Iranian feminist scholar to talk on our panel about Women's Rights during Democracy Under Pressure. JEF Estonia looks forward to supporting this cause further and calling for women's rights, human rights, and democracy in Iran.

JEF UK

REJOIN ERASMUS CAMPAIGN

JEF UK launched their Rejoin ERASMUS Campaign in September 2023. Revealing the significant advantages of ERASMUS for both the UK and its students, the campaign's objective is to highlight the clear distinction from the limitations associated with the UK's Turing scheme. The campaign's mission is to amplify support for ERASMUS among esteemed MPs and ensure the UK's return to the program. The priority is to gain MP's support and leverage public opinion. To do this, as part of the campaign, JEF UK will confront the Cabinet and different policymakers and stakeholders to address the issue. By building an alliance with those who share this goal, the campaign aims to bring ERASMUS back.

JEF NORWAY

STUDENTS AND ENERGY

As part of our student campaign, we hosted a national Student Conference in June 2022 in Stavanger focused on participation in politics for students. It offered workshops, lectures, and panel discussions. Keynote speeches highlighted the importance of youth engagement. In addition, the conference provided networking opportunities as well as a visit to the Oil Museum in Stavanger to learn about the oil and energy sector in Norway. This event was hosted with great collaboration with the student sections all over Norway, encouraging and involving the broad mass of student members.





Solicităm retragerea propunerii legislative L131/2022

📅 martie 28, 2022 📍 JEF România



JEF ROMANIA

RAPID REACTION RIGHTS WATCHDOG

In March 2022, JEF Romania reached out to members of the Romanian Parliament with a public statement requesting the withdrawal of the anti-LGBTI law initiated by a group of senators. The law project followed a pattern in the region with law proposals aimed at sanctioning the LGBTI+ content in the public space, in education and in discussions with citizens under 18, allowing in the same time for censorship of such content, even if it would had been a movie, a book or a other cultural expressions. JEF Romania sent a statement requesting the withdrawal of the project, calling for rejection of any form of discrimination and highlighting the EU values commitment of the Member State.



JEF DENMARK

END OF DANISH DEFENSE OPT-OUT

Following the Invasion of Ukraine, Denmark has decided to declare a referendum on the Danish defence opt-out. We mobilised at a great scale, conducting debates and events to raise awareness around the country with our local sections, as well as running a traditional campaign with promotional and informational flyers, newspaper articles, election posters and in-person campaigning. We also planned and executed a 30-day social media campaign in the lead-up to the referendum. The success of the campaign puts us one step closer to one of our biggest goals: the removal of the opt-outs and deeper integration in the EU.



JEF FRANCE

EUROPE EN VACANCES

“Europe en Vacances”, this is the annual summer campaign of JEF France , which brings Europe to vacation spots, where people least expect it. On the beach, a marketplace or alongside a river, with less than a year before the European elections, our work to make people aware of the EU’s necessity never stops!

This summer, thanks to the commitment of our local sections, we reached more than 2,000 people in more than 15 cities, from Dinan to Nice, and especially for this 2023 edition in the south of France, our JEFers mobilised to speak about Europe and fight against euroscepticism.



ADVOCACY & OUTREACH



268

External Representation
Meetings & Events

11

External Representation
Events Per Month

199

Meetings With
External Partners



92

Participation In
Section Events

100

Events And Activity
Average
Per Eb Member In
The Mandate

47

Press Releases
& Statements



EXTERNAL RELATIONS

JEF AS A MEMBER



UNION OF EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS // UEF

The Union of European Federalists is a pan-European, non-governmental political organisation dedicated to the promotion of European political unity. UEF is the non-youth counterpart of JEF Europe and in many national sections JEF members are automatically UEF members. We are represented at the UEF board and all UEF statutory meetings.



EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM // YFJ

The European Youth Forum is a platform of over 100 organisations in Europe, representing National Youth Councils and International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations. The YFJ is the main platform for advocacy and lobbying for youth rights in Europe. It also engages in various activities to develop and strengthen its members. JEF Europe cooperates strongly with the group of Political Party Youth Organisations in the YFJ and regularly organises debates and activities with them. JEF Europe is also strongly involved in different expert groups in the YFJ.



EUROPEAN MOVEMENT INTERNATIONAL // EMI

The European Movement is the largest pan-European network of pro-European organisations. It is present in 39 countries and encompasses 36 International Associations, bringing together European civil society, business, trade unions, NGOs, political parties, local authorities and academia. JEF Europe is a long time member of EMI and cooperates actively in the different activities and political committees organised by EMI.



CIVIL SOCIETY EUROPE // CSE

Civil Society Europe – the European Coordination of Civil Society Organisations intends to be, at European level, a legitimate and representative platform of civil society organisations defending the values we claim and to put them back at the heart of the European project. JEF Europe has been a member of CSE since its creation in 2016, and we are actively involved in different working groups, as well as hold positions in its Board.



GENERATION CLIMATE EUROPE // GCE

Generation Climate Europe (GCE) is the largest climate coalition of youth-led organisations at the European level, pushing for stronger action from the EU on climate and environmental issues. GCE brings together 381 national organisations across 64 countries. JEF Europe has recently joined the coalition, and we are working to strengthen collaboration with the other members through its various working groups.



WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT // WFM - IGP

The World Federalist Movement - Institute for Global Policies is a worldwide, non-governmental political organisation dedicated to the promotion of global political unity. Among the main campaigns it promotes are: a United Nations parliamentary assembly, the International Criminal Court, a World Citizens Initiative and the World Parliament Week. We are represented at the WFM statutory meetings.

OUR FOUNDERS



EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION // COUNCIL OF EUROPE

For several years, JEF Europe has been awarded grants from the Council of Europe's European Youth Foundation. Our annual work plans including seminars and local actions have been co-financed thanks to the EYF. The EYF has also granted JEF Europe a multi-annual operating grant. Through the European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe's Youth Sector finances a wide range of activities organised by youth organisations in its 46 Member States in line with its bi-annual priorities.



CITIZENS, EQUALITY, RIGHTS AND VALUES PROGRAMME

The objective of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme is to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights. In particular, by supporting civil society organisations active at local, regional, national and transnational level.

It aims to sustain and develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law. That includes a vibrant and empowered civil society, encouraging people's democratic, civic and social participation and cultivating the rich diversity of European society, based on our common values, history and memory.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

The Erasmus+ Programme is the European programme for education, training, youth and sport. Its 26 billion Euro budget over 7 years allows the EU to fund a wide diversity of projects and organisations.

FRIENDS OF JEF

Friends of JEF e.V., a non-profit association under German law, is composed of former and active members of the Young European Federalists in order to support political and citizenship education and the activities of JEF Europe. The alumni network pursues as primary goals: networking, activation of JEF alumni, fundraising.



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The multiannual programme in the area of Communication, Youth Outreach Unit of the European Parliament is a key area of the European Parliament that offers financial support for Communication Projects related to the Parliament.



GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOUNDATION

The Global Challenges Foundation aims to promote the development of global decision making models capable of more effectively and equitably mitigating and, preferably, eliminating the major global catastrophic risks threatening humanity. JEF Europe has organised activities with the support of the GCF, notably for and Global Solutions for Problems projects.



CHANGE

LES

MEMBERS

JEF is composed of member sections working together to promote the creation of a democratic European federation as a guarantee for peace and a more free, just and democratic society. National Sections are JEF Europe's full member sections, which group together sections at a regional and local level. JEF also has several Candidate Sections and Interest Groups, which are not yet full member sections. After organising successful activities, activists in an Interest Group can apply for candidate status during a JEF Europe statutory meeting. If the section remains active during the next 2 years and policies and spirit, they can be accepted as a full member section during the next European Congress.

NATIONAL SECTIONS



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A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

JEF Europe exists because of everything that each JEFer makes it to be. Peace always has as many paths as people taking action for it.

The next few years will see key moments for European democracy with the change of mandates in all EU institutions, including the European Parliament elections; the changing of our European Treaties; and very importantly, the enlargement of the European Union with new member states. Europe will figure out its way to continue to be the unique project of collaboration and peace that it is meant to be - all the while recognising the complexities of grappling with its past and current discriminative structures.

These things should be seen not as 'if' but 'when' - and working for this distinction is what is at the core of the mission of JEF Europe.

To mention a few actions the network will take in this regard in the upcoming years: we will continue to work on supporting Ukraine over come this vicious war; we will stand up for democracy everywhere through our Democracy Under Pressure campaign; we will mobilise citizens, young people and beyond, to vote in the European elections and make an informed choice; we will continue to run our Europe What If?... and Don't Touch My Schengen campaigns for a United Europe that involves all countries equally; we will explore the intertwine between anti-racism and decolonisation and federalism; and we will work with ethnic and linguistic minorities in the framework of our Work Plan in 2024 supported by EYF.

Internally, JEF Europe will continue to foster inclusion and diversity, and work even harder to create safe spaces for all young people in its activities. We will continue to practise transparent and democratic decision-making, and foster the motivation of volunteers to take action for human rights, democracy, the rule of law and underneath it all - a united Europe.





YOUNG
EUROPEAN
FEDERALISTS

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Activity Report 2022-2023

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