



YOUNG
EUROPEAN
FEDERALISTS

JEF EUROPE ADVOCACY REPORT 2024

JEF Europe's advocacy work in 2024 focused on five pillars:

1. European Elections Campaign;
2. Toward a Reform of the EU;
3. Supporting Ukraine and Enlargement;
4. Rule of Law and Democracy;
5. Federalist Academy, Inclusion and Citizens rights (particularly Freedom of Movement).

1. European Elections Campaign - EurHope (2023-2024)

Background

JEF Europe, in collaboration with Make.org, has been working since late 2022 on EurHope, a groundbreaking participatory campaign aimed at transforming the narrative surrounding the 2024 European Elections. Recognising the prevailing feelings of uncertainty, frustration, helplessness, anger, and fear among Europeans, EurHope seeks to inspire a sentiment of hope, unity, and active citizen engagement.

EurHope emerges as a beacon of optimism, responding to the Eurobarometer's findings that while negative emotions dominate, hope is on the rise. With the 2024 European Elections looming as a pivotal moment for the European Union, JEF Europe spearheads EurHope to foster a positive front, replacing fear and division with an "Agenda of Hope."

Campaign Overview

After launching EurHope in May 2023 and gathering an impressive 1.5 million votes and over 5,000 proposals from all 27 EU member states on the multilingual online platform eurhope.org, the [report](#) was presented in November 2023. In 2024, the campaign was in full swing with hundreds of campaign events around the EU.

Key Partnerships: Supported by prominent entities like the European Parliament, European Economic and Social Committee, European Committee of the Regions, and Vice-President of the European Commission Dubravka Šuica, EurHope boasts collaboration with over 50 civil society organisations and local institutions, with new partners in 2024.

Media Presence: EurHope has received substantial media coverage, with published articles and op-eds underscoring its ambitious citizens' engagement initiative. Notable publications include *Politico*, *The New Federalist*, *Euractiv*, *The Times of Malta*, etc.

JEF Europe was also invited to write a chapter on the 2024 European elections in the paper and online book [10 elections](#) of the European Observatory on memories and the Jean Monnet House of the European Parliament, "Stepping up democracy: the future of European elections and the hopes of Europeans". JEF was invited to take the floor in several book launch and promotion events.

Here the full list of published articles by JEF and mentions of the campaign/ interviews:

- 07/01/2024 Oped EurHope by JEF President, **Times of Malta**, [The year of hope for Europeans](#)

Mentions and comments

- 23/04/2024 EurHope and quotes from JEF President, **The Parliament Magazine**, [How young voters could again drive EU election turnout](#)

- 02/05/2024 **Politico Playbook** "Environment Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius participates in a fireside chat about the EU election organised by JEF Europe (Young European Federalists)."
- 16/05/2024 **European Policy Centre** Youth compendium EurHope x treaty change piece by JEF President
[Youth Driven, Future Focused: Young Perspectives on the 2024 European Parliament Elections](#)
- May 2024 EurHope in [Participation et engagement des jeunes en France et en Europe](#), **Decider Ensemble**
- May 2024 [EurHope - we define the next chapter](#), **Coyote Magazine** by JEF Secretary General
- 11/06/2024 quote from JEF President in **Euractiv**
[The Brief – The kids are federalist now – Euractiv](#)
- (to be published in January 2025) *Espoir en action: jeunes, européens et engagés* by JEF President in **Confrontations Europe**

Television

- 29/01/2024 EurHope consultations results by JEF President, **Euronews**, [EU elections: Europe's youngest MEP on how to engage young people](#)
- 27/04/2024 Lyon marche for Europe, sighting of JEF President with EurHope logo, **France 3 Rhône-Alpes**,
<https://www.france.tv/5877477-emission-du-samedi-27-avril-2024.html>
- 30/04/2024 EurHope question by JEF President, **Politico**, [Maastricht Debate 2024 | POLITICO & Studio Europa Maastricht](#)

Podcasts

- 16/02/2024 **CosmoClub** : [Les jeunes Européens appelés aux urnes - Voxeurop](#) JEF President invited
- Summer 2024, **Civil Society Speaks!** Ep. 1: [Youth Rights in Europe - European Youth Forum & JEF](#) JEF President invited

4 Press releases about the EurHope campaign

10.01.2024 [Joint statement | Let's get more young people into the next European Parliament! - JEF Europe](#)

06.05.2024 [Press release | EurHope: an innovative platform revealing European political parties' responses to youth priorities - JEF Europe](#)

30.05.2024 [Press Release | JEF mobilises for a weekend for EurHope ahead of European elections](#)

10.06.2024 [Press Statement | "How evergreen, our group of friends": EU needs to stick together and set a path for reform after the election](#)

Agenda of Hope: At the heart of the EurHope campaign lies the transformative "Agenda of Hope," developed around the 15 main priorities that emerged from a comprehensive consultation involving citizens from all corners of the European Union. In a collaborative effort with various civil society organisations, this agenda represents a collective vision, weaving together the aspirations and concerns of Europeans. This innovative and inclusive approach ensures that the Agenda of Hope is a true reflection of the people's voices.

JEF Europe worked with an array of civil society partners to write one-pagers about each of the 15 proposals of the citizen consultation explaining the current issues and how to put in place the ideas of young citizens:

[1. Reinforcing transparency and ethical conduct of public officials](#) with the Good Lobby

[2. Strengthening the efficiency of European justice systems](#)

[3. Increasing citizen participation and their understanding of the EU](#) with Democracy International

[4. Developing more efficient and accessible rail transport](#) with Generation Climate Europe (GCE)

[5. Strengthening sustainable European industries and recycling](#) with GCE

[6. Promoting innovation in European agriculture and sustainable farming](#) with GCE

[7. Increasing the protection of biodiversity within the EU and beyond](#) with GCE

[8. Accelerating the energy transition and the reduction of carbon emissions](#) with GCE

[9. Promoting easier access to employment, especially for the youth](#) with SGI Europe

[10. Encouraging “Made in Europe”](#) with SGI nad BEUC

[11. Strengthening a sovereign EU voice in diplomacy](#)

[12. Enhancing measures at the European level to improve and coordinate education](#) with Erasmus Student Network and European Student Union

[13. Strengthening EU action on inclusive and harmonised healthcare systems](#)

[14. Creating a more efficient European legal framework for immigration](#) with VOICIFY

[15. Supporting research, innovation and technology in Europe](#) with SOGA

All political parties were invited to react to each of the 15 proposals of the Agenda of Hope as well as the civil society one-pagers, which, **EPD, Renew, Greens, EFA, European Left and PES** did. Their input can be read in the EurHope final report and on the updated eurhope.org website which was repurposed from the consultation to a presentation of the Agenda of Hope, reactions to parties and next step one-pagers from civil society.

This agenda was actively presented to European parties, serving as a tangible and influential guide for political discourse and policy-making. As the bridge between citizens and political representatives, the Agenda of Hope seeks to inject optimism and practicality into the narrative surrounding the 2024 European Elections. After a first meeting with the EPD leadership in December 2023, the **following meetings took place with European political parties:**

- Secretary General ALDE Didrik de Schaetzen (January 2024)

- Secretary General European Greens Party Benedetta De Marte (February 2024)

The campaign was also presented at:

- A dedicated S&D **event organised by the Vice-President of the European Parliament Marc Angel** that was attended by
 - MEP Marc Angel (S&D), MEP Laura Ballarin(S&D), MEP Javi Lopez (S&D), MEP Demetris Papadakis (S&D), MEP Josianne Cutajar (S&D), MEP Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield (Greens) and a representative of the European Socialist Party
 - JEF Europe President and Vice President participated in the civil society consultations of PES in January and February respectively.
- French-speaking MEP delegation of Greens
 - MEP Claude Gruffat, MEP Karima Delli, MEP David Cormand, MEP Tilly Metz, MEP Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, et MEP Mounir Satouri

The campaign was also presented individually to EPP MEPs such as during a meeting with MEP Sabine Verheyen together with Generation Climate Europe.

The EurHope results were also discussed in a dedicated event organised by the European Parliamentary Association during which the JEF President presented and debated the result with 2 MEPs (MEP Guillaume and MEP Delbos-Corfield), together with a representative of Make.org.

JEF Europe President also had the opportunity to ask a **question at the Spitzenkandidaten debate** of Politico in Maastricht about one of the Proposals of EurHope.

The EurHope campaign was also discussed at the EESC European election and during their civil society, where JEF co-organised a workshop. JEF Europe board members also took the floor during several election panels.

10 roundtables about the European Elections (January–May 2024) were co-organised with Forefront Advisers hosting:

- European Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius,
- European Parliament Deputy Secretary-General Markus Winkler,
- Party of European Socialist Secretary General Giacomo Filibeck,
- Renew Secretary General Philip Drauz,
- former High Representative Federica Mogherini,
- Former European Parliament Secretary-General Klaus Welle,
- Former Council of the European Union director Jim Cloos,
- MEP Ville Niinistö,
- Mathieu Briens (from High Representative Borrell cabinet), and
- Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the EU Arnoldas Pranckevičius.

Moreover, the Agenda of Hope was positioned as the cornerstone for a pan-European mobilisation effort, uniting JEF Sections and all campaign partners in 2024. This collaborative commitment underscores the campaign's dedication to turning aspirations into actions, transforming the agenda from a document to a catalyst for meaningful change. **Hundreds of local events** have been organised all across Europe by JEF Sections, including trainings, debates, escape games, street actions, civic education in schools and in public spaces etc

Our **May debate of young candidates** and final event of the MEET project was the culmination of inclusive debates across Europe. 7 young candidates running in the 2024 European elections in different EU countries took place with:

- Chloé Ridet, France, S&D – who was elected MEP
- Benedetta Scuderi, Italy, European Greens – who was elected MEP

- Flora Ghebali, France, Écologie et justice
- Lucie Rousselle, Belgium, Renew Europe
- Benedek Farkas, Hungary, Renew Europe
- Lefteris Vasilopoulos, France, Volt Europa
- Rhia Lopes, Portugal, Volt Europa

Other democratic groups declined to participate in the debate.

JEF Europe was also a **European Parliament communication partner** for the European Union elections and participated in diverse events in this capacity. JEF Europe met with DG Com of the European Parliament to present EurHope in view of the Spitzenkandidat debate.

2. Towards a Reform of the EU

Background

JEF Europe has been a proactive force in advocating for substantive treaty reform within the European Union, leveraging the significant platform provided by the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). JEF Europe outlined key thematic areas crucial for EU development, ranging from competences allocation to fiscal autonomy and sustainable development goals. Emphasising the need for an inclusive and citizen-centric CoFoE, JEF Europe, contributed to the establishment of the Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network for the Future of Europe in late 2019.

During the CoFoE, JEF Europe had actively contributed by submitting 13 federalist proposals, covering a wide spectrum of critical issues, including democratic federation, electoral reforms and climate crisis mitigation.

Crucially, JEF Europe played a central role in supporting the Civil Society Convention on the Future of Europe, championing an ambitious approach that integrates citizens' voices and results in concrete policy proposals, potentially including treaty changes.

Since the Summer 2022, the European Parliament has been working on a Treaty Change report to push for a concrete follow-up of the Conference on the Future of Europe and in November 2023, the European Parliament voted its resolution to start treaty change. This background sets the stage for JEF Europe's ongoing efforts in 2024, building on past achievements to further shape a united and forward-looking European Union.

Actions

Constant meetings with decision makers and stakeholders were then a core element of the JEF advocacy strategy. Building on the Agenda of Hope, JEF Europe connected it to the treaty change endeavour.

In particular, we engaged with the Spinelli Group – the group of federalist MEPs– and joined their meetings; we kept alive the engagement with the MEPs we were in touch with during the Conference on the Future of Europe and the EurHope Campaign.

JEF Europe had more than **20 advocacy meetings on the topic and 50 other events or representation** of the Executive Board of JEF Europe on this topic.

JEF Europe also created a [Treaty Change](#) page on its website to explain the next steps and the importance of the revision of the treaties. Internally, JEF Europe also drew a full advocacy plan following the European elections.

We worked with several other civil society organisations to push for treaty change like Civil Society Europe, including in its dedicated working group that we co-chair.

Street action

Together with the Union of European Federalists, we organised a street action in Strasbourg during the first plenary in July 2024 to call for Treaty Change in front of the European Parliament to spread the message of federalism to new MEPs, distribute flyers about the Spinelli Group, and call for the new legislature to continue the work on institutional reform. It was also the opportunity for JEF Europe and JEF France Presidents to meet with Spinelli group members.

Action Committee for the United States of Europe

In 2024, JEF Europe, together with UEF Europe, the Spinelli Group and Association Jean Monnet revived the Action Committee for the United States of Europe that had been in the past created by Jean Monnet to regroup different personalities from all field: culture, sports, politics etc to advocate for a more united Europe and support the federalist advocacy.

The process started in January with a meeting between UEF, EMI and Association Jean Monnet followed by a commemoration of the first Committee. JEF Europe President also took part in the UEF press conference launching the joint US Europe 2024 European elections declaration.

On the 1st and 2nd of September 2024, in the municipality of Ventotene, a **Ventotene political declaration and the Action Committee partnership was signed** by Domènec Ruiz Devesa (former MEP, UEF Europe President), Sandro Gozi (MEP, Chair of the Spinelli Group), Thijs Reuten (MEP, Spinelli Group), Philippe Laurette (Association Jean Monnet President) and Christelle Savall (JEF Europe President).

The partnership was endorsed by Josep Borrell (High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the European Commission), Klaus Welle (Former Secretary-General of the European Parliament, Martens Centre's Academic Council Chair), and Guy Verhofstadt (former MEP, European Movement International President).

Letters

Together with UEF and the Spinelli Group, JEF cosigned letters to the President of the President of the European Council, the Heads of States/government the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament and of the Presidents of EPP, Renew and S&D to put or help put treaty change on the agenda of the Council.

- 19.02.2024 [Letter to Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission from UEF, EMI, The Spinelli Group and JEF](#)
- 21.03.2024 [Member States must answer the citizens' requests and give Europe the tools it needs - Union of European Federalists](#)
- 13.12.2024 [Letters of UEF and JEF to the EP President, EUCO President, and the Chairs of the european political groups EPP, Renew Europe and S&D](#)

JEF Europe has most actively engaged with the following MEPs on the road to the European elections and afterwards on treaty change and other federalists asks:

- Valérie Hayer, Renew President
- Alin Mituta, Renew
- Charles Goerens, Renew
- Sandro Gozi, Renew
- Guy Verhofstadt, Renew
- Saskia Bricmont, Greens/EFA
- David Cormand, Greens/EFA
- Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Greens/EFA
- Karima Delli, Greens/EFA
- Daniel Freund, Greens/EFA
- Claude Gruffat, Greens/EFA
- Tilly Metz, Greens/EFA
- Ville Niinistö, Greens/EFA
- Mounir Satouri, Greens/EFA
- Benedetta Scuderi, Greens/EFA
- Kai Tegethoff, Greens/EFA
- Marie Toussaint, Greens/EFA
- Markus Ferber, EPP
- Sabine Verheyen, EPP
- Rainer Wieland, EPP
- Željana Zovko, EPP
- Marc Angel, S&D
- MEP Laura Ballarin, S&D
- Brando Benifei, S&D
- Gabriele Bischoff, S&D
- Josianne Cutajar, S&D
- Thijs Reuten, S&D
- Chloé Ridel, S&D
- Domenec Ruiz Devesa, S&D
- Javi Lopez, S&D

- Demetris Papadakis S&D
- Nikolas Farantouris, GUE/NGL
- Helmut Scholz, GUE/NGL

The JEF Europe President was also invited by the European Parliamentary Association to take part in the MEP garden party in July 2024.

JEF Europe organised a get together of parliamentary assistants and institution bubble informal networking in May 2024 to foster new contacts.

Statements

See European election press releases above and:

03.09.2024 [Action Committee for the United States of Europe Partnership Signing and Spinelli Group Meeting for the new mandate](#)

21.11.2024 [Statement I "It's a treaty reform story, baby, just say yes!"](#)

Our advocacy was also featured in the press (see in part 1 on European elections as both topics were linked).

3. Supporting Ukraine and Enlargement

Background

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.

Beyond Ukraine, JEF advocates for a European future for Moldova and Georgia. JEF's actions against Russian aggression feed into the [Democracy under Pressure](#) campaign, which JEF has run since 2006 (see 4.).

Activities for Ukraine

JEF reaction to the Russian invasion against Ukraine has continued in 2024. We continued to cooperate with the Ukrainian organisations in Brussels and beyond, joining their demonstrations and mobilising JEF sections all across Europe. In particular we continued the cooperation with [Promote Ukraine](#).

We supported Promote Ukraine in co-organising the 25 February march with them and other civil society organisations that gathered 7,000 people to raise awareness on the 24 February anniversary of the full scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia. The President of JEF Europe took the floor at the beginning of the march. JEF Europe also participated across Europe to other marches such as the one for 1,000 day of full scale invasion.

JEF continuously mobilised its whole network of volunteers in 300 local and 37 national sections, organising demonstrations and events, helping refugees from Ukraine get access to their rights, raising money, joining solidarity convoys, etc.

For the second anniversary of the full scale invasion of Ukraine, we published the following joint statement, together with political party youth organisations and the National Youth Council of Ukraine: [Joint Statement: We cannot let war become the new normal.](#)

On 5 April 6PM CET JEF organised [Activism under Pressure: Stories from Ukraine](#) in collaboration with the Young European Ambassadors Initiative.

On 24 June, our online webzine The New Federalist published [Democracy Under Pressure in Ukraine: JEF Europe's commitment to supporting Ukrainian youth](#), retelling our work to support Ukraine and its people.

We also regularly advocated for further support for Ukraine on different social media, including Twitter, in particular at the occasion of the 24th of each month.

Enlargement advocacy

As Europe is not limited to the EU, JEF Europe continued its **"Europe – What If?"** campaign, to invite people to ask what Europe would look like if not yet-EU countries were already in the EU. Actions were organised across non-EU sections leading up to the EU elections, in Albania, Serbia but also Norway and others both on social media and in person.

We also advocated for enlargement all year long, to Ukraine but also to Moldova and Georgia and to relaunch the enlargement process in the Western Balkans.

JEF Europe also regularly published tweets highlighting the importance of enlargement, the need for credibility in the process and the social aspect of it.

We also advocated for enlargement to happen in parallel to treaty change and did training on enlargement in events such as the Ventotene Seminar of the Spinelli Institute.

As part of our Complet'EU project we organised a **panel on enlargement in Brussels** with the following panellists:

- H.E.Mr Ambassador Ismaili, Ambassador of North Macedonia
- H.E.Mr Ambassador Hoxha, Ambassador of Albania
- Alexandra Sabou, Advocacy and Eastern Partnership Index Manager Secretariat of the Eastern Partnership, Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF)
- Christelle Savall, President of JEF Europe

We also started the redaction of a youth manifesto for an enlarged Europe together with National Youth Councils of Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, North Macedonia and Umbrella, a Georgian NGO.

JEF Europe President also had the opportunity to meet with the **Youth Minister of Albania** as part of a lunch meeting organised by and with the EESC President.

4. Rule of Law and Democracy – Democracy under Pressure (DuP)

Background

JEF has been raising awareness of the state of democracy, and standing up and speaking up for those who are silenced, since 2006. The campaign was launched under the name of “Free Belarus Action” to raise awareness against the Lukashenka regime, considered as the last dictatorship in Europe. Unfortunately, recent times have shown that threats to democracy and the rule of law concern several countries on the European continent. Hence, JEF actions have been rebranded under the name “Democracy under Pressure” (DuP) in 2014 and aim at drawing attention to the systematic weakening of democratic values on which the European Union is founded.

Democracy under Pressure in 2024

The 2024 edition of Democracy under Pressure took place between 18–25 March and marked the 18-year anniversary of the campaign and its 19th edition. For more than two years, democracy is no longer just under pressure but under attack and activists are at the forefront of this struggle. JEF Europe’s network highlighted the work of activists in authoritarian regimes like Russia and Belarus, and gave a space for young people from Ukraine to show the challenges they continue to face during war.

JEFers took action all over Europe in 35 different cities in more than 20 countries, raising awareness in the streets through protests, flash mobs and interviews, writing letters to political prisoners in Belarus and Russia, conferences and debates.

2024 events

18 March, 6PM CET: [Activism under Pressure: Stories from Belarus](#) (in collaboration with the Young European Ambassadors Initiative)

20 March, 19:30PM CET: [Democracy under Pressure – Central and Eastern Europe](#) (JEF Hungary, JEF Poland, JEF Czechia, JEF Slovakia)

24 April, 7PM CET: [Discover the Belarusian Language](#) (in collaboration with the Young European Ambassadors Initiative)

Press releases, press statements and articles on DuP during 2024

19 February: [Statement | Europe cannot let Navalny's death be in vain](#)

24 February: [Joint Statement: We cannot let war become the new normal](#)

18 March: ["Democracy under Pressure" 2024: JEF Europe stands in solidarity with democracy defenders](#)

10 May: [Stop the undemocratic "foreign agents law" and commit to the European future of Georgia!](#)

21 May: [International Day of #Solidarity with Political Prisoners in #Belarus](#)

9 August: [International Day of Solidarity with Belarus](#)

25 October: [Who are the real foreign agents?](#)

Throughout the year, the respect for the rule of law on the continent and in the EU remained one of our core advocacy points, starting with the murder of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny in February. One of the main focus areas was the anti-democratic legislation pushed by pro-Russian political forces across the continent targeting the rights and liberties of civil society, as well as the rights of activists in authoritarian regimes in Europe and Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine which has severely impacted the work of Ukrainian youth CSOs.

JEF Europe joined the **Fundamental Rights Platform of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency**, took part in different rule of law consultations and joined their meetings, contributed to open letters with other civil society organisations, and met with organisations from Central and Eastern Europe to discuss the status of Foreign Agents Registration Act-type laws which threaten the freedom of civil society.

JEF Europe's Vice President together with a large coalition of Bulgarian Civil Society Organisations also attended a parliamentary commission in Bulgaria's National Assembly to give a statement against the so-called "foreign agents law" which was aiming to limit the right to political participation of Bulgarian civil society.

JEF Europe also brought democratic backsliding and rule of law to the forefront of advocacy actions of the European Youth Forum (YFJ) by submitting [a motion on the state of civil society in Georgia](#) during the GA of YFJ in May which was passed with an overwhelming majority.

Furthermore, JEF Europe has also been active in advocating for rule of law and stronger civic spaces via its work in the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) of the Council of Europe, where one of JEF Europe's Vice President is involved as one of the lead members in the portfolio on "Revitalising pluralistic democracy & follow-up to the campaign".

JEF Europe President also took part in the NGO meeting with the Sakharov prize finalists organised by the European Parliament in December 2024.

Defence of Democracy Package and NGO accountability

JEF Europe:

- signed the [230 Civil Society Organisations Statement on EU Foreign Interference Law](#)

- contributed to the [Joint Civil Society and Democracy Organisations' Priorities for the Defence of Democracy Package](#)
- Republished on 17.01.2024 the [Press Release of Civil Society Europe | Transparency & accountability of NGOs funded by the EU: Much Ado About Nothing!](#)

The JEF Europe President was also selected to be a **youth representative in the framework of the European Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Defence of Democracy Package** (SOC/773).

JEF Europe elaborated a [position on the Defence of Democracy package](#) and successfully amended the EESC opinion, in particular regarding the necessary strengthening of the European Citizen Initiative.

Finally, JEF President was interviewed by **Ouest France** on the new cross border association status (14/03/2024) [Vers la création d'une association européenne.](#)

5. Federalist Academy, inclusion and citizens' rights

Background

JEF's social mission as an organisation revolves around promoting federalism, citizens' rights (with a particular focus on freedom of movement in 2024) and inclusion.

Activities

In May 2024, in cooperation with the European Parliament and the European Observatory on Memories (EUROM) of the University of Barcelona, JEF Europe co-organised the 2nd edition of the **European School on Memories** seminar at the Jean Monnet House in France. During the seminar, the participants reflected on the history of European Parliament elections from the perspective of memory studies. The seminar introduced 20 participants sent by JEF Europe to the scholarly field of memory studies through hands-on workshops and through informal lectures.

The seminar launched a partnership between JEF, European Parliament and Eurom for an annual cycle of seminars. The annual European School on Memories seminar is connected with the **Ventotene International Seminar**, which JEF Europe formally joined as a co-organiser again in 2024. Through linking the two seminars, taking place at locations associated with two of the "Founding Fathers" of the European project, the JEF Europe strengthens its offer of European federalist training for members. The Ventotene International Seminar participants and speakers included members of the World Federalist Movement and JEF participated again in the [Week for World Parliament](#).

Citizens' rights and freedom of movement

Between September and November 2024, JEF Europe undertook multiple actions on the topic of freedom of movement:

- [Statement | Schengen shame: Germany needs to restore freedom of movement!](#) - September
- March on the French–German–Luxembourgish border in Schengen (alongside Volt, European Movement Saarland, Pulse of Europe, JEF Germany, JEF Luxembourg and JEF Belgium) - November
 - This march was featured in many media, and, in particular, JEF Europe President's speech was part of the Luxembourgish tv coverage [RTL](#).
- JEF Europe also advocated for its positions in other organisations such as the Union of European Federalists.

Inclusion and diversity

JEF Europe continues to work on the inclusion of minorities and diversity. In that regard, it has actively been working in the framework of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe, where JEF Europe's Vice President is involved as one of the lead members in the portfolio on "Roma and other autochthonous minorities".

In 2024, JEF Europe developed a series of training and capacity building activities focused on the inclusion of **ethnic and language minorities**, including Roma, in Europe as part of its Work Plan under funding by the European Youth Foundation (EYF) of the Council of Europe. This resulted in the organisation of 10 civic education-related local events (in Albania, Georgia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Serbia, Spain, and Ukraine) during the summer, 4 campaign hubs (in Georgia, Latvia, Serbia, and the United Kingdom) during the November/December period, and a final capacity building and policy development event in Brussels in December which helped highlight the topic.

One JEF Europe Board member participated in an online panel around [Women's voices in democracy and peace](#) and JEF Europe posted on the occasion of 8 March on [The EU has ratified the #IstanbulConvention at the end of 2023. Now it is time for the rest of the Member States to do the](#)

same! And similarly on the international day for the elimination of violence against women.