

Annual Review 2022

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE



© Christopher Glanzl / GLOBAL 2000



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place in Czechia, in person for the first time since 2019. © FoE Europe

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Friends of the Earth Europe Executive Committee 2022-2023

Akos Éger, FoE Hungary, elected for the term 2022-2024
 Alexander Fedorov, FoE Russia, 2021-2023
 Anna Kárníková, FOE Czechia Republic, 2022-2024, chair
 Martin Galea De Giovanni, FoE Malta, 2022-2024, secretary
 Blanca Ruibal, FOE Spain, 2021-2023
 Ziva Kavka Gobbo, FoE Slovenia, 2021-2023, treasurer
 Kathryn Holloway, FoE England, Wales & Northern Ireland, 2022-2024
 Davit Sidamonize, FoE Georgia, 2022-2024

System change now!



JAGODA MUNIC,
Director, Friends of
the Earth Europe

May 2023



At the beginning of 2022, I was hoping that the extraordinary circumstances of our work –caused by the pandemic – were behind us. Sadly, after the Russian attack on Ukraine, we were thrown into another extraordinary circumstance: war. The devastating impacts of the war are of course first and foremost borne by Ukrainians, and we stand in solidarity with them. However, the war also changed the context of our work and life: we witnessed a deflection of political attention, and entered a severe price crises on food and energy.

The war highlighted the existing fragility of our industrial food and farming system and escalated the global food price crisis. We have resisted false solutions of the agribusiness, when they have used the war to argue that boosting industrial food production and delaying environmental measures would salvage European food security.

The energy price crisis has pushed more people into energy poverty, and exacerbated their already hard reality. To fight energy poverty as part of the Right to Energy Coalition, we organised the Right to Energy Forum, with over 1,800 attendees debating actual solutions. The war aggravated the gas price, increasing the leverage of our anti-fossil fuel campaigning. Our report "LNG: The liquid path to climate chaos" responded to the gas industry's and governments' narratives around the need for massive LNG expansion and empowered the climate movement with facts and figures.

One major achievement in 2022 came from our campaign for countries to withdraw from the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT), as it undermines climate goals. We took a nine meter tall inflatable dinosaur representing the 'prehistoric' toxic ECT on a tour in nine European cities. The tour video has 17 000 views, and received broad mainstream media coverage. Following our campaign, seven EU Member states have decided to withdraw from the ECT and more are considering leaving.

2022 also marked the mid-point of the much-heralded European Green Deal (EGD), aiming to "*reconcile the economy with our planet...to make it work for our people*". Currently, this vision is barely alive. The pandemic, the war and the interconnected crises have taken its toll – slowing down many legislative processes, and consuming politicians' attention.

We were critical of the EGD package from the outset. The policy proposals remain moderate and far short of what's needed to tackle the climate and ecological emergency. Fundamentally, the Green Deal does not recognise Europe's historical responsibilities and locks in the exploitation of countries in the Global South which are already disproportionately affected by Europe's colossal demand for natural resources. The deal does not constitute the step change that was promised – and that is desperately needed to bring our socio-economic system within planetary boundaries.

Our call for system change, which we have been driving for years, is more relevant than ever. If there is anything to be learned from the crises of the last couple of years, it is that we need to build a socio-economic system that provides for the needs of all people, built on policies that create equity and respect the Earth's limits.

I believe that FoEE is uniquely positioned within the environmental movement in Europe to continue envisioning a sustainable and just Europe, and to propose the real solutions needed for making that vision reality, in Brussels as well as at national and local levels across our continent and in solidarity with people and communities around the world.



We campaign for social and environmental justice at the heart of the EU



We unite more than 30 national groups and thousands of local groups across Europe



We are part of Friends of the Earth International, the world's largest grassroots environmental network.

Campaign Highlights 2022

Climate justice and energy

The war in Ukraine has shown the fragility of the European energy system and its overreliance on fossil fuels. While the war has made energy politics frontline news, the legislative train of the European Green Deal and the Fit for 55 package continued to move ahead.

In 2022 we campaigned to accelerate the transition to a just, efficient, clean, democratic energy system of the future - including massive investment in renovations and an end to support for fossil gas.

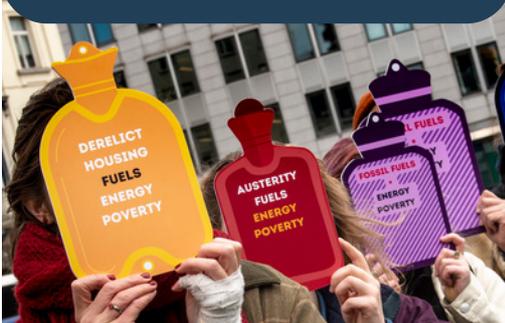


Protesting the gas industry's corporate influence, outside the Eurogas Annual Conference, Brussels. © FoE Europe / Philip Reynaers/ Photonews

Despite political rhetoric on energy security, EU member states keep trying to water down key legislation that could bring energy prices down for households, like the energy performance of buildings directive.

Colin Roche, climate justice & energy coordinator commented in Euractiv on the state of play of key legislative files

Energy poverty at the center of the EU agenda



Raising awareness for the Right to Energy, outside the European Commission, Brussels, International Energy Poverty Action Week. © FoE Europe / Philip Reynaers/ Photonews

The energy price crisis made the challenge to deliver long-term strategies for eradicating energy poverty ever more pressing. We worked together with our Right to Energy allies to put together the largest civil society response to the gas price crisis demanding immediate measures to shield vulnerable households from skyrocketing energy prices this winter, but also stressing the need for structural solutions. The Right to Energy Forum attracted over 1 800 attendees who debated real energy solutions for climate and people.

Those who will be in the toughest spot to pay their energy bills will inevitably be the most vulnerable. At best, spending a disproportionate amount of income on utilities can cause severe mental anguish, but it can also lead to people self-disconnecting from meters in some countries like the U.K. — and putting themselves in danger of freezing to death.

Kieran Pradeep, energy poverty campaigner spoke to Politico

Through the year, we kept advocating to ensure the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings directives provides a long-term solution to tackle one of the most significant causes of energy poverty: inadequate and unsafe housing.

Ahead of the European Council General Approach, we called on the EU to protect the most vulnerable households from unaffordable energy prices taking the opportunity the EPBD provides to create sustainable, warm, and energy efficient homes for everyone in Europe.

While emergency action was needed we cannot allow short sighted measures to lock us in policies that will not help us in the long term. With the proposed energy efficiency rules for buildings ministers had missed a golden opportunity to match our climate goals with tackling the energy crisis.

Laia Segura, energy justice campaigner in the Financial Times



LNG: The liquid path to climate chaos



LNG: The liquid path to climate chaos. © FoE Europe / Food & Water Action Europe

Our report "[LNG: The liquid path to climate chaos](#)" reacted to the changing narratives around energy security and reliance on Russian gas imports.

The report equipped the climate movement with facts, figures and key arguments to confront the gas industry's and governments' narratives around energy security and the assumed need for massive LNG expansion. It also helped co-creating a narrative across the movement, making our collective response stronger and more coherent.

The report has been translated to 8 languages.

The challenge is that to make these terminals economically viable, countries have to agree to very long contracts to bring in the gas and the terminals themselves can last up to 40 years, which means a very long lock-in effect for these fossil fuels that we are trying to get out of.

Eilidh Robb, fossil fuel campaigner to the BBC

Our training course for community energy ambassadors from across Europe was, once again, a great success. We reached many existing energy communities across Europe and inspired a growing number of people to get involved. Ambassadors from 14 countries gained tools and knowledge to work on community energy policy in their respective countries – including how to build community energy projects directly themselves.

The course helped strengthen the Community Power coalition directly by engaging its members in the delivery.

Successful advocacy for the Right to Energy



© FoE Europe

Campaign Highlights 2022

Food, farming and nature

Unsurprisingly, in 2022, we witnessed the agribusiness lobby cynically use the invasion of Ukraine to try to derail significant steps towards sustainable farming at scale – for instance on pesticide reduction. We continued to campaign for a just and sustainable food system free from corporate capture, and based on food sovereignty, where production and distribution are radically localised and co-operative.



© FoE Europe / Laure Geerts

Instead of expecting solutions from profit-driven polluters we need to redistribute the power in the food chain, reduce the number of industrially bred animals on the planet, strengthen local markets and incentivise a transition to food sovereignty

Annelies Schorpion, food, agriculture and biodiversity coordinator in Forbes

1 054 973 people signed the European Citizens Initiative Save Bees And Farmers, calling for an end to synthetic pesticides in agriculture, the restoration of nature and biodiversity, and support for farmers to switch to agroecology.

The signatures pushed the European Commission to present the first legally binding pesticide reduction proposal, the Sustainable Use Regulation (SUR), calling for a 50% reduction in pesticide use.

We have kept building pressure to make sure a strong SUR will be adopted.

More than 1 million Europeans say "Save bees and Farmers!"



The evidence is staggering; the current food system based on the heavy use of poisonous chemicals is gravely failing farmers and consumers and feeding biodiversity collapse. The EU needs to stop shutting its eyes to the agribusinesses' increasingly toxic trade and listen to its citizens instead.

Clara Bourgin, food, agriculture and nature campaigner in The Guardian

Keep new GMOs strictly regulated



Together with more than 50 other organisations we hammered home the dangers of the planned deregulation of new genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Our petition to keep them safety-checked and labelled ran in 18 countries and collected 420,000 signatures in just a few months. Events, webinars and calls on decision makers shaped the debate about the benefits of GMO regulation.

We explained that new GMOs are not a solution to fight the climate crisis and reduce pesticide use - they will only increase the power of agribusiness.

There is no reason to deregulate gene editing. It is a new technology developed in the last 10 years. We don't know how it might impact on nature, on agriculture and how the consumer interest will be affected.

Mute Schimpf, food and farming campaigner in Financial Times

Campaign Highlights 2022

Resource Justice & Sustainability

Europe's plans for the green transition lack scale, urgency and justice, and are based on flawed green growth thinking. For the transition to be just, Europe needs to stop its extractivism. Its colossal demand for natural resources lock - in the exploitation of countries in the Global South and potentially increases exploitation in the North with major risks for biodiversity. In 2022 we have continued to campaign for Europe's resource use to be clearly measured, and to dramatically reduce our consumption levels.



Leading the way on raw materials use and mining

In 2022, we were a leading voice in Brussels calling out the increased demand for raw materials as part of the green transition. Our position has gained prevalence in the discussion around decreasing EU raw material demand, whereas previously, this issue was not considered as significant. We worked to increase the strategic coordination between NGOs, including setting up an official NGO coalition.



FoE Norway stunt © Naturvernforbundet

Our governments need to rethink the direction they are taking and stop the opening of yet another devastating mine. /.../(they) must instead implement measures that truly transform the economy and society, use fewer materials, and reuse the materials already in the economy.

Meadhbh Bolger, resource justice campaigner in Daily Express

We are a respected advocate for an economic paradigm shift. We have increased coordination between NGOs, e.g. through the EU Wellbeing Economy coalition, organising events on new economic solutions work on the ground, and meeting allies working on anti-racism and in trade unions.

Debating new ideas for an economic paradigm shift - and acting on them - has become increasingly mainstream: more and more civil society organisations are beginning to work on a new economy.

Transformational steps towards an EU wellbeing economy



Campaign Highlights 2022

Corporate power

Major barriers to truly progressive, transformational EU decision-making persist: the von der Leyen Commission has spectacularly failed to reign in vested interests' influence on the agenda, with legislative proposals having the fingerprints of corporate lobbying all over. In 2022 we have continued to counter corporate capture, and to demand that the EU and the international community hold corporations accountable for the harm they cause around the world.



Justice is Everybody's Business action in Brussels © FoE Europe / Philip Reynaers / Photonews

We took a 9-meter-tall inflatable dinosaur representing the 'prehistoric' toxic, anti-climate Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) on a tour of nine European cities. The dinosaur got 17 000 views online, received broad mainstream media coverage, and contributed to policy makers in the European Parliament and in national parliaments raising serious doubts about the future of the ECT. Seven EU Member states have decided to withdraw from the ECT and more are considering an exit.

The Energy Charter Treaty going Extinct



ECT-Rex Stunt in Brussels © Lode Saidane / FoE Europe

The ECT gives multinationals the power to sue governments and was intended to protect international energy investments by foreign companies or individuals. Leaving the treaty is the right decision

Paul de Clerck, economic justice coordinator in a letter to the editor of the Financial Times

Stop the EU-Mercosur trade deal



Public debate on the EU-Mercosur trade deal in the European Parliament © FoE Europe

Our persistent campaigning kept the discussions around the harmful impacts of the EU-Mercosur deal on the political agenda both at EU and national level. We organised a public debate in the European Parliament, attended by 90 people, and published a series of reports about the deal: "The powers pushing for a planet-wrecking trade deal", "EU pharma giants' toxic lobbying in Brazil", and "How European banks are funding an eco-disaster".

This reflects how undemocratic and opaque EU trade policy can be. It is an easy way to mute opposition, avoid public debate and side-line democratic participation of citizens.

Audrey Changoe, trade campaigner, in Politico

A key moment in 2022 was the launch of the multi-year campaign Justice is Everybody's Business. A large number of civil society and trade union organisations from around Europe and beyond stand behind the campaign to ensure business are held accountable through a strong EU corporate sustainability law – without loopholes. The campaign demands a law that makes companies respect human rights, the environment and the climate; that holds parent companies responsible in court for harm that happens in their supply chain; and that guarantees collective bargaining by trade unions and gives workers' representatives a real say in due diligence.

The law could be a true game-changer for corporations' impact on the planet, or it could be a damp squib if big business lobbies get their wishes

Friends of the Earth Europe, in Euronews

Justice is Everybody's business



Pursuing Fossil Free Politics



We commissioned research into the meetings of European Commission President von der Leyen, her Commissioners and their cabinets to obtain data on how frequently they met the fossil fuel industry since the beginning of the mandate.

We published an analysis giving an overview of the sheer amount of lobby meetings that were held - with mind-boggling results: between December 2019 and May 2022, the von der Leyen Commission engaged in a staggering 500 meetings with representatives and lobbyists of oil, gas and coal companies. That's close to having 1 meeting every working day.

Our work on corporate accountability had a specific focus on Mozambique. Jointly with several FOE groups we published a report on the humanitarian and environmental crisis in Mozambique linked to European companies and financiers, including recommendations for binding legislation on EU and UN level.

We developed a comic to make the content of the report easily accessible, and hosted an event in the European Parliament around the report.

illustrating the crisis in Mozambique



© Aurore Vegas, FoE Europe

Young Friends of the Earth 2022



© FoE Europe

Young Friends of the Earth Europe is a grassroots network of young people and youth organisations working for social and environmental justice on a local, national and European level. We're active in over 20 countries across Europe, and bring together powerful local Young Friends of the Earth groups. We work in cooperation with both Friends of the Earth Europe and Friends of the Earth International, and share a common vision and mission.

Our common understanding of the world and vision of a just system for everyone unites us, and we take action on climate justice, food and agriculture, and sustainability education. We are an inclusive network committed to organising, working together and campaigning in an intersectional way. We are proud to be a grassroots network that is owned and led by its young members. We work in a horizontal and democratic way, where all members count equally and all voices are heard.

In 2022, the Young FoEE network brought together 40 young folks at the European Youth Democracy Camp to discuss, learn and exchange about this labyrinth called the EU, and what young people can do to make a difference. Movement building, campaigning and resilient activism were central on the agenda.

YOUNG Friends of the Earth Europe

At the Young FoEE Network Gathering, organisers and communicators working on the topics of Climate Justice and Agriculture got together to learn about intersectionality and climate justice and about how to communicate about the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the role of youth. Participants also worked on campaign creation, and engaged in a Volunteers Programme for the YFoEE network

The Steering Group is made up of up to eight volunteers elected from the network. They are responsible for coordinating the ongoing work and development of Young Friends of the Earth Europe. Current members are: Dimitra Kaneva, 24, Bulgaria; Tiziana Pipp, 18, Croatia; Tea Goßlau, 22, Germany; Sara Mariza Vryonidi, 28, Cyprus; Cara Clarke, Ireland; Ana Mtchedlishvili, 25, Georgia; Alternate members: Sathe Miah, 22, United Kingdom.

Solidarity Work 2022



© Milieudéfense

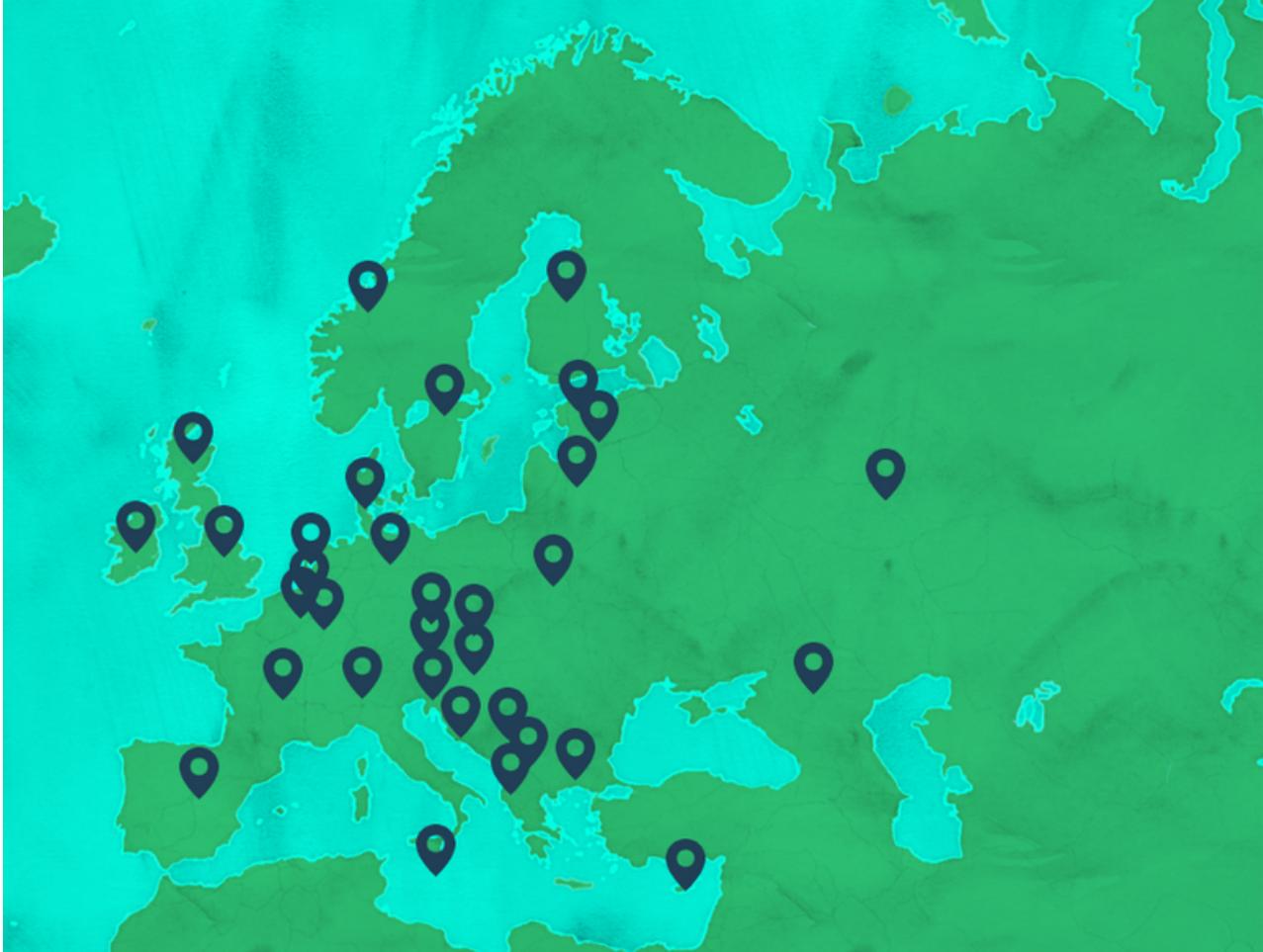
We support grassroots activism by carrying out solidarity work with our member groups, grassroots organisations and impacted communities in Europe and around the world. In 2022, our solidarity work focused on supporting civil society in Ukraine and Russia and on exposing the impact of multinational companies on peoples and nature.

In December the EU agreed on an important law to fight global deforestation and forest degradation driven by EU production and consumption. We brought campaigners from the Global South defending the rights of local communities to express their needs of the new EU anti-deforestation law.

We work to support local communities and organisations to protect their territories.... It is time to address the drivers of deforestation and to recognise the impact of consumption on communities in Global South!

Tatiana Rodríguez Maldonado, General Coordinator at Censat Agua Viva/Friends of the Earth Colombia during her tour of the EU institutions:

Member Highlights 2022



Category 1: Resisting false, providing real solutions



Category 3: Stronger together / Networking



Category 2: Dismantle corporate, build people power



Category 4: Movement building and mobilisation for system change

#Youth4Clean Air



© EDEN center

EDEN - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH ALBANIA

We developed a brand-new campaign on clean air, the climate crisis and youth activism: #Youth4CleanAir. This campaign boosted young people's awareness of environmental issues and the significance of their role and voice. We mobilised more than 250 youth from five cities, organised workshops and supported them to develop concrete recommendations directed to their mayors for improving the air quality in their cities and minimising climate change effects.

1



Regulate New GMOs!



© Christopher Glanzl / GLOBAL 2000

GLOBAL 2000 - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH AUSTRIA

Our campaign and online petition for the regulation and labelling of New GMOs in food was supported by a Europe-wide alliance of environmental, farmers' and consumers' associations. 420,757 citizens requested the responsible ministers Johannes Rauch (consumer protection), Norbert Totschnig (agriculture) and Leonore Gewessler (environment) to advocate against a weakening of the GMO legislation on European Union level. Consequently, the Austrian federal government is expected to block the current EU GMO legislation.

2



Fighting "forever chemicals"



© vzw Climaxi

CLIMAXI - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BELGIUM (FLANDERS)

"Forever chemicals" - per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) - are highly persistent and don't break down in our bodies or the environment. Despite being extremely harmful, they are frequently used: criminal levels of PFAS have been found in earthworks, landfills and incinerators. We mobilised local committees to tackle this toxic situation. They studied the files and permits, asked questions in the Flemish Parliament, hit the Belgian and Dutch press dozens of times, filed hundreds of objections against various projects and started legal processes to fight PFAS. A first success: The Belgian government tightened up the PFAS permits. However, the fight for good legislation, control and remediation of these toxic substances continues.

3



Water management and resilience



LES AMIS DE LA TERRE BELGIQUE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BELGIUM (WALLONIA)

Around 100 participants attended our conference on water management and resilience. We spent a whole day discussing and exchanging with experts, partners and citizens on how to develop and foster water resilience both at our homes and in society in general. Through speeches and round tables, but also concrete and practical workshops, participants learned essentials of water saving, composting toilets, water management, water filtration, rainwater systems and much more.

4



Successful advocacy at the Council of Europe



© Vladimir Tadić

CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT/FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Like all countries that have signed the Council of Europe's Berne Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, Bosnia and Herzegovina is required to provide adequate protection for high-value biodiversity sites. In 2020, together with other organisations, we had filed a complaint to the Council of Europe calling out our government for not mitigating the harmful impact of planned hydropower projects in the upper Neretva area. In 2022, we could finally celebrate the success of this appeals procedure: The Council of Europe called for urgent protection of the environment and biodiversity in the upper Neretva River.

5



The Air of Sofia is Not a Landfill



© Stratospheric Productions

ZA ZEMIATA - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BULGARIA

We launched an anti-incineration campaign back in 2008 when Sofia faced a waste transportation crisis. The mayor planned to build a waste incineration plant near the city center and we campaigned against it. In 2021, we organised a multimedia action called “The air of Sofia is not a landfill,” projecting artworks and messages on district heating cooling towers. The performance attracted public attention to the need for sustainable solutions to waste management, car traffic, and solid fuel heating. Widespread media coverage helped us raise public awareness. The outcome is a big win for us: By the end of 2022, Sofia was set to lose European funding for the incinerator.

6



The Garden is Ours



© Sara Mariza Vryonidi, FoE Cyprus

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH CYPRUS

We played a vital role in building a movement called “The Garden is Ours”. The movement aimed at protecting the city’s historical public garden from being turned into a privately sponsored theme park, made of plastic and concrete. We managed to mobilise thousands of citizens, receive backing by government departments and MPs, all through constant media attention. With our people power we advocated for a public consultation, transparency and compliance with the law through demonstrations, actions, meetings with stakeholders. Ultimately, we filed an appeal to the Court and although we could not yet stop the project as the corporate interests were given priority, we might win the case in 1-2 years.

7



Energy for People



HNUTÍ DUHA - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH CZECHIA

According to a study we carried out together with a platform of Czech social organisations, 910 000 people out of 10 million Czech citizens live in a state of energy poverty. This energy poverty, caused by high prices of fossil fuels and by inefficient housing, affects mainly families with children and solitary female seniors. In response to the energy crisis together with social NGOs, we launched a campaign named “Energy for People”, which helps people at risk of energy poverty by insulating their houses and by lobbying for systemic solutions. Thanks to our work the government launched a new funding program for seniors and impoverished families. These people can now upgrade their windows or thermally insulate their roofs. Wider programs for households with low income are being prepared with our support and participation.

8



Fighting false dairy claims



NOAH - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH DENMARK

The Danish dairy giant Arla launched a campaign selling their organic products as CO2-neutral based on alleged reductions through greenhouse gas off-sets. We filed a joint complaint with the national consumers' organisation to The Environmental and Food Complaints Board about Arla spreading misleading information and false promises. After the revelation that the rainforest areas Arla claimed to protect burned down, Arla withdrew its campaign and acknowledged the issue of carbon off-setting.

9



Just Transition



EESTI ROHELINE LIIKUMINE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH ESTONIA

We organised a just transition conference in Ida-Virumaa, our one and only just transition region, in December. Speakers from both national and local levels across different sectors discussed the additional needs for a meaningful just transition (apart from economic diversification), centering our conference around energy efficiency and community energy challenges in the region. The conference was held in Estonian with Russian interpretation, ensuring access to both Estonian and Russian-speaking audiences. We also secured media coverage related to the conference, both before and after the event. We consider this conference a very solid starting point for many future discussions that we will be having in the region in the future.

10


Journalists revealing greenwashing



© Maan Ystävät

MAAN YSTÄVÄT - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH FINLAND FINLAND

The media plays a key role in shaping the narrative around climate change but in Finland, journalists have struggled to challenge the discourses put forward by big businesses and investors. We developed a journalist training concept to build the media's capacity to critically examine private sector PR on climate action. The training consisted of webinars and a two-day workshop with Finnish and international experts where journalists gained tools to unpack greenwashing and discussed climate journalism's responsibilities to the public. Following the training, there have been more articles on companies' climate (in)action in Finnish media.

11


The BNP case



© Basile Mesré-Barjon

LES AMIS DE LA TERRE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH FRANCE

In October 2022, together with two other organisations (Oxfam France and Notre Affaire à Tous), we launched an unprecedented worldwide legal action against a bank for the risks caused by its financing of fossil fuels. This campaign, named "The BNP Case" targets the French bank BNP Paribas because it is the leading European financier of fossil fuel expansion. We therefore point to its responsibility in the climate crisis. The objective is to force BNP Paribas to stop its financial support for new fossil fuel projects, and that this obligation then applies to all financial actors. Citizens around the world can help us by supporting this unprecedented action by signing the petition available here: <https://bnp-case.com>.

12


Virgin forest protection campaign



THE GREENS MOVEMENT OF GEORGIA - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH GEORGIA

In 2021, the Georgian government proposed amendments to the Forest Code of Georgia, on regaining the status of a forest. But the document only partially improves the forest land registration systems, and leaves loopholes" for deforestation and fragmentation of forest ecosystems. Therefore, in collaboration with CENN and Human Rights Center we published an evaluation and recommendations for amendments to be introduced by the Georgian Government in Article 13, Forest Code of Georgia. The process of discussions is still ongoing.

13


Stopping the climate-damaging A20



Stopping © Jörg Farys / BUND

BUND - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH GERMANY

In view of the effects of the climate crisis, we work for a transition to more sustainable mobility. In 2022, the Federal Administrative Court upheld our lawsuit against the first construction phase of the A20 motorway. In doing so, it stopped the most climate-damaging project of the long-outdated federal transport route plan for the time being. Much of the A20 coastal motorway is planned through valuable bog and marshland. Building this highway would destroy 19,000 hectares of natural landscape. The construction, operation and maintenance of the A20 would emit an additional 90,000 tons of CO2 every year.

14



First Hungarian accredited climate training for teachers



© MTVSZ/FoE Hungary

MAGYAR TERMÉSZETVÉDŐK SZÖVETSÉGE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH HUNGARY

LÉPTÉK: this is the abbreviation for the first official climate training for teachers in Hungary. It is difficult to translate into English. The meaning itself is a combination of sufficiency and progress, and the individual letters form an acronym for "The Inspiring Climate Training with an Experiential Calendar". Co-developed with two of our member organisations, this training was made for all our members to adapt and deliver – which many already did. We are not only transferring knowledge, but also provide experiential tools for a whole school year, and strengthen links between teachers, schools and NGOs.

15



Solar panels to schools



© FoE Ireland

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH IRELAND

Planning regulations often make it difficult and expensive for schools to install solar panels. To fix this, we mobilised schools and the public to put pressure on the government to change the planning regulations. We built up an appetite for solar energy among schools by running a competition for schools to win solar panels for their schools. We told inspiring stories about these winning schools and their solar journeys through film making, animation and more. We pushed the government to update planning regulations so that schools no longer need to apply for planning permission to install solar. The government also committed to provide funding to install solar panels on every school in the country!

16



For greener villages and cities



MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH LUXEMBOURG

In July 2022, the temperatures almost reached an all time high in Luxemburg, as they did in many other European regions. In the context of our campaign "Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Diefer" ("For greener villages and cities"), we took infrared images in their capital comparing highly sealed streets and public places exposed to direct sunlight to walkways sheltered by tree avenues or public green spaces. The images show temperature differences of up to 25°C. The press coverage was great and on social media alone, we reached more than 45 000 people. A huge success in the Luxemburgish context.

17



Faces of the Field



© FoE Malta

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH MALTA

Uçuħ Tar-Raba' (Faces of the Field) showcased the portraits and stories of 10 Maltese Farmers to the general public. Through the photography of Darrin Zammit Lupi, a prominent photojournalist, the exhibition aimed to illustrate the importance of supporting local farmers. The interviews embarked on an exploration of the farmers' genuine passion for agriculture which, in the face of several struggles, serves as the fuel that keeps them going. During a precarious moment for food security on our islands, their stories also helped investigate how European policies impact food production locally.

18



This Letter Changes Everything



© Milieudefensie / Roos van Trommelen

MILIEUDEFENSIE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NETHERLANDS

In early 2022, we sent a letter to 29 major polluters urging them to align their climate plans with the Paris Agreement and the verdict in our historic Climate Case against Shell. Over 40,000 citizens signed the letter, which was published in a leading Dutch financial daily under the title 'This Letter Changes Everything'. All 29 companies submitted their plans, but they are shockingly inadequate, achieving no more than 19% CO2 reduction by 2030. We called on the government, along with 60,000 citizens, to halt climate funds for these companies. However, Pension Fund ABP and Albert Heijn, the Netherlands' largest supermarket, published new plans in December 2022, committing to the 45% CO2 reduction objective by 2030. A huge success!

19



Stop Arctic Oil



© Naturvernforbundet

NATURVERNFORBUNDET - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NORWAY

In 2022, we stopped Equinor from pumping up oil in the Arctic. Equinor's plans were to put the Wisting oil field into operation in 2028 and then pump for at least 30 year - eight years after the world must have zero emissions. We have always pointed out the financial risk involved in developing an oil field very far north in a demanding area with no existing infrastructure nearby, and their plans received massive public criticism. In November, Equinor announced that it has postponed the investment decision until 2026. New oil fields in the Arctic are becoming increasingly less of a threat!

20



The future of agriculture in Poland and in Europe



© Polish Ecological Club in Krakow, Gliwice Chapter

POLSKI KLUB EKOLOGICZNY - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH POLAND

In May we co-organised the international conference "Sustainable agriculture for sustainable sea – the future of agriculture in Poland and in Europe" GRASS 2022, in cooperation with the Coalition Living Earth and the Coalition Clean Baltic. This hybrid event allowed over 150 people from all over the world to discuss the complex issues surrounding the future of Polish and European agriculture. The proposals of the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) were discussed, and the participants debated on how to prepare for the upcoming challenges.

21



Offshore Workers' Demands for a Just Energy Transition



© Peter Iain Campbell www.peteriaincampbell.co.uk/

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SCOTLAND

Over the past two years, we've come together with offshore oil and gas workers to help them develop demands for a just energy transition. These demands, finally published in 2022, lay out a comprehensive plan that would protect jobs and communities as well as the climate. They include removing barriers that make it harder for oil and gas workers to move into the renewable industry; ensuring safety, job security and fair pay across the energy industry; and sharing the benefits of our energy system fairly, with public investment in energy companies and communities. Oil and gas workers are ready to lead a just transition away from fossil fuels. Now we need to work with them to make it happen.

22



Big win for regional decarbonisation



PRIATELIA ZEME CEPA AND PRIATELIA ZEME SPZ - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SLOVAKIA

After almost 20 years of work, we managed to create favorable conditions for sustainable energy planning at regional level. Persistent, seemingly ineffective attempts finally proved successful. Following the approval of our demands under the binding National Energy and Climate Plan 2030, the government has earmarked almost €70 million for new planning infrastructure for regional decarbonisation, which will be co-financed by the government and EU structural and investment funds. We thus concluded a key first stage of the transition from the current subsidy-based unsustainable development of energy, towards self-sufficient, ecological and socially just regional energy, and thereby strengthening the economic stability of the regions.

23



New energy cooperative in Slovenia



© Focus

FOCUS ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SLOVENIA

We drove the effort to establish Zeleni Hrastnik, an energy cooperative in a former mining region in Slovenia. We managed to include the municipality in an effort to gain credibility and resources for the cooperative. We facilitated a bottom-up process of establishing the cooperative, and we are one of its founders. Currently Zeleni Hrastnik is setting up the largest community solar plant in Slovenia. We are optimistic that Zeleni Hrastnik will spark a larger wave of energy cooperatives as many municipalities are already interested in following the example. Let's bring power to the people.

24



Power to the people



© FoE Spain

AMIGOS DE LA TIERRA - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SPAIN

“Tomemos la energía” is our campaign to empower people to “take the energy”. The current energy sector is one of the main emitters of greenhouse gases and these companies have an oligopoly that controls the market and enrich themselves while the situation for people is increasingly financially unsustainable. Our local groups have organised multiple workshops to show that people are able to generate, distribute and consume their own energy. We reached over 1,000 people in person, setting a milestone on community energy.

25



The People's Forum



© Kandindé

JORDENS VÄNNER - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SWEDEN

The climate conference Stockholm +50 received a lot of criticism for not being inclusive, and for not focusing on real action. Together with other civil society organisations, we therefore chose to create an alternative conference ourselves, the People's Forum, with a broad program that raised and discussed real solutions. The Forum gathered groups from the FoE network as well as other organisations from Brazil, Guatemala and Mozambique, bringing a perspective directly from countries affected by today's climate change. Txai Surui, an Indigenous activist from Kandidé and Greta Thunberg participated in the huge demonstration that ended the People's Forum.

26



Commune OuVerte



PRO NATURA - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SWITZERLAND

While urbanisation, infrastructure development and agriculture intensification are rapidly destroying biodiversity in many parts of Switzerland, we launched the "Commune OuVerte" project, that aims to mobilise and help communities to reverse that trend through a process of joint identification and restoration of natural values. Starting two years ago with two pilot villages, we provided expertise and support to identify their most important pieces of nature and agree on measures to maintain or restore them, as well as to get those places connected into a network of life and diversity. 20 municipalities of West Switzerland have now engaged in this process and agreed, with a little help from us, how they can make nature thrive again.

27



Key Figures 2022

7

countries decided to withdraw from the ECT

500

European Commission meetings with representatives and lobbyists of oil, gas and coal companies revealed.

1 800

participants in online Right to Energy Forum

17 000

views of our ECT dinosaur video

1 054 973

signed the European Citizens Initiative "Save Bees And Farmers"

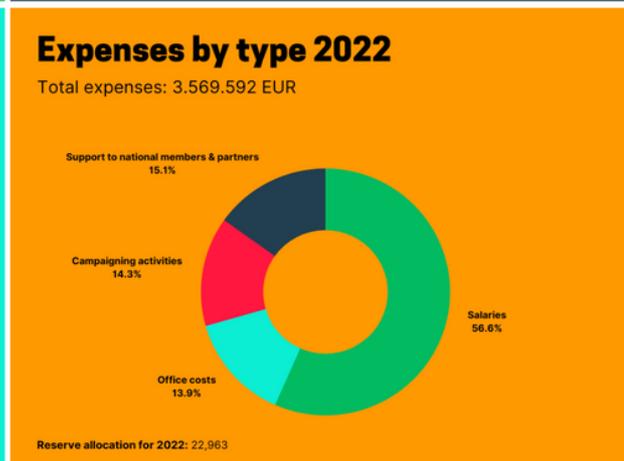
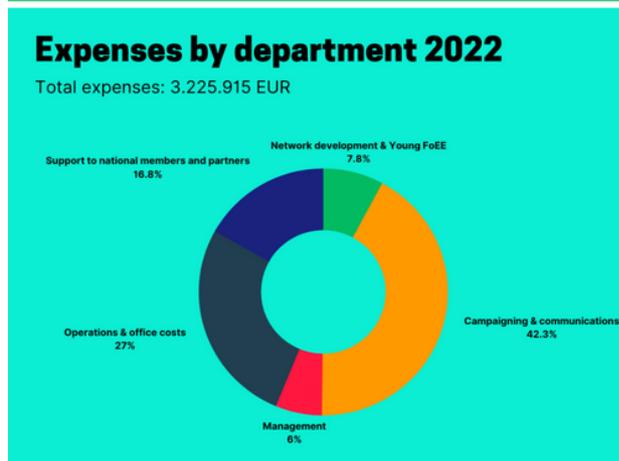
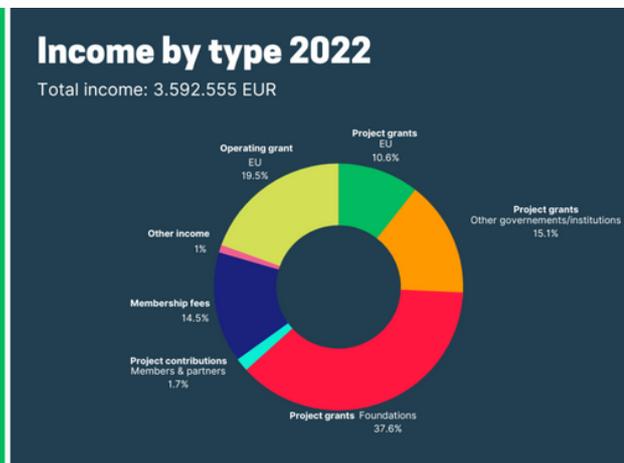
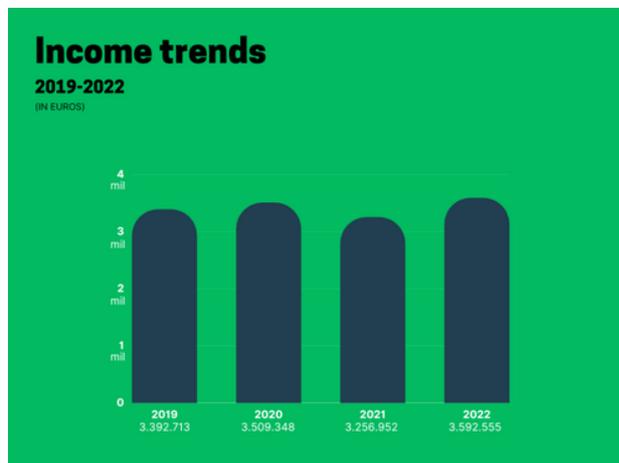
Our Funding 2022

Financial information 2022

Our income remained stable in 2022 compared to recent years.

We continued to maintain a good balance between funding sources, with EU funding representing 30% of our income. We continued to significantly increase the proportion of our income from charitable foundations.

A total of 22 funders together with our member groups have contributed to our income. We avoided, therefore, major dependencies on too few funding sources. The vast majority of our funders have continued to support our work and we expect ongoing cooperation in 2023 as well.



EU Transparency Register no. 9825553393-31

* Numbers may not add up due to rounding. All figures rounded to the nearest Euro.

Full copies of Friends of the Earth Europe's accounts are available from the Belgian national bank at www.nbb.be from 1st July 2022. Quote company number 0443.252.089. Details of our funding can be found on our website: www.friendsoftheearth.eu/our-funding.

Our Funders

Friends of the Earth Europe's work would not be possible without the support of our donors. We would like to thank the following institutions and foundations for helping fund our work:

EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS



European Commission
Directorate General
Environment (European
Climate Infrastructure and
Environment Executive
Agency – CINEA) LIFE
programme



European Commission
Directorate General
Agriculture
– CAP Info Measures



European Parliament
Directorate
General Communications



European Parliament



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



The European Youth Foundation
of the Council of Europe

GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Netherlands

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Federal Ministry
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based on a decision of the German Bundestag

German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature
Conservation and Nuclear Safety

FOUNDATIONS

European Climate Foundation
Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer
Funders for Fair Trade
Grace Foundation
Isvara Foundation
Marin Community Foundation
Minor Foundation for Major Challenges
Network of European Foundations
New Venture Fund
Open Society Initiative for Europe
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors,
Swiss Philanthropy Foundation
Wallace Global Foundation
Wellspring Foundation



Thank you!

A participant at Friends of the Earth France's climate camp. © Revol

Thank you also to our national member groups and to Friends of the Earth International.

MOBILISE! RESIST! TRANSFORM!

Albania, Tirana EDEN | Friends of the Earth Albania. **Austria, Vienna** GLOBAL 2000 | GLOBAL 2000. **Belgium – Wallonie, Namur** Les Amis de la Terre | Friends of the Earth Wallonia & Brussels. **Belgium – Flanders, Gent** Friends of the Earth Vlaanderen & Brussel | Friends of the Earth Flanders & Brussels. **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Banja Luka** Centar za životnu sredinu | Friends of the Earth Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Bulgaria, Sofia** Za Zemiata | Friends of the Earth Bulgaria. **Croatia, Zagreb** Zelena Akcija | Friends of the Earth Croatia. **Cyprus, Limassol** Friends of the Earth | Friends of the Earth Cyprus. **Czech Republic, Brno** Hnutí Duha | Rainbow Movement. **Denmark, Copenhagen** NOAH | NOAH Friends of the Earth Denmark. **England/Wales/Northern Ireland, London** Friends of the Earth | Friends of the Earth. **Estonia, Tartu** Eesti Roheline Liikumine | Estonian Green Movement. **Finland, Turku** Maan Ystävät Ry | Friends of the Earth Finland. **France, Montreuil** Les Amis de la Terre | Friends of the Earth France. **Georgia, Tbilisi** Sakhartvelos Mtsvaneta Modzraoba | Greens Movement of Georgia. **Germany, Berlin** Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland | Friends of the Earth Germany. **Hungary, Budapest** Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége | National Society of Conservationists. **Ireland, Dublin** Friends of the Earth | Friends of the Earth Ireland. **Latvia, Riga** Zemes Draugi | Friends of the Earth Latvia. **Lithuania, Kaunas** Lietuvos Zaliuju Judėjimas | Lithuanian Green Movement. **Luxembourg, Luxembourg** Mouvement Ecologique | Ecological Movement. **Macedonia, Skopje** Dvizhenje na Ekologistite na Makedonija | Ecologist's Movement of Macedonia. **Malta, Valletta** Moviment għall-Ambjent | Friends of the Earth Malta. **The Netherlands, Amsterdam** Vereniging Milieudefensie | Friends of the Earth Netherlands. **Norway, Oslo** Norges Naturvernforbund | Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature. **Poland, Krakow** Polski Klub Ekologiczny | Polish Ecological Club. **Russia, St. Petersburg** Russian Social-Ecological Union | Friends of the Earth Russia. **Scotland, Edinburgh** Friends of the Earth Scotland | Friends of the Earth Scotland. **Slovakia, Banská Bystrica** Priatel'ia Zeme – Slovensko | Friends of the Earth Slovakia. **Slovenia, Ljubljana** Focus | Friends of the Earth Slovenia. **Spain, Madrid** Amigos de la Tierra | Friends of the Earth Spain. **Sweden, Gothenburg** Jordens Vänner | Friends of the Earth Sweden. **Switzerland, Basel** Pro Natura | Friends of the Earth Switzerland.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE The European network's representative at the heart of the European Union campaigning for sustainable solutions to benefit the planet, people and our future, influencing European and EU policy and raising public awareness on environmental issues.

friendsoftheearth.eu

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