

2024



ANNUAL
REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

IN 2024, EYFA CARRIED OUT SEVERAL IMPACTFUL ACTIVITIES CENTRED ON **CLIMATE JUSTICE, SOCIAL EQUALITY**, AND SUPPORT FOR **MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES**.

IN JUNE 2024, WE CO-ORGANISED THE **OUR LIFE, OUR LAND!** FOOD AUTONOMY FESTIVAL. OVER THREE DAYS, THE FESTIVAL GATHERED COLLECTIVES, ACTIVISTS, FARMERS, AND ACADEMICS TO DISCUSS POLITICAL STRUGGLES RELATED TO FOOD SYSTEMS AND AGRICULTURE. THE EVENT FOCUSED ON THREE MAIN THEMES: SOCIAL JUSTICE IN FOOD SYSTEMS, RESISTING CORPORATE AGROCHEMICAL CONTROL, AND PRACTISING FOOD AUTONOMY THROUGH OPEN DISCUSSIONS, HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

ANOTHER OF THE KEY EVENTS WE HELD IN 2024 WAS THE **DECOLONIAL CLIMATE JUSTICE GATHERING**, HELD FROM THE 20TH TO THE 25TH OF AUGUST NEAR AMSTERDAM. THIS SIX-DAY EVENT, CALLED RIGHT TO COME! RIGHT TO STAY!, BROUGHT TOGETHER BIPOC, MIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND ACTIVISTS TO DISCUSS CLIMATE JUSTICE AND FORCED MIGRATION. THE GATHERING AIMED TO HIGHLIGHT HOW THE COMMUNITIES MOST AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE ARE OFTEN THOSE CONTRIBUTING THE LEAST TO IT. THE WORKSHOPS FOCUSED ON EMPOWERMENT, SUSTAINABLE ACTIVISM, AND SOLIDARITY, OFFERING PARTICIPANTS A CHANCE TO NETWORK AND SHARE STRATEGIES FOR SELF-ORGANISATION.

THE **INTERSECTIONAL ANTI-RACISM EVENT**, HELD IN BERLIN ON AUGUST 11 WAS ALSO A HIGHLIGHT OF 2024. THIS GATHERING FOCUSED ON UNITING STRUGGLES ACROSS DIFFERENT REGIONS, PARTICULARLY ADDRESSING THE VIOLENCE AND GENOCIDE FACED BY BLACK POPULATIONS IN SUDAN, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC), HAITI, AND PALESTINE. THE EVENT EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR SOLIDARITY AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT GLOBALIZED ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE AND RACISM.

THE ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY EYFA IN 2024 ARE CRITICAL TO THE ORGANISATION'S MISSION OF FOSTERING SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND RACIAL JUSTICE, PARTICULARLY FOR MARGINALISED AND UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS.

1. FOCUS ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

THE OUR LIFE, OUR LAND! IS CRUCIAL TO EYFA'S MISSION AS IT INTERSECTS WITH SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE. BY FOCUSING ON FOOD AUTONOMY, THE OUR LIFE, OUR LAND! EMPHASISES THE POLITICAL NATURE OF FOOD SYSTEMS AND ADDRESSES ISSUES LIKE COLONIALISM, RACISM, AND CORPORATE CONTROL. EYFA'S WORK CENTRES ON EMPOWERING GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS, AND THE FESTIVAL PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR BUILDING COLLECTIVE RESISTANCE AND SOLIDARITY AGAINST EXPLOITATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES. ADDITIONALLY, THE OUR LIFE, OUR LAND! NURTURES RESILIENCE WITHIN ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS BY ENCOURAGING KNOWLEDGE-SHARING AND COLLABORATION. THESE EXCHANGES OF IDEAS HELP PARTICIPANTS ENVISION AND BUILD SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE DOMINANT FOOD SYSTEM, WHICH ALIGNS WITH EYFA'S GOALS OF SUPPORTING SYSTEMIC CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE. THE EVENT'S PARTICIPATORY FORMAT STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY NETWORKS, FOSTERING LONG-TERM ENGAGEMENT AND COOPERATION. IN COLLABORATION WITH ASEED EUROPE AND OTHER PARTNERS, THIS FESTIVAL ALIGNS WITH EYFA'S LARGER AGENDA OF INTERSECTIONAL ACTIVISM, PROMOTING AUTONOMY, AND EMPOWERING MARGINALISED GROUPS IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR LAND AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY.

2. EMPOWERING MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

THE INTERSECTIONAL ANTI-RACISM EVENT HELD IN BERLIN EXEMPLIFIES EYFA'S FOCUS ON CREATING INCLUSIVE AND INTERSECTIONAL PLATFORMS FOR DIALOGUE.

THIS EVENT CENTRED ON LINKING THE STRUGGLES OF BLACK COMMUNITIES FACING SYSTEMIC VIOLENCE AND GENOCIDES IN PLACES LIKE SUDAN, THE DRC, HAITI, AND PALESTINE, SITUATING THESE WITHIN A BROADER FIGHT AGAINST GLOBALISED ENVIRONMENTAL AND RACIAL INJUSTICE. BY HOSTING EVENTS THAT EXPLICITLY CONNECT DIFFERENT GLOBAL STRUGGLES, EYFA FOSTERS AN INTERNATIONALIST APPROACH, ENCOURAGING ACTIVISTS FROM VARIOUS REGIONS TO SEE THEIR FIGHTS AS PART OF A COLLECTIVE RESISTANCE. THIS APPROACH IS CRITICAL FOR EYFA'S WORK, AS IT EXPANDS THE ORGANISATION'S SCOPE BEYOND EUROPE, LINKING LOCAL MOVEMENTS TO GLOBAL INJUSTICES.

IT ALSO PROMOTES THE IDEA THAT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM THE FIGHT AGAINST SYSTEMIC RACISM AND VIOLENCE—AN INTERSECTIONAL UNDERSTANDING THAT IS CENTRAL TO EYFA'S GOALS. THE TRANS EMPOWERMENT FILM EXCHANGE (TEFE) IS A CRITICAL INITIATIVE THAT ALIGNS WITH EYFA'S MISSION OF EMPOWERING MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES, SPECIFICALLY TRANS*, INTERSEX, AND NON-BINARY INDIVIDUALS. BY PROVIDING A SIX-DAY PROGRAMME OF WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING FOCUSED ON FILMMAKING AND COLLABORATION, TEFE OFFERS A CREATIVE PLATFORM FOR PARTICIPANTS TO BUILD THEIR SKILLS, DEVELOP PROJECTS, AND NETWORK WITH OTHER TRANS* FILMMAKERS. PRIORITISING BIPOC AND OTHER MARGINALISED INDIVIDUALS, THE PROGRAMME NOT ONLY FOSTERS INCLUSIVITY BUT ALSO STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY BONDS WITHIN THE TRANS* FILMMAKING SPHERE.

3. BUILDING RESILIENCE AND COMMUNITY

THROUGH EVENTS LIKE THE DECOLONIAL CLIMATE JUSTICE GATHERING: RIGHT TO COME, RIGHT TO STAY!, EYFA NOT ONLY AMPLIFIES THE VOICES OF THOSE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO BUILDING RESILIENCE AMONG ACTIVISTS.

THESE EVENTS ARE STRUCTURED TO FOSTER LONG-TERM SOLIDARITY, OFFERING WORKSHOPS ON SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTIVISM AND MENTAL RESILIENCE. BY FOCUSING ON THE MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF ACTIVISTS, EYFA ENSURES THAT GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS CAN MAINTAIN MOMENTUM, EVEN IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY. THIS SUSTAINABILITY IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE ORGANISATION'S BROADER OBJECTIVE OF SUPPORTING LONG-TERM SYSTEMIC CHANGE RATHER THAN SHORT-TERM INTERVENTIONS.

4. NETWORKING AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

BOTH EVENTS PROVIDE INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPANTS TO CONNECT, SHARE EXPERIENCES, AND LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER. THE INTERSECTIONAL ANTI-RACISM EVENT, IN PARTICULAR, EMPHASISES PARTICIPATORY CONVERSATIONS, WHERE INPUTS FROM SPEAKERS LEAD INTO BROADER DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL ATTENDEES. THIS MODEL OF ENGAGEMENT REFLECTS EYFA'S GOAL OF CREATING DECENTRALISED, HORIZONTAL PLATFORMS FOR KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE. NETWORKING AMONG ACTIVISTS STRENGTHENS THE OVERALL CAPACITY OF GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS ACROSS REGIONS, HELPING THEM TO COORDINATE MORE EFFECTIVELY AND RESPOND TO SHARED CHALLENGES WITH COLLECTIVE STRATEGIES.

THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2024 WERE ESSENTIAL TO EYFA'S MISSION OF SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS, PARTICULARLY BY FOSTERING TRANSNATIONAL SOLIDARITY, PROVIDING SPACES FOR MARGINALISED VOICES, AND LINKING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WITH BROADER STRUGGLES FOR RACIAL AND SOCIAL EQUALITY. THEY REINFORCE THE ORGANISATION'S HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ACTIVISM, ENSURING THAT THE VOICES OF THE MOST AFFECTED COMMUNITIES REMAIN AT THE FOREFRONT OF GLOBAL MOVEMENTS FOR JUSTICE.





1. ABOUT US

1.1. The EYFA story

EYFA developed from a tour that was initiated by a Swedish/German group in 1986 to save the old-growth forests in Europe: then named European Youth Forest Action. From these beginnings, EYFA has developed into a network of individuals, grassroots organisations and collectives working to transform local and international communities in their approach to environmental and social, political and economic positions. EYFA provides a platform and practical support for new radical ideas to grow into their full potential.

EYFA focuses particularly on intersectional youth-initiated activities and projects. EYFA projects are mainly for young people, giving them the opportunity to act and encouraging them to participate actively on local and international levels. A special focus is put on providing access for groups to take part in international grassroots movements. EYFA always puts effort into including youth from all corners of the continent, with different social, geographical and cultural backgrounds. EYFA's organisational structure consists of a Europe-wide network of grassroots groups, an office, and an advisory board.

1.2. What does EYFA do?

EYFA provides a platform and practical support for new radical ideas to grow into their full potential.

The international office based in Berlin oversees and executes EYFA's projects and activities, coordinating essential administrative, financial and communication tasks. Additionally, it serves as the network's primary contact point for disseminating local information.

EYFA supports and encourages grassroots projects and initiatives in the following ways:

- Organizing various spaces for exchange, forums, trainings, network gatherings, projects and activities;
- Promoting innovative ways of working in the field of social and environmental activism, such as non-formal participatory education, consensus-based decision-making, art and activism, free and open source software;
- Sharing knowledge on essential topics such as meeting facilitation, fundraising, civil society strategizing, conflict management, campaigning, mental health in civil society organizing.
- Networking with and supporting grassroots movements and civil society organizations across Europe committed to similar broad objectives and political priorities;
- Communicating information on environmental and social justice issues, and amplifying the work of groups, communities, movements, and NGOs within our networks, by disseminating their events, publications and call outs;
- Addressing and challenging the structures of systemic inequalities such as racism, colonialism, classism, ableism or anthropocentrism, that our European societies reproduce even within environmental justice and grassroots movements.

1.3. Who does EYFA support?

- EYFA is dedicated to supporting the following grassroots groups:
 1. **Youth**: We aim to empower youth organizing who are often at the forefront of social change. Our initiatives focus on providing them with the tools, knowledge, and resources to become active participants in social and environmental justice movements.
 2. **BIPoC Communities**: We prioritize the engagement and support of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPoC) communities in Europe. This includes recognizing their unique experiences and challenges within the broader context of social, environmental and climate justice.
 3. **Queer and Gendered Minorities**: We actively seek to support Queer grassroots groups or groups organized by and for gendered minorities, acknowledging their diverse experiences, challenges, but also their unique knowledge, in community organizing for socio-ecological justice.
 4. **Marginalized Communities**: Our efforts are directed towards all communities that face societal or institutional barriers to access resources, formal education, and democratic institutions. Those include, but are not limited to, communities in mobility (e.g. migrants, refugees, or forcibly displaced communities), communities subjected to class discrimination, or groups organized by and for disabled communities. We strive to amplify these groups and communities' perspectives, and to ensure they have the necessary support to engage in socio-ecological advocacy.
- By focusing on the intersections of these identities and experiences, we aim to create a holistic approach that recognizes and addresses the multifaceted nature of structural inequalities. This intersectional lens is crucial for fostering inclusive and equitable participation in social and environmental justice movements.

OUR VISION

EYFA's main aim is to encourage young people's initiative and autonomy. We strive for a world where youth from all backgrounds have access to resources that allow them to gain knowledge, skills and to raise their voices to advocate for change in their communities. A just world where they are empowered to exercise their activism and rights, while developing new ways of organizing communities based on environmental and social sustainability.

We believe that only through an intersectional and anticolonial approach we can achieve social justice for all. This approach to organizing recognizes how oppressive systems of power affect different groups differently. To identify solutions, we find it important to understand the historical factors from which problems arose.

We dream of and act on changing the current society we live in into a society based on social, environmental, racial and economic justice, advocating for lasting political changes in all its shapes and levels, including disabled youth, Black youth, queer&trans* youth, Indigenous youth, neurodiverse youth & each and all groups and identities of youth European-wide.

Towards this we have four core objectives (Capacity Building; Civic Engagement and Participatory Processes; Cross-regional; Intersectional Cooperation) and two priority areas (Social and Environmental Justice; Accessibility & Inclusion) to guide us.



1.4 EYFA's Objectives

EYFA has four core objectives at the center of everything we do:

- **Capacity Building:** EYFA strives to empower individuals and grassroots initiatives to organize against injustice and structural inequality at multiple levels, by equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to access funding and optimize the use of our common resources. Additionally, EYFA encourages and supports movement-level solidarity initiative among youth initiatives that share common goals.
- **Civic Engagement and Participatory Processes:** EYFA supports grassroots movements in creating horizontal and participatory structures, enabling communities to develop and share their own educational resources. Thanks to its long experience in civil engagement paired with the diversity of its staff and board members, EYFA also facilitates critical engagement with issues of systemic inequalities within environmental and social justice movements, such as racism, classism or ableism.
- **Cross-Regional Cooperation:** EYFA promotes collaboration among grassroots groups across Europe by initiating joint projects and encouraging the exchange of ideas, histories, and experiences, tailored to diverse political and social contexts.
- **Intersectionality:** Recognizing the inherent interconnectedness of structural injustices is central to EYFA's logical frameworks. Therefore, we adopt an intersectional approach in every aspect of our work, because we believe to be a fundamental framework through which to approach socio-ecological issues as well as community civic engagement. By addressing the multiple axes of power and oppression, EYFA aims to foster transformative social justice and inclusivity within our initiatives.

1.5 EYFA's Priorities

Over the course of EYFA's existence, the network has focused its energy on a wide variety of projects all across Europe. Out of these projects, patterns have emerged that point to some of EYFA's priorities. Developed by the network, office and Board, and re-evaluated each year at network strategy meetings, these priorities provide focus for EYFA's work.



a) Non-formal youth education

At EYFA, we prioritise Non-Formal Education (NFE) in Youth Work as an approach to political education and community organising among the youth, an approach emphasised throughout our activities, publications and communication. Throughout the years of organising these youth initiatives, we have gained significant experience in NFE that informs the planning of our activities. The pillars of NFE that EYFA has always followed and will continue to follow are active participation and cooperative learning processes, processes that centre non-hierarchical experiential and interactive learning. In order to foster active participation and encourage young participants from marginalized backgrounds to take ownership over the learning process, EYFA's activities are always accompanied by the continuous facilitation of sessions for self-reflection to insure the creation of safer spaces where the participants are empowered to give as well as receive feedback in a constructive manner throughout the gathering. EYFA also encourages horizontal decision-making as well as dissemination of information and knowledge. As a result of their experience with EYFA, groups and individuals participating in our activities should feel empowered to organize and facilitate their own workshops, mobilize consensus-based organizational tools, and share their new acquired skills with their peers, encouraging and supporting them to do the same. It is particularly important for youth groups positioning at the intersection of various marginalized identities (Queerness, racialization, disability, mobility, etc.) to take active roles in teaching, facilitating and mentoring, in order for our societies to become increasingly inclusive and peaceful.



b) Young people's access to rights through Social and Environmental Justice organizing:

In a world where social and environmental injustices are increasingly prevalent, it is crucial to focus on young people's access to rights as a central theme in our efforts. At EYFA, we recognize that communities are diverse, shaped by various backgrounds, experiences, and needs related to class, gender, sexual orientation, and race (should we add body-ability/ability status?). To advance social justice, we prioritize racial justice as a vital component of our approach, emphasizing the need to confront systemic and internalized racism within our movements. Furthermore, as environmental injustices disproportionately impact marginalized communities, their access to essential resources and basic needs becomes increasingly challenging in the face of worsening climate and environmental crises. We therefore prioritize the perspectives of marginalized communities in engaging with environmental justice, as they possess a unique perspective on the interconnectedness of various socio-ecological struggles the world is facing today, highlighting the wide gaps in social inequalities that influence the global fight against climate change and environmental destruction. By fostering an intersectional perspective, we aim to highlight the connections between social and environmental issues, advocating for the rights of those most affected. Through our various projects, we strive to illuminate the links between economic exploitation and the denial of fundamental rights. Ultimately, we empower young people to take action, aiming for a future where all individuals can enjoy safety and abundance.

c) Accessibility and Inclusion

It is important to highlight and acknowledge how different gender identities navigate the world and how systems of oppression are meant to enforce gendered, racialized or ableist biases. It is just as important to center the knowledge of these intersectional experiences in order to rethink our global structures through systems that benefit the most to the least privileged positionalities among us.

In this respect, EYFA embraces an intersectional feminist approach to acknowledge and address the complexities of gender and racial dynamics throughout all our projects and activities, where we see gender as a transversal category. While several EYFA projects focus on empowering young Women, Lesbian, Trans*, Intersex, Non-Binary & Gender Non-Confirming activists and groups in particular, we strongly believe that when it comes to the intersection of migration and race, it is particularly important to include the perspectives of masculine (be those trans*, cis or non-binary) identities as well. Therefore, Queer migrant youth of all genders are centered in our collaborations, as a way to create inclusive, aware, strong and respectful and free societies.

In addition to these positionalities, we also acknowledge the impacts of various other layers of discrimination, such as legal status, access to basic needs, language barriers, access to formal education, etc. We are therefore always striving to find innovative ways to address these structural inequalities within our structure and our activities. Examples of such efforts include centering methods of "Non-Formal Education in Youth Work" as one of our priorities, providing interpretation and translation in as many languages as possible, making our events as accessible as we can (financially, physically, sensorily) or collaborating with facilitators, moderators and trainers whose backgrounds and experiences align with the topics they address. Bringing special attention to these processes represents a crucial aspect in EYFA's work in order to facilitate effective and fruitful intersectional, cross-regional and intercultural learning exchange.





1.6 OUR STRUCTURE

1.6.1. DECISION-MAKING

Decisions are made during different meetings throughout the year. During these meetings the following is discussed: old and new projects, focus of the network, strategies and future cooperation plans. Though we do often make use of on-line meetings and decision making tools, face-to-face yearly network meetings are crucial for our work, and informal network discussions take place alongside all EYFA events. EYFA board meetings are organized once a year at the EYFA office in Berlin. The board has better insight in the works of the office this way and with everything at hand it heightens practicality.

All organizational decisions are made through reaching consensus. Consensus is a decision-making process that fully utilizes the resources of a group, seeks the agreement of most participants, and resolves or mitigates the objections of the minority to achieve the most agreeable decision. Consensus is also used during all EYFA meetings, projects and events. EYFA functions on the belief that people in a group will relate to each other in a much more fair and productive way if everyone's contribution is considered and is equal to everyone else. Consensus requires use of communication hand signals during meetings and decision making processes, and, sometimes, presence of trained facilitators and mediators.



1.6.2 EYFA OFFICE

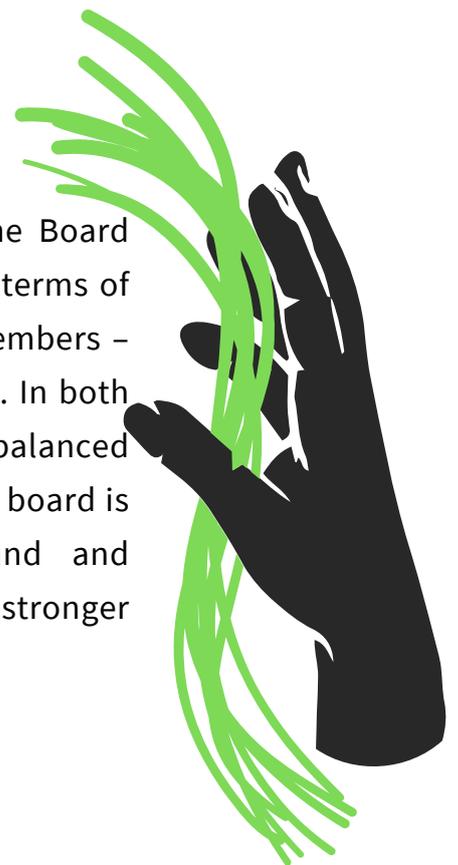
EYFA has one international office, located in Berlin. The office coordinates EYFA's activities, including administrative and financial tasks, as well as big part of the communication functions of the network. This includes producing the EYFA newsletter, acting as an information and support point for organisations in the network and as a communication liaison between local and international projects.

The office is organised collectively and non-hierarchically, meaning that all staff and volunteers are expected to take an equitable role in day-to-day tasks and decision-making processes. From watering the plants to writing applications, tasks are shared and rotated among all of those in the office.

The office also acts as a 'training ground' for young people to develop various skills, such as project coordination, fund-raising and bookkeeping. EYFA does not require office staff to arrive already equipped with all the necessary knowledge and experience to carry out their tasks. Rather, the goal is to be a place where young people can work to develop skills in a supportive environment, learning-by-doing. It is normal for staff and volunteers to work in the office from 2 to 5 years, before moving on to share their new skills with other groups and projects.

1.6.3. EYFA ADVISORY BOARD

The 'Advisory Board' oversees the work of the office. The Board provides support and advice to the office – particularly in terms of strategy and finances. Currently, there are three Board members – they are ex-EYFAs, friends and members from our Network. In both the office and the Board, effort is made to maintain balanced representation among the different corners of Europe - our board is composed by activists with very different background and identities. But, just like us, they are committed create stronger communities for a more just world.



1.6.4 EYFA NETWORK

EYFA is a network that consists of individuals, collectives and organisations from all around Europe. There are no membership rules or fees required to join the EYFA network – EYFA is open to all current grassroots and alternative youth movements focusing on environmental, social justice and alternative economics and related issues.

The EYFA network is primarily used to share information, skills and resources. It connects groups working on similar topics around Europe, and groups wanting to share experiences or gain training from one another. The network acts as a way to connect local issues and struggles trans-nationally. In particular, the network works to connect groups in east and west Europe, building solidarity among different regions.

The EYFA Network has two permanent working groups, Network Strategy and Cross-Border Collaboration, which help the international office in Berlin identify the needs of groups in the network and decide where and on what issues upcoming gatherings should focus. This ensures that EYFA consistently works towards its aims of capacity building, participatory processes and East-West networking. For each EYFA project a temporary working group is also created to support the logistics and develop the content of the project. Sometimes these groups continue working together after the project's completion.

Typically, the network has one meeting each year where the priorities and strategy of the network are decided upon and projects and activities are developed. Between meetings, members can stay in touch via mailing lists and online calls. Like all EYFA meetings, decisions are made on a consensus basis.

EYFA's work is also possible due to all kinds of support (informational, infrastructural, technical and organizational) of our allies, friendly and partner organizations, collaborators & our beloved network members:



2. Partner Organizations

Network-members & collaborators.

- Activestills (Palestine / Israel)
- Anti-oppression Circle (UK)
- Alternativna Kulturna Organizacija (Serbia)
- Aloti Farm (Germany)
- Arruda – Collective (Germany)
- Art Centre (Slovenia)
- ASEED (Netherlands)
- Atem e.V. (Germany)
- Auto*Mat (Czech Republic)
- Belarus Freedom of Speech (Belarus)
- Bla (Portugal, France, Germany)
- Black Earth Kollektiv (Germany)
- Black Liberation Collective(Germany)
- Casa Kuà (Germany)
- Campaign to Protect Pont Valley (United Kingdom)
- Carbon Trade Watch (Spain)
- Cinelogue (Germany)
- Emántes (Greece)
- Gyenjam (Austria)
- Hermanas Nómadas (Germany)
- Institute for Democracy and Human Rights (Armenia)
- Klimakollektivet (Denmark)
- Kommunikationskollektiv (Germany)
- La Bassa Mar (Spain)
- Palestine Speaks (Germany)
- Queer in Colour (Germany)
- Raíces Negras (Spain)
- Re.Generation (Romania)
- Rhythm of Resistance Istanbul (Turkey)
- Sickness Affinity Group (Germany)
- Skills for Action (Germany)
- SPINA (Poland)
- Stop Xenophobia Youth Federation (Ukraine)
- Together! (Sweden)
- Tools for Action (Germany)
- Tripod (United Kingdom)
- UKE (Croatia)
- Ulex Project (Catalunya)
- Vedegylet (Hungary)
- VOID Network (Greece)
- Vredesactie (Belgium)
- Xart Splitta
- Zali.LT (Lituania)
- Zelena akcija Zagreb (Croatia)
- We are the resistance (Spain)



3. PROJECTS

This year we were able to implement activities that served as platforms for discussion, learning, and collaboration among various collectives and individuals, specially, those directly impacted by migration, displacement and the climate crisis.

We are very thankful for each one of the team members, workshop leaders, facilitators, participants, funders and, of course, our support network. None of it would be possible without them.

We hope you will enjoying getting to know a little bit about each activity.
And maybe we meet each other on the next one!



3.1. HELP DESK

1ST JANUARY - 31ST DECEMBER. BERLIN, GERMANY.

The EYFA Help Desk project has been successfully running since 2017. Through this initiative, we provide guidance on various aspects of activism, including fundraising, sustainable practices, and inclusive organizing.

This year we started with a kick off event for help desk in January to raise awareness of the project among target groups. We worked directly with newly formed collectives led by young activists. In these sessions, we explored all the essential steps of building a collective, such as developing ideas, setting goals, creating strategies, effective communication, managing basic finances, identifying funding opportunities, and accessing resources.

Additionally, we collaborated with a member of our network—a skilled workshop facilitator specializing in funding. Together, we created a zine that compiles information on funding opportunities and provides guidance on how to write successful applications.

Our hope is that more young activists will be able to access the many funding opportunities available to them, enabling them to implement their projects and events more smoothly and successfully.

3.2 RIGHT TO COME! RIGHT TO STAY! DECOLONIAL CLIMATE JUSTICE

From August 20th to 25th, we gathered in Zeewolde, near Amsterdam, for a six-day event focused on BIPOC refugee solidarity and resistance, with a central emphasis on climate justice and forced migration. This gathering was a call for climate justice and the freedom of movement. It also served as a space to expose the connections between these issues and the capitalist exploitation of ecosystems, as well as the exploitation of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). It was an effort to unite these communities in resisting such systemic exploitation.

The workshops fostered empowerment, networking, and knowledge exchange while reflecting EYFA's commitment to addressing climate justice through a decolonial lens.

Participants highlighted the disproportionate impact of climate change on communities in the Global South and other marginalized groups, who often contribute the least to environmental degradation but bear the brunt of its consequences.



Moreover, discussions underscored how the green capitalism championed by Western Europe perpetuates exploitation. The push for renewable energy systems often relies on the extraction of minerals and metals from the Global South, continuing the cycle of exploitation in service of the Global North's economic interests.

By organizing this gathering, we sought to highlight the intersection of forced migration and environmental injustice. It provided a platform for migrants, refugees, and BIPOC communities to share their experiences and strategies for resistance. This not only empowered these groups but also contributed to building a transnational solidarity movement essential for effective activism. The gathering aligned with our broader mission to support grassroots movements by creating spaces for collaboration, education, and mutual support. It placed a strong emphasis on self-organized activism, a cornerstone of EYFA's mission to empower communities in their fight against systemic injustices.

3.3 OUR LIFE, OUR LAND! FOOD AUTONOMY!

The Our life our land, Food autonomy festival took place in June 2024. Over the course of three days, we came together to address the political struggles related to food and agriculture while strengthening our resistance to the corporate-controlled industrial food system.

We created an open and accessible space for collectives, organizations, farmers, activists, artists, young academics, and anyone fighting for social and ecological justice. The FAF served as a platform where ideas, perspectives, knowledge, and skills related to food, agriculture, and social justice were shared. It was also an opportunity to forge new relationships and deepen existing ones. Resistance requires imagining food futures outside the corporate-controlled industrial food system. At the FAF, we celebrated current alternatives and explored innovative ways to practice food autonomy.

In 2024, as people worldwide fought for their rights to live, work, and grow on their lands and for liberation from oppressive and colonial forces, we found it especially critical to emphasize the political dimensions of food and agriculture. Who has access to grow or consume food? Who holds the power to decide what can be grown and where? Who profits from agrochemical dependency? The FAF provided a space to share and learn from one another's struggles for autonomy, as well as the challenges within our movements. It was a site of resistance, solidarity, and autonomy—where we collectively challenged racism, sexism, colonialism, and oppression in all its forms.

3.4 E+ YOUTH EXCHANGE: TRANS EMPOWERMENT FILM EXCHANGE (TEFE)

We are very excited to share that the Trans Empowerment Film Exchange, a collaboration with La Bassa Mar (Spain) and Transmissions (France), was a resounding success. The program featured two distinct one-week exchange activities:

- The first activity, held from July 22nd to 28th, focused on participants with little to no experience in filmmaking and media production. We introduced basic concepts in both video theory and practice, culminating in the creation of short films together.
- The second activity, from September 19th to 27th, welcomed individuals with prior experience in the field who sought to build community with other young filmmakers.

The entire program was facilitated by Trans* and non-binary facilitators, working in a mixed BIPOC and white team, and was exclusively designed for BIPOC trans*, intersex, and non-binary participants. Both activities took place at La Bassa Mar, a seminar and retreat space in L'Ampolla, Catalunya (Spain), dedicated to trans*, intersex, non-binary, and queer people, with a focus on those impacted by racism.

The program was rich with workshops and training sessions, offering tools, resources, and shared experiences in creativity, filmmaking, and collaborative projects.



3.5 AGAINST THE RISE OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

The event "The Rise of Religious Intolerance in Europe" focused on the increasing discrimination based on religious identity in light of rising right-wing radicalism and its effects on marginalized communities. Participants emphasized the importance of solidarity among diverse groups and the need to engage with and uplift the voices of those at the intersections of race, class, religion, and sexual orientation among others. Two main themes were anti-semitism and anti-muslim racism. The workshop included a city tour which delved into the diverse migrant history and life of Kreuzberg, aiming to challenge stereotypes and highlight the significant contributions of BIPOC communities with various religious backgrounds. Lasting around an hour, the tour took participants from Prinzenstraße, in front of the swimming pool, to Südblock at Kottbusser Tor. The tour offered a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the diversity and invaluable contributions of BIPOC communities in Kreuzberg.

3.6 INTERSECTIONAL ANTI-RACISM EVENT

Struggles on the African continent, its islands or its diasporas and armed violence/genocides perpetrated against Black populations are too often made invisible and normalised. In this conversation, speakers gave us inputs from their own contexts and the ways in which Black struggles need to be connected in political discourse and action.

From Black intersectional perspectives, this exchange was about the connections between struggles and genocides like in Sudan, DRC, Haiti and Palestine, beyond slogans. The fight against globalised environmental injustice and racism affecting indigenous and Black populations alike.

This exchange was a participative conversation that included input from speakers, but also dedicated time for a broader discussion with all participants





4.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April and October 2024: Amsterdam and Berlin

Each year, our office team and Board of Directors come together for two in-person assemblies. This year, we were fortunate to meet twice in Amsterdam and Berlin.

During these meetings, we had the pleasure of welcoming a new Board member—a former EYFA team member from not so long ago. We are thrilled to have her back and deeply value her contributions, particularly her expertise and support in financial matters.

Together, we reflected on the achievements of the past year, gained deeper insights into our organization, and developed a more strategic plan for this year's activities. We also took time to evaluate our internal dynamics as an office team and devoted careful attention to strengthening our relationships with network members and funders.

4.2 NETWORK MEETING

December 6 & 7. , Berlin Germany

This year a few of our network members(new and old) gathered in Berlin for meetings co-facilitated by our partners Xart Splitta. We focused on further strengthening the network of empowerment for marginalized youth in Europe. This space and our collaborators seemed to be the best place for us to meet. We had the chance to get to know new BIPOC creatives in the field of non-formal education for youth, with emphasis on migrant LGBTQIA+++ youth.



5. Media & Publications

5.1. EYFA NEWSLETER

Our Newsletter is published twice per year. The idea is to connect with new folks and collectives, building a solidarity network and sharing all kinds of events occurring all over Europe.

Since we have started with Instagram, the Newsletters are now becoming a secondary channel. However, we still have many 'old school' friends in our circles and they do appreciate getting our emails every now and then. Our main target are young people, interested in radical education and keen on fighting for a more equal and sustainable world.

We are glad for having the opportunity to get to know more about other initiatives, sharing knowledge, exchanging their resources and encourage our readers to participate in the gatherings, camps, skill-shares and workshops, protests and actions across Europe and beyond.

5.2. WEBSITE

It has been a long journey into making our website a bit more accessible. Since 2021 we have been working on adapting our website for persons using screen readers. Las year we added captions to all of our IG posts, and we continued to do this with all of our posts ever since.



Directly on our website you can find more infos about us & what we do. However, our Instagram reaches most of the people nowadays. If you want to get to know us, please check those channels and contact us, we are always very happy to receive your messages to get in touch with new people that wish to connect with our network.

What else will you find there?

On the tab more resources, we we have compiled a list of links to learning materials, tools and websites of collectives and people that teach about accessibility and solidarity, two subjects that play an important role in the process of learning and unlearning towards the creation of a more accessible society.

On the tab **sharing is caring** you will find all of the resources and materials that we have created or collaborated with through out the years. There are various publications, articles, podcast, resource guides, etc.

On media you will have the chance to access the material used and developed during our 'Learning documentation' project.

On **freedom of movement** you will find a **resource guide** with useful links on how to navigate the never ending European bureaucracies that prevent refugees, asylum seekers, new comers and migrants to move freely within European's unfair immigration politics.

This is a collaborative tool, we keep on updating all our resources. So don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to add a resource to our website.



5.3 SOCIAL MEDIA?

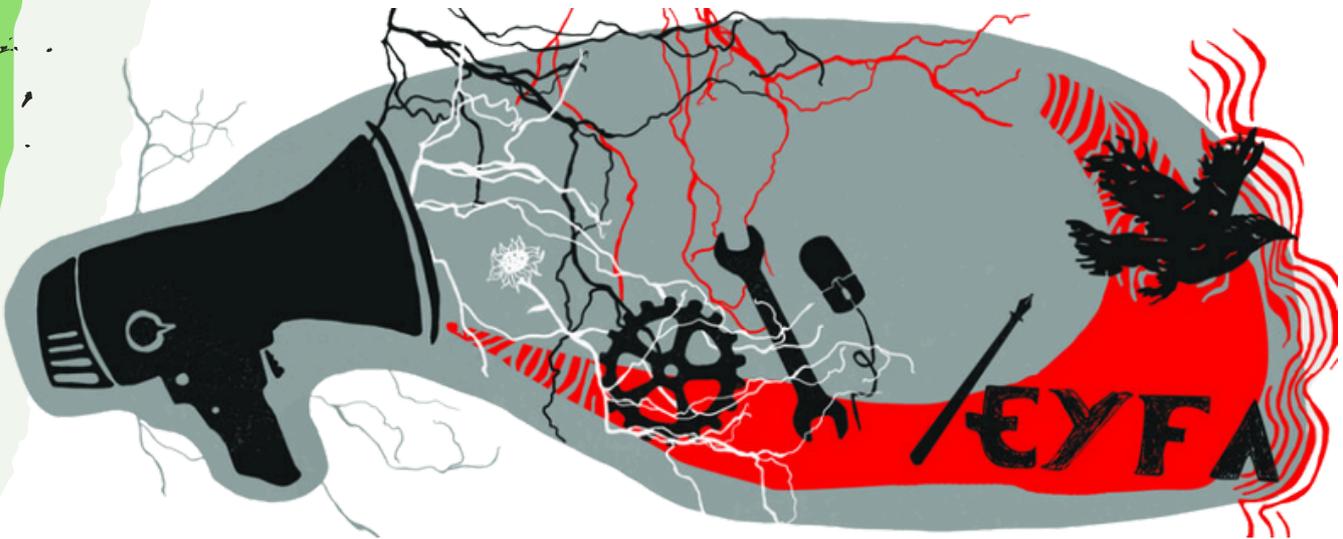
We have been using Instagram for a little over than 2 year now and we are very thankful for the connections we have been making through this platform. We want to clarify that we share the rightful critiques of Instagram, including its association with promoting superficiality, mental health challenges, and concerns about algorithmic bias. We are mindful of these issues and strive to use the platform responsibly. Despite its shortcomings, Instagram remains a powerful tool for us to connect with diverse audiences, amplify our message, and mobilize support for our cause. By leveraging its reach potential, we can inspire meaningful action while consciously promoting authenticity, inclusivity, and positive impact through our content.

Social
media is **NEVER**
safe



5.4 FURTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Report on the rise of religious intolerance in Europe
- Zine: Our life, our land
- Zine: Decolonial Climate Justice and forced migration
- Zine: Trans Empowerment Film Exchange!



HOW CAN YOU FIND US?

www.instagram.com/eyfa_berlin

www.eyfa.org

SPECIAL THANKS

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has been part of our journey this year—friends, colleagues, network members, board members, donors, collaborators, and every individual who crossed our path. This year has been intense and really nice, and it's all because of you! As we move forward, we remain committed to learning, unlearning, sharing, supporting one another, resting, resisting, loving, and spreading the kindness (and passion!) that have defined this transformative process. Thank you for being an essential part of this ongoing adventure.

Sincerely
your EYFA team



Movement
Hub



JUGEND
für Europa

Nationale Agentur Erasmus+



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

