## 2023-2024

## Biannual Report

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#### 1. Welcome

European Alternatives works to promote democracy, equality and culture beyond the nation-state and imagine, demand and enact alternatives for a viable future.

Over the past two years, civil society organizations and citizens across Europe and the world have faced an interconnected set of crises, often referred to as a "polycrisis." This term captures the overlapping and mutually reinforcing nature of challenges such as the rise of populism and nationalism, the spread of misinformation, the erosion of civil liberties, and the climate crisis. These crises are not isolated; they reflect systemic issues that demand comprehensive and transformative solutions that go beyond the nation state.

In response to this, European Alternatives has been focusing on several key areas to address root causes and promote deep

#### 1. STRENGTHENING **DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**: Countering the rise of populism, nationalism, and authoritarianism to protect media freedom, judicial independence, and digital rights.

#### 4. RETHINKING MIGRATION **AND ASYLUM POLICIES:** Advocating for humane

approaches to migration and addressing the humanitarian crises at Europe's borders.

#### 7. PROMOTING PEACE AND GLOBAL SOLIDARITY: Addressing the impacts of global conflicts on refugees and displaced persons, while emphasizing human rights in conflict zones.

2. COMBATTING MISINFORMATION AND PROMOTING DEMOCRATIC **RESILIENCE:** ADDRESSING THE SPREAD OF Fake news and ensuring public trust in democratic processes.

#### **5. FOSTERING LABOR** RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE: Protecting workers from economic precarity exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of the gig economy.

3. ADVANCING HUMAN **RIGHTS AND EQUALITY:** Tackling backsliding on LGBTIQ+ rights, genderbased violence, and women's rights while pushing for inclusive policies.

#### **6. CHAMPIONING CLIMATE ACTION:** Prioritizing sustainable policies that balance environmental protection with economic recovery.

Through these efforts, we aim to challenge structural inequalities, build democratic resilience, and foster a sustainable and just future for all. In this report you will find at a glance some of our key actions and our impact over the past two years.

## 2. About European Alternatives

European Alternatives is an ongoing experiment in creating a transnational grassroots organisation, which is committed to participation and democratic functioning, empowering its members both to influence internal decision making, and take the initiative to propose and run new activities.

We are doing this through:

- → Articulating a radical, long-term vision of democratic, just and culturally-open politics, society and culture beyond the nation-state for Europe and for the world.
- → Experimenting with forms of action that contribute to transformative change in political institutions, society, the economy and imagination.
- → Building the capacity, the mutual-awareness and connection of members, activists and organisations working in line with our values.
- → Advancing and defending human, fundamental, civic, democratic and social rights across borders.

Our values guide how we work to pursue our mission: TRANSNATIONAL AND LOCAL: we believe local and regional initiatives benefit from going beyond national boundaries and interest

TRANSDISCIPLINARY: we believe alternatives are generated at the intersection of disciplines and are enriched by diverse expertise and perspective.

<u>CREATIVE AND EXPERIMENTAL</u>: we believe in the power of the arts and culture to unlock imaginaries and in the necessity of acting and learning through experimentation.

<u>OPEN, INCLUSIVE AND FEMINIST</u>: we believe in a culturally open society and in diversity as a precondition for sustainable alternatives to emerge.

**EMPOWERING AND PARTICIPATORY:** we provide the space for citizens to network and ensure our activities and events give space for co-creation and participation.

<u>ANTI-EUROCENTRIC</u>: we believe involving other parts of the world in our reflections and activities is necessary to make new alternatives emerge.

#### **OUR STRUCTURE**

The structure of European Alternatives is composed of different groups that work in coordination that ensure the overall strategy and mission of the organisation:

- → The <u>Transnational Board of Trustees</u> is legally empowered to oversee the running of the organisation, set its strategy and approve its work-program. It does so in dialogue with individual and organisational members, local groups and our partners in our ecosystem through regular surveys, questionnaires and forums to understand the priorities and interests of the organisation.
- → The <u>Advisory Board</u> includes leading thinkers, artists and activists from throughout Europe and beyond, who advise the organisation on its message, its strategy, on formats of activities, on partners and potential stakeholders.
- → The <u>Staff members</u> of the organisation are responsible for the implementation of the work-program, its communication and ongoing coordination of the membership.

European Alternatives has legal registrations in France, Italy, Germany, Romania and the UK. The different legal entities of European Alternatives collaborate on a daily basis to realise our activities.

Each legal entity is accountable to the Transnational board and our members. European Alternatives is committed to transparency, being responsive to stakeholders and using funding in the most responsible way for long-term impact.

#### **OUR TEAM**



#### Niccolò Milanese

#### Director

Niccolò Milanese is a poet and one of the founding directors of European Alternatives. He fosters the development of the organisation, its staff and the ecosystem around European Alternatives and is the focal point for the 'learn' stream of our work.

He is currently a fellow of BI-Europe in Venice. In addition to longstanding work on transnationalism and political imaginaries, his current interests are in the planetary politics of desire, democratic education and fluid identities. His latest book is 'Illiberal Democracies in Europe: An Authoritarian response to the crisis of liberalism' available freely here.

He was previously a Europe's Futures Fellow at IWM, Vienna, a visiting fellow at PUC Rio-De Janeiro, at UNAM Mexico, and at EUI School of Transnational Governance in Florence. He has been involved in founding numerous civil society initiatives and magazines in Europe and across the Mediterranean. He was educated in Cambridge, Siena and Paris.



#### Ségolène Pruvot

#### **Director**

Ségolène Pruvot is a Director of European Alternatives. Ségolène is a Doctor in Urban Sociology. In the course of her academic career and professional life, she specialised in the exploration of the intersection between arts, the city and social change. She trained as a political scientist and urban planner in France, the UK, and Germany. Segolene has developed extensive experience in designing and implementing transnational participative cultural programmes, activists transnational networking and collaborative research..



#### Marta Cillero Manzano

Fondazione Studio Rizoma Director & Communications Director

Marta Cillero is the managing director at Fondazione Studio Rizoma (Palermo) and communications manager. She graduated in Media Studies, Journalism and Communication (Madrid, Istanbul and Chicago) and has a master degree in Gender Studies (Rome). She has published several articles and research reports about gender violence in Mediterranean countries.

She is a member of the executive board and project manager at Chayn Italia, an award-winning organisation based in Italy, Pakistan, India and the UK helping women experiencing abuse and gender violence through open and free multilingual resources on online safety.



#### Ophélie Masson

#### **Deputy Director**

Ophélie coordinates the programmes that aim at developing and implementing sustainable tools of participative democracy such as citizens assemblies and ECIs. She also co-coordinates the Citizens Take Over Europe coalition. She focuses on defining new common narratives for citizens and residents of Europe who wish to enhance their political participation through innovative processes. As such, she is deeply involved in expanding European Alternatives partnerships with CSOs and movements that focus on training key individuals who develop and replicate diverse experimental citizens assemblies methodologies. She has created and led campaigns at EU level, engaging with actors ranging from grassroots organisations to the European institutions.

Ophélie is also an LGBTQI activist and co-chair of the Board of IGLYO. She is also a Board Member of EUMANS, an organisation aiming at promoting civic participation through various instruments such as citizens assemblies, ECIs and petitions.



#### **Jacc Griffiths**

#### **Research Assistant**

Jacc is from Wales and today lives in Paris. They are currently working on the Critical ChangeLabs project. Their background is in linguistics & pedagogy, and they are specialized in discourse analysis, critical sociolinguistics and semiotics.

They created and taught an English language course entitled Lost in Translation, which seeks to critically engage with the status of English as a lingua franca, through deconstructing the capitalist & colonialist notions of "proper English" and recognizing the evolution of World Englishes. In 2023, they wrote their Master's thesis on the subject of discourse-spatial production in the global Collages Féminicides movement, studying how transpatial, feminist activist networks grow horizontally through physical-digital discursive interaction.

They are fascinated by intersecting ecosystems, rhizomespaces, interdiscourse networks, and all things etymology. They are also a member of the Paris-based intersectional feminist writing group Le Phare Collectif.



#### **Jana Ahlers**

#### **Grassroots Education Manager**

Jana is Grassroots Education Manager at European Alternatives, working within the School of Transnational Organizing. She is dedicated to creating transformative learning spaces and building capacity to collaboratively strategize for system change.

With a background in education, she has a passion for critical and experiential pedagogy and research interest in how social movements learn and engage in counterhegemonic knowledge production.

As a social and climate justice organizer and activist she has experience and a wide network across the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, the UK, and Germany.

Most recently, she coordinated the programme of the People's Summit for Climate Justice in Glasgow. Working with the COP26 Coalition, she draws on capacity organizing with a wide range of civil society groups, ranging from environment and development NGOs, to grassroots community campaigns, youth groups, indigenous groups, and migrant and racial justice networks.

Outside of EA, Jana is a Berlin-based grassroots organizer and activist, steadily pushing towards new imaginaries and strategic wins by the people.



#### **Billie Dibb**

#### **Imagination Coordinator**

Billie works on and is the focal point too the 'imagination' projects of European Alternatives, and helps in the logistics of the Paris Office. Billie works on and is the focal point too the 'imagination' projects of European Alternatives, and helps in the logistics of the Paris Office. They have an academic background in International Politics, with a focus on gendered nationalism and big data. They also have experience within the asylum & migration sector across the UK & France, covering roles in event management, graphics & communications, campaigning, and coordination.

Billie created and runs an event in Paris, 'La Voisin', an exhbo-cum-party creating a space for feminist thought and artistic expression. Billie is passionate about, and dabbles in, the creative possibilities of new technologies in the arts and how they can facilitate social change.



#### **Myriam Zekagh**

#### **Programme Coordinator**

Myriam Zekagh coordinates EA's programmes focused on youth and social movements, and monitors the impact of EA's activities through monitoring, evaluation and learning. Her work focuses on developing and evaluating projects with high social impact, engaging with local activists, civil society organisations and local authorities to create strong and long-lasting connections. She has lived and worked in and outside of Europe, most notably in Germany and North Africa.



#### **Noemi Pittalà**

#### **Communications Assistant**

Noemi Pittalà is a multidisciplinary artivist and cultural professional from Palermo, working at the intersection of art and social inclusion. With a background in visual arts and theatre, she has specialized in communications within the cultural sector, focusing on creating connections and fostering community engagement. Her work emphasizes radical inclusion, collective care, and active youth participation. As a Pop The Vote Changemaker in the 2024 European election promotion campaign by Culture Action Europe, she actively engages in fostering civic participation. Following this project, Noemi founded 800V, an artivism initiative aimed at empowering young people in Southern Italy. She is based in Brussels.



#### **Sharlen Sezestre**

#### **Fierce Project Coordinator**

Sharlen Sezestre, is an activist who has been involved since the age of 13 in feminist associations fighting violence against women and in groups helping asylum seekers. After obtaining a Master's degree in Human Rights, she worked as jurist at France Terre d'Asile, then as International Advocacy Officer at le Planning Familial (a French feminist association promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights). She was also a member of the Political Board of the Black Feminist Fund for the last 6 years, a fund aiming at supporting the funding of black feminist organizations through an anti-racist and decolonial perspective. Today, she is The Fierce Project Coordinator at European Alternatives.



#### <u>Irene Alonso</u> <u>Toucido</u>

#### **Project Manager**

Irene is the project manager of the Democratic Odyssey, a collaborative and decentralised initiative aiming at institutionalizing a peoples' assembly and participatory ecosystem in Europe.

As a sociologist, Irene has a profound professional and personal interest in the commons, citizen participation and ecofeminism. She is particularly fascinated by the connections between degrowth, community and ancestral wisdoms.

Of nomadic nature, Irene's work is driven by a commitment to fostering inclusive and sustainable societies. She has contributed to numerous projects and international forums, advocating for policies that empower communities. Her diverse experience and interdisciplinary approach enable her to connect theoretical concepts with practical applications, making her a bridge for grounding the Democratic Odyssey project.



#### Viktoria Kostova

#### Logistics and fundraising coordinator

Viktoria Kostova has a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and just finished her Master's degree in Management of Creative Industries and Cultural Organizations in Sofia, Bulgaria. She has worked for different NGOs in the sphere of culture and education locally and internationally, predominantly in Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Tenerife, Sweden, UK and the USA.

She is interested in sustainability in the arts, activism, youth engagement and audience development.



#### <u>Csenge Schnei-</u> <u>der-Lonhart</u>

#### **Project Coordinator**

Csenge is the Local Coordinator of the TransEuropa Festival, taking place in Cluj this year. She was born in 1998 in Budapest. In 2022 she finished her Master's degree in Contemporary Theatre at the Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca, Faculty of Theatre and Film. She has volunteered at various festivals, such as the TESZT Festival in Timisoara, the Interferences Festival and the Khetane festival in Cluj. She was one of the founders of the Questioning Reality Festival, the first research festival in Cluj-Napoca, organised around the topic of the Smart City concept of Cluj. The QR project debates, analyses, and dissects, together with the local community, the hidden problems of a smart city. She is currently collaborating with Casa Tranzit, where she is involved in projects that address interaction and care for children. She is part of the movement Social Housing NOW!, which is a local movement for public housing and housing justice.



### Camilo Alvarez Garrido

#### **Creations & Publications Assistant**

I'm an activist and researcher from Chile. I moved to Germany in 2019 to pursue a Master's in Global Studies. Since 2020, I have been actively involved in the migrant labor struggle in Berlin, particularly in the organisation of delivery riders with the Gorillas Workers' Collective and its network, as well as in the construction of transectorial alliance between labor, housing and climate activists through the Make Amazon Pay campaign. Alongside European Alternatives' Berlin Hub and the School of Transnational Organizing, I also work as a research assistant at the Humboldt University Institute of European Ethnology together with the Berlin Institute for Migration and Integration Research. My personal research is currently focused on the role of care practices in enabling intersectional solidarity building within organised spaces of resistance. I believe the most important task at hand in political organising is forging organisational cultures capable of attending to the complex diversity of our human needs, so as to allow us to pool our capacities together in more effective and sustainable ways.



#### **Gabriela Siegel**

#### **Grassroots Community Manager**

Gabriela was an intern at the Berlin Hub of European Alternatives, working on the School of Transnational Organizing's education and training programs for migrant workers, East German & Eastern European activists, as well as youth activists and campaigners from across Europe. She has almost ten years of experience in direct legal services, community organising, and policy work with refugee and immigrant communities, both in Lebanon and the US. Gabriela worked in the US as a movement lawyer, representing low-income undocumented individuals, first in their immigration cases and later on employment and labour matters. She also worked on designing and implementing benefits and policies to support low-income immigrants in New York State. She is currently completing a master's programme through the Global Labour University on Labour Policies and Globalisation.

Since April 2023, Gabriela has transitioned into her new role as Grassroots Community Manager building, holding, and caring for our community and network in Berlin and across Europe.



#### **Martin Pairet**

#### Berlin Hub Finances & Administration Assistant

Martin was the Network Manager of European Alternatives for five years until 2020. In the last years he became a French baker. In the Berlin Hub he was in charge of the development of the transnational community and network of the organisation.

Martin has been working in the non-profit sector for more than eight years with experience in membership development, communications and fundraising in international organisations such as IFOAM – Organics International and Oxfam France. He is also engaged as a member of SOS Méditerranée, a civic European organisation for the rescue of people in distress in the Mediterranean and of MitOst, an international network of cultural actors and active citizens. He has a strong interest on how activists and civil society organisations are articulating and organising themselves to influence European politics both at the grassroots and at the institutional level. Since April 2023, Martin is supporting the team again as Berlin Hub Finances & Administration Assistant.



#### <u>Gabriela Ortiz</u> <u>Soto</u>

#### **Berlin Hub Coordinator**

Gabriela Ortiz holds a law degree from the Universidad Catolica in Peru and a Master's degree in Labor Policies and Globalization from the Global Labour University in Berlin, specializing in labor law, decent work, migration, gender equality and diversity. She wrote her Master's thesis on the issue of transnational mobility of domestic workers using a legal and intersectional approach.

Gabriela joined European Alternatives' Berlin Hub in June 2023. Prior to that, she gained experience in union organizing, mapping strategies and tools for Spanish-speaking migrant domestic workers in Washington D.C. She also had a short but enriching internship experience in Brussels conducting lobbying and labor relations research. In addition to her job as Berlin Hub Coordinator of the School of Transnational Organizing, Gabriela is working on a voluntary basis on the creation and growth of the grassroots organizing community "Berlin Worker Center" to connect and support different workers' struggles and build power.



#### Ruxandra Stan

#### **Administrative Officer EA Paris**

I am a Romanian citizen who relocated to Paris in 2015. Holding a degree in Computer Science and a Master's in Commercial Business Law, I bring a distinctive blend of technical and legal expertise. My career in finance has included roles in banking institutions and government organizations, where I have developed significant expertise in financial operations and regulatory compliance. Beyond my professional endeavors, I have been deeply engaged in volunteer work since my teenage years, beginning with animal welfare initiatives and later collaborating with Romanian associations to support children with cancer. These experiences have profoundly influenced my values, strengthening my commitment to compassion and social responsibility. Since September 2023, I have been part of EA Paris as the Administrative Officer, continuing to apply my skills and experiences to drive positive impact in both my professional role and community involvement.



## 3. Ecosystem and network

Since 2007, European Alternatives has been working and networking with thousands of organisations, groups and initiatives around Europe and beyond to promote democracy, equality and culture beyond the nation-state. European Alternatives seeks to work in reinforced ongoing collaboration with selected organisations and individuals to build convergence, civic capacity and infrastructure across borders.

We are part of an ecosystem composed of ally organisations which have closely collaborated with us on our activities. Our network is the backbone of all our activities and plays a fundamental role in achieving our mission.



#### 4. What We Do

#### 4.1 STREAMS

All of the European Alternative's work can be classified into five streams:

IMAGINE, TRAIN, ASSEMBLE, ACT, AND, LEARN.

The **IMAGINE** stream experiments in self-expression, using artistic innovation to create and play with new narratives, imaginaries, and representations, and offers diverse formats for learning and being together.

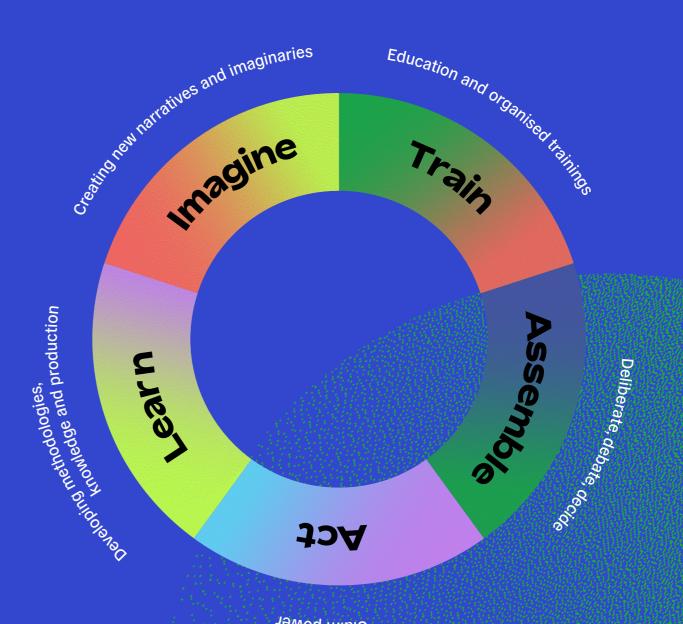
The **TRAIN** stream is linked to citizen engagement, among all populations, forming advocacy and education-oriented projects through a learn-by-doing approach.

The **ASSEMBLE** stream empowers activists and civil society organisations - embedded in local communities throughout Europe - to organise local assemblies, and promote new ways of political decision making.

The <u>ACT</u> stream demands greater inclusion, democracy and equality for all. This is done by formulating and publicising clear demands for the future of the EU, and by taking a facilitator role, empowering project participants to advocate and demand change around issues of relevance to them and their communities.

The **LEARN** stream relates to EAs contribution to production of knowledge, be that in academic research projects, books, identifying and sharing best practices and designing new methodologies and innovating new concepts.

Many projects and programs cross several streams, and an objective of European Alternatives is to take partners and members through several aspects of the stream cycle, promoting a holistic approach to personal and collective change.



Claim power

## 4.2 INITIATIVES & PROJECTS

The projects and initiatives of European Alternatives are categorised and relate to the different streams. The list of project active over 2023 and 2024 are the following:



#### **TRANSEUROPA**

imagine

TRANSEUROPA is a transnational artistic, cultural and political festival organised by European Alternatives since 2007. In the past decade, TRANSEUROPA has attracted thousands of attendees and active participants through a decentralised event structure in over a dozen European cities and a high profile moment in one city. The festival is a space of translocal activism, solidarity, and future-thinking imaginaries. Intellectuals & activists such as Tania Bruguera, Jonas Staal, Franco (BIFO) Berardi, Rosi Braidotti, Margarita Tsomou, Shalini Randeria, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Zygmunt Bauman and Genèvieve Fraisse participated in past editions of the Festival.

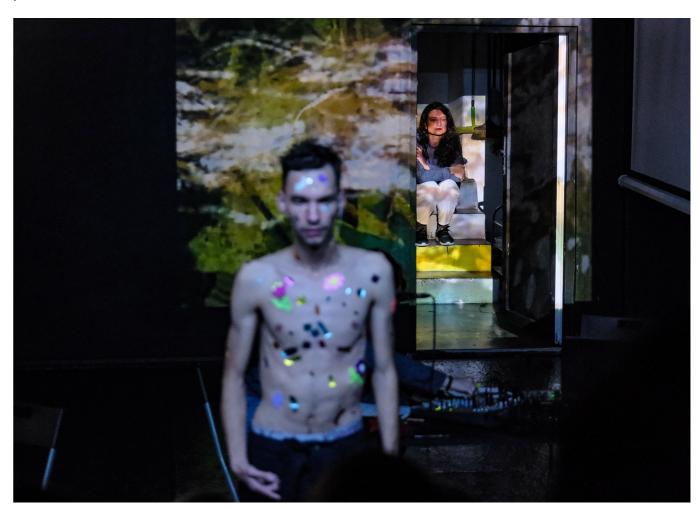
## Edition in Cluj, Romania HOLDING SPACES

The 2023 edition of Transeuropa took place in Cluj Napoca and presented a rich schedule of events prepared in cooperation with local partners in the city. The programme consisted of events, exhibitions, open assemblies, meetings and music and involved a large number of historical spaces of the city.

2023's edition of the TRANSEUROPA festival asked participants first and foremost, what kind of environment do they want to live in? When we think about the ideal environment, about where we want to live, how we want to shape the world around us, we think far into the future, about our grandchildren and about what the world will be like in a hundred years' time.

The motto of 2023's edition was Holding Spaces. Holding spaces is important not only in a physical sense, but also in a symbolic sense. It is important to re-examine the values that are important to us and that should reclaim not only physical spaces, but also virtual spaces and meta spaces. We must reclaim not only the spaces of our habitat, but the space of discourse, the space of understanding, the space of caring, the space of change.

TRANSEUROPA Festival 2023 in Cluj - Artistic performance



# TRANSEUROPA FESTIVAL OF ARTS, POLITICS AND CULTURE

2024

#### Edition in Venice, Italy UNDERCURRENTS

Despite flows of anxiety around the political, economic and environmental state of our societies and the backlash against progressive perceptions of the inter-humans and inter-species relationships, TRANSEUROPA Festival 2024 revealed and reinforced the undercurrents of contestations, ideas and power that are finding – via meanders and affluents – ways to continue building change and renew these relationships in the long run.

TRANSEUROPA 24 took place in Venice and invited participants to explore, imagine and create with joy the multiple and growing undercurrents of change of today and tomorrow. Building on Ecofeminist and Decolonial theory, the festival investigated and celebrated prospects of a world geared towards new relationships among humans, species and natural elements. To push against a seeming apocalyptic tide, the Festival joined activists, artists, intellectuals and citizens to reinforce common strategies to go towards better futures.

6-10 NOV. 2024 VENICE, ITALY





TRANSEUROPA Festival 2024 in Venice - Opening exhibition Water Bodies at CREA



#### Democratic Odyssey assemble

The Democratic Odyssey is an ongoing project that was conceived and launched as a long-term journey through the rugged landscape of democratic contemporary pathologies. It is a campaign to pilot a permanent people's assembly for Europe. As a decentralised, collaborative and transparent exercise of crowdsourcing and cocreation, it seeks to bring together as many contributors as possible in different capacities and with different roles-

The methodology behind the Democratic Odyssey builds on three key concepts – Citizen Assemblies, Sortition, Institutionalisation. Above all, the Odyssey experiments in ways democracy can go beyond borders, avoid corporate capture and corruption, and take better account of everyone in political decisions.

The Democratic Odyssey prototypes an assembly that will invovle over 500 people from across Europe and the world, focussed on the question how Europe can better deal with future crises democratically. The assembly is translocal and nomadic, moving from city to city and engaging political representatives from local, regional, national and European levels, as well as other stakeholders from civil society. Working across these scales, and acting as a catalyser of an ecosystem of citizens assemblies across the continent, the Odyssey

Democratic Odyssey: Citizens' Assembly in Athens (2024)



#### **DEMO: Democracy, Elections, Mentorship, Organising**

act. train

act, train

YMCA - Youth **Movement & Campaign Accelerator: Equipping Young Leaders with** the Skills Needed for Transformative **Change Across Borders** 

The crises of our time are transnational in nature: climate change does not care about borders, inequality and precariousness affect all societies. The effects these crises have on us are profound - they evoke feelings of anxiety, powerlessness, and also despair - feelings that may in the worst case even lead to violence and prevent us from participating in politics in the first place.

DEMO aimed to mobilize activists from all over Europe

and rethink democracy in the frame of the 2024 European

Elections. It included a series of two residential trainings, four

public lectures and implementation of 108 activities designed

by 60 activists from 21 countries. The purpose of the project

was to engage and empower people who could feel left out

from the communication and actions following the European

Elections and who are more likely to abstain from voting. We

specifically involved young people under 30, representatives

of marginalised groups (such as migrants, people with low

economic means, people living in rural areas, LGBTIQ+ community). Initially the project partners were based only

in Greece, Bulgaria, Sweden, Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia

and Czechia but through dissemination of the open call to

more than 400 civil society organisations we managed to

also engage residents of Lithuania, Estonia, Portugal, Spain,

Netherlands, Poland, Italy, Latvia, France, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Romania, Hungary, Finland. The two residential

trainings took place in Sofia, Bulgaria and Bratislava, Slovakia.

The implementation of two activities by each change-maker

took place between March 2024 and June 2024 so as to

lead up to the elections. In addition, the project included

peer-to-peer mentoring, networking, evaluation activities,

follow-up activities, and a communication campaign.

The Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator offers European youth and community leaders a way to engage in, and build, European democracy, by establishing a transnational network able to connect national and local issues to EU-level policymaking.

This youth education program aims to increase the engagement of young people and their communities in constructing European democracy by the creation of a network of young people aged 18-35 living in the EU. These young people are trained in ways to activate their local communities and to articulate their issues and demands, and tested out ways to take collective action in their communities. In the first year of this program, 61 young people from Poland, Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Romania, Sweden, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium were trained through a combination of offline & online training and 11 events in total were organised (assemblies and associated events).

#### **Room To Bloom**

train, learn, imagine

Room to Bloom is a feminist platform for ecological and postcolonial narratives of Europe. Room to Bloom brought together feminist artists with a migration background who create ecological and postcolonial narratives of Europe. By associating artists and creators who - too often - occupy a peripheral place in the world of arts and places who are considered to be geographically peripheral (Sicily, Ukraine, Poland, Greece), Room to Bloom aimed at building a discourse on European Culture that is fully built on the experience and knowledge of the periphery and to bring this to the centre.

The project partnership involved arts institutions and partners from France (Alternatives Européennes), Sweden (Museums of Cultures of the World, Gothenburg), Italy (Studio Rizoma) and Germany/Greece (AthenSyn). It includes informal partners from Ukraine, Poland and beyond.

Room to Bloom trained, assisted and supported 100 young promising artists and created a network of feminist artists and migrant background artists, made of more established and younger artists and arts professionals. It formulated proposals for running post-colonial feminist art practices and feminist and post-colonial narratives for a Transnational Europe.

FIERCE is an ongoing project that revitalises alliances between the feminist movement, civil society and political decision makers. It is realised in cooperation with ViLabs, Aalborg Universitet, Scuola Normale Superiore, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Smart Venice, Uniwersytet Gdanski, Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis, Mirovni Institut, KOC University, Univerza V Ljubljani. FIERCE develops in-depth understanding of feminist and antifeminist/anti-gender movements, activities and discourses, and their impact on the institutional arena and on policy outcomes on five key areas focusing on the period 2010-2021.

It focuses on 5 key areas:

1. Labour market

2. Health and reproductive rights

3. LGBTQ+ rights

4. Migration

5. Gender-based violence

Adopting a bottom-up approach, FIERCE relies on a systematic construction of eight case studies and a comparative dimension-driven analysis of the way debates and controversies on gender influenced the dynamics and output of the policy process. The counties are Denmark, France, Greece, Turkey, Italy, Poland, Slovenia and Spain.



learn



**Currents of Memories** (Workshop) at PASE in the context of TRANSEUROPA Festival 2024 in Venice

#### **Critical ChangeLabs**

learn, train

Critical ChangeLabs (Democracy Meets Arts: Critical Change Labs for Building Democratic Cultures through Creative and Narrative Practices) is a Horizon Europe research and innovation project addressing democratic erosion trends by strengthening youth participation in society. The project was carried out by 10 partner institutions and examines the current state of democracy in learning environments across Europe, generating a robust evidence base for the design of a participatory democratic curriculum. Critical ChangeLab develops a model of democratic pedagogy using creative and narrative practices to foster youth's active democratic citizenship at a time when polarisation and dwindling trust in democracy are spreading across Europe. At the Critical ChangeLabs, diverse actors from formal and non-formal education and civic organizations work together with youth to rethink European democracy and envision futures that are justice-oriented.

Partners included University of Oulu (Coordinator) – Finland, Trinity College Dublin – Ireland, University of Barcelona – Spain, stichting Waag Society WAAG – Netherlands, Ars Electronica Linz GmbH & Co – Austria, Kersnikova Institute – Slovenia, LATRA Innovation Lab – Greece, Tactical Tech – Germany, Alternatives Européennes – France, and Institute of Social Research in Zagreb – Croatia.

## Movement Learning Catalyst train, learn

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#### **New Challenges**

learn

New Challenges on the Urban Periphery was a project using the concepts of co-creation, a research method using creativity to co-produce knowledge with academics, communities and creative practitioners, in the context of urban marginality and Paris banlieues.

New Challenges on the Urban Periphery consisted of a one-day seminar: New Challenges in the Urban Periphery, Paris that brought together the original members of Banlieue Network (2012-2014), with other researchers in the field of Banlieue Studies; a program of free creative writing workshops held in Greater Paris with writers Insa Sané and Mabrouk Rachedi; a Co-Creative Festival held in Saint-Denis, Greater Paris, Literatures in Margins; an event in Saint-Ouen, Greater Paris, to reflect on learnings from the New Challenges project.

The festival Literature in Margins was positioned as an independent event that was joined by Faïza Guène, Fatima Ouassak, Rachid Santaki, Geovani Martins, Insa Sané and others. The program included theater, academic lectures, rap workshops and performances, film screenings, discussions, concertsandmore, all on the themeof literature from the margins.

#### Artsformation

imagine, learn, train

Artsformation was a research project that aimed to understand, analyse and promote the ways in which the Arts can reinforce the social, cultural, economic, and political benefits of digital transformation. Artsformation investigated the potential of the Arts to intervene in critical social issues, with a view to remedying a range of abusive and exploitative aspects of digital technologies, such as labour politics, privacy and education. With Artsformation we aimed to support and be part of the process of making our communities resilient and adaptive in the 4th Industrial Revolution through research, innovation and applied artistic practice.

Partnerswerethe Norwegian Business School, the Copenhagen Business School, LATRA, KEA European Affairs, WAAG, FACT, Transmediale, European Alternatives and Trinity College Dublin.



#### **Fluctuations**

imagine

Fluctuations is a transnational boat festival wandering European rivers, to mobilise on social, environmental, and citizenship topics. The riverbanks come alive with joy, music, art, a hub of solutions, a plant-based food court, a kids' section, and diverse workshops and talks, inviting people of all backgrounds to co-create a beautiful future for the European Union and society.

Fluctuations will go full scale with its riverboat in summer 2025 but already had beta-events in 2024 with its partner UrbanBoat, with events in Lille, Brussels, Utrecht and Budapest. Partners are SMMILE, European Alternatives, VibeLab, BESIGN Sustainable Design School, Subjective Values Foundation.

TACKLE is an ongoing project that aims to empower

young activists across Europe to fight against structural

## TACKLE: Pact for Equality

act, train

racism and discrimination, fostering the emergence of a new generation of equality advocates. Through education, capacity building, and advocacy, the project seeks to promote a more inclusive society that upholds human rights and tackles local and global inequalities. Through its multifaceted approach, TACKLE directly engages over 150 students per year, handles over 300 cases of racial discrimination annually, and influences public discourse around equality. By connecting young activists across the Mediterranean and Europe, the project contributes to a broader movement towards justice, equality, and human rights. TACKLE is led by a consortium including Avocats Sans Frontières, European Alternatives, and the European Network for Clinical Legal Education, among others. Legal clinics from leading universities in Italy, France, Spain, Belgium, and the Netherlands are at the heart of this initiative, with additional  $support from {\it civil} society organizations in Tunisia and Morocco.$ The TACKLE consortium launched the Pact for equality. Pact for Equality is an initiative dedicated to promoting equality and combating discrimination against migrant communities in Europe to ensure that Europe's approach to diversity is transformed during this crucial electoral year and beyond.

### TEA: TransEuropa Assemblies

assemble

TransEuropa Assemblies is a series of citizens assemblies that took place across the continent, TransEuropa Assemblies engaged citizens and residents of the EU in a deliberation of their priorities for the 2024 European elections, with the aim of influencing party political programmes ahead of the elections, and contributing to the deepening and extension of the Charter of Fundamental Rights. TransEurope Assemblies involved citizens assemblies taking place in 7 countries (France, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Romania, Poland and Italy) and online, involving citizens from over 15 EU countries deliberating on their priorities for the EP elections in 2024 and for change in the local contexts. These assemblies dealt with themes of importance to people's everyday lives identified by participants themselves, including rights at work, to unequal effects of climate change, gender related rights and the right to abortion, social parenting, rights at the end of life, rights to free expression and protest, and housing rights. Over 1400 people participated in the assemblies, coming from over 15 EU countries, and over 100 associations were involved in contributing to the project.

## Mobile University for Migrant Workers

act, train

The Mobile University for Migrant Workers is an ongoing project with three editions that builds bridges between migrant, mobile and marginalized workers and their communities from various industries and sectors known for precariousness and vulnerability (delivery, logistics, care, tech, gastronomy, etc.) in the Berlin-Brandenburg metropolitan region on the one hand and educational, cultural and political self-organization spaces on the other hand, in order to support them in activating and organizing themselves as working people with special legal, social, financial, personal and political needs and interests.

#### <u>Catalyze - A Train-the-</u> <u>Trainer series</u>

train

School of Transnational Organizing launched a Catalyze - A Train-the-Trainer series to nurture the skills of grassroots leadership, transformative organizing and help build the capacity of migrant and BIPoC organizers and trainers. We believe in the power of communities and their ability to identify and address the challenges they face. We believe in the power of education and learning to visualize and implement justice for all. Therefore, provided an eight-part online series in September and October 2024 to join a network of migrant and BIPoC organizers, educators, community-carers and space-holders across Europe and beyond.

More about the School of Transnational Organizing's events can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>





It is the moment for European Alternatives to reaffirm its commitment to putting culture and arts at the centre of it vision of Europe.

#### 4.3 CAMPAIGNS



## <u>Launching</u> <u>the Pact for Equality</u>

Avocats Sans Frontières, European Alternatives, and a consortium of civil society and university partners launched the Pact For Equality in 2024.

As the European elections near, marginalised groups continue to face hate speech and scapegoating, reflecting systemic discrimination in society and politics. Despite EU efforts, discrimination remains wides pread and increasing, particularly against Roma, racialised individuals, and the LGBTQIA+community, as highlighted by Eurobarometer survey 535.

Pactfor Equality is an initiative dedicated to promoting equality and combating discrimination against migrant communities in Europe to ensure that Europe's approach to diversity is transformed during this crucial electoral year and beyond.

Sandra Alloush, International award winning journalist & filmmaker from Syria. Pact for Equality Advocate



#### **EUROPE**BY THE MANY

#### **The By The Many Manifesto**

Ahead of the 2024 European elections, European Alternatives launched a campaign to call for a radical shift in our politics, based on the transformative power of people working across borders. We imagined a democratic Europe in which everyone can live a good life, and which acts to bring transnational justice and a flourishing planet.

By the Many is built on the demands arising out of the many citizens' assemblies, partnerships and projects that we've been involved in over the years, drawing on the views of a multitude of individuals and groups across the continent. We identified three key steps of realizing the campaign and taking action (Imagine, Demand, Enact) and EA values: 1) taking the lead from those most ignored by political establishments: • Racialised communities and ethnic minorities • Women and gender minorities • LGTBQIA communities • Workers and carers • Persons with disabilities Migrants, asylum seekers and the undocumented Putting power firmly in the hands of ordinary people is the only way to disrupt the system, and offer a real alternative to the failings of democracy and the false promise of capitalism. 2) EA demands: • Immediate climate action for a planet in balance • A world led by workers • A democratic process that derives power from the people • Justice and equity for all • A digital revolution that serves the people.

Click here to read the manifesto

We collaborated with Fix The Status Quo to develop these signing tools. More than 40 people and organizations signed the pledge some of which are elected MEPs such as: Saskia Bricmont, Majdouline Sbaï, Mounir Satouri, Melissa Camara, David Cormand, Marie Toussaint, Aurore Lalucq, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin, Brando Benifei, Catarina Martins.



PLAYDATE workshop and performed by Csenge Schneider-Lőnhárt in the context of TRANSEUROPA Festival 2023 in Cluj

## The Be Fierce Campaign: 5 Claims and 1 Charter for a Feminist Europe

#### <u>Citizens Take</u> <u>Over Europe</u>

The FIERCE charter drives our campaign powered by the five FIERCE claims for a feminist Europe. Crafted with a resolute intention, the charter invited all candidates to the European Parliament to step forward and demonstrate their unwavering commitment.

On the other hand, FIERCE seeks to engage not just within EU borders but also with the Council of Europe and the legislative bodies of the European Union, including the European Commission and the European Parliament. These bodies hold crucial roles in enacting legislation for women's rights and gender equality.

OUR CLAIMS ARE

A Recognized European Feminist Network to Stop the Antifeminist and Anti-Gender Movement Social, Economic and Reproductive Justice Fighting Against SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) Protect LGBTIQ+ Rights Global Development, Peace and Feminist Foreign Policy

The Manifesto claims are backed by detailed data, with input from 8 feminist labs where several movements and NGOs have crafted alliances, and one European level lab, all aiming for an equal Europe.

Citizens Take Over Europe is a coalition of over 70 NGOs that was established in 2020 at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic to work on the future of democracy in Europe and greater citizen participation in the EU. It has met every wednesday morning since in plenary, and has working groups on advocacy, self-organised citizen assemblies, the constitutional question of democracy's place in the EU and treaty change and communications meeting regularly.

In 2023 and 2024 Citizens Takeover Europe has worked on the follow up to the Conference on the Future of Europe, working notably with citizens who were involved in the process to press for meaningful policy follow up from the European institutions, and it has observed and made critical observations of the Citizen Panels organized by the European Commission. The coalition has developed its own blueprints of how a permanent people's assembly could look like, and tested various options as part of the Transeuropa Assemblies project and Democratic Odyssever

The coalition worked with key members of the European Parliament pressing for electoral reform, the introduction of citizens assemblies, ECI reform, and citizenship education

In 2024 it campaigned for the centrality for democratic reform and increasing citizens participation during the European Parliamentary elections and nomination process of the European Commissioners, and ran a campaign to establish an intergroup in the European Parliament focussed on democracy questions.

#### **Decolonial Europe Day**

The Decolonial Europe Day is an initiative that uses the occasion of Europe Day (9 May every year) to bring together existing decolonising initiatives, civil society organisations and other actors around the common project of decolonising Europe, understood as an ongoing process. Our intention is to create a space for exchange on how to decolonise Europe, to amplify decolonial voices in and on Europe, to support the creation of synergies and to make this type of conversation more mainstream in Europe, with the ultimate purpose of dismantling and replacing colonial power structures. Following the first edition in 2023, the second edition will take place in online format on 9 May 2024. The project is initiated by a small group of people in collaboration with several civil society organisations and pre-existing decolonising initiatives (see 'about us' section). The initiative aims to contribute to a shift in the dominant narrative on Europe in Europe, knowing that a shift of the narrative is a precondition for dismantling colonial power structures. While Europe Day typically mobilises those celebrating Europe, our approach is different. As stated by Gurminder K Bhambra, Europe's past is an imperial and colonial past, to which we add: Europe's present and future will continue to be a colonial present and future unless Europe makes decolonisation its core concern.

#### Power to the People

How can we organise and assemble across borders in the 21st-century? New technology and digital tools now provide more opportunities and wider transborder access than ever before. European Alternatives has partnered with a number of organisations (Europe Calling, Citizens Takeover Europe, EUI-STG Democracy Forum, Mehr Demokratie and Another Europe is Possible) to launch Power to the People, a series of transnational online webinars that create a space for participants to join and interact with invited speakers and each other in multiple languages. Live simultaneous interpretation in German, French, Italian and English, as well as the ability to enable automatic subtitle translations into over 20 languages, provides a new vista of connection for millions across the globe. The Power to the People group holds assemblies on key topical events relevant to ordinary citizens. Until now we have debated the cost of living crisis; climate fatigue; how can citizen assemblies shape our democracies; what do European Elections mean for YOU?; who decides in Europe. More information is available on our website in section Past Events.

## ECSA: European Common Space for Alternatives

While we have a large number of thematic networks in Europe, we no longer have a common space for all the social and citizens' movements that would enable us to share our experiences and challenges and develop joint initiatives and mobilisations.

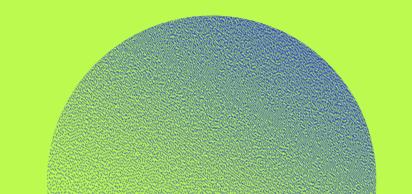
Today, throughout Europe, we have a flourishing of mobilisations and social experiments that are exciting and enriching. From Madrid to Warsaw, from Berlin to Zagreb, from Dublin to Athens individuals and collectives are taking to the street, establishing solidarity around specific issues, like the right to decent housing, the fight for climate justice, the defense of vulnerable populations and international solidarity.

Following the history of international gatherings like the European Social Forum process (active 2002-2010), a number of organisations fighting for social and environmental justice are forming a coalition of groups & activists to bring together more people, from diverse origins and backgrounds, to the understanding of a caring society. We started this process around the Florence+20 initiative in November 2022, or the Future Factory in June 2023, and, between the news developments and the electoral deadlines, it has become obvious that likeminded groups should meet, and do something, together.

In 2024 we organised a broad encounter in the run-up to the European Union elections. This event had a main topic: "To face the far right and the neoliberal agenda imposed on the people, we need a social, feminist, antiracist, ecological, peaceful and democratic Europe" and titled the European Common Space for Alternatives. It was organised in a bottom-up and open space approach, giving to all of us the possibility to express ourselves and organise discussions and actions.

## Summer School of Transnational Organising

Summer School 2024 was held in Vienna under the title The Lost Art of Organizing Solidarity. We invited 50 international and local community organizers, educators and artists who met in the »Free Republic of Vienna« with interested Viennese and Austrian climate activists and citizens to learn from each others' stories, skills and strategies on how we can unite and fight across the differences and beyond the borders of communities, struggles and nations.





5. Our Strategy for the next five years

European Alternatives works with the conviction that a transnational renovation of our political imaginations, institutions, and actions needs to take place to correctly understand and address the different challenges that Europe is facing. Going beyond the nation-state is a condition for promoting a more democratic, equal and culturally open society, and Europe, as an idea and political space, offers a possibility for doing this. This is the vision of European Alternatives. Striving towards this vision: each year we set organisational priorities for the year ahead, in consultation with our staff, advisors, and trustees.

Our strategic goals for the next five years include:

#### 1. Establishing new institutional structures for Europe

A permanent people's assembly for Europe which has an impact at transnational and local scales, and an intergroup, committee or similar working in the European Parliament specifically on democracy issues together with civil society.

#### 2. Creating a resilient, diverse and mobilised civil society ecosystem across Europe and beyond

That can act and advocate to propose alternatives to see a global political and social change and have the depth and capacity to influence political outcomes. We are doing this by providing infrastructural support, capacity building and training in new methodologies, mentoring and networking of organisations and individuals.



#### 3. Extending an alternative imaginary about the meaning of Europe

One that is based on solidarity, justice and democracy across borders, through creative formats on the territory and working with artists, researchers, activists and intellectuals. This includes making the European level accessible and increasing its perception as a relevant scale of analysis and action.

#### 4. Increase European Alternatives' staff capacity and office structure

To encompass Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods and be able to do transnational community organizing work with full diversity of populations inside of the EU.

<del>14</del> 45

## 6. Finances & Supporters

European Alternatives has been able to diversify its funders to include several of the leading foundations supporting political, social and cultural civil society activities at a European level, along with support from programs of the European Union.

European Alternatives endeavours to ensure that more than half of our income is being spent on participative activities on the ground. European Alternatives has consolidated its staff in the reporting period by hiring several project managers and coordinators, a head of finances, communications assistant, as well as appointing a new deputy director in 2023.

European Alternatives is committed to transparency and accountability in the use of funding. It publicises the financial supporters of each of its projects in project related literature, as well as online. In addition to donations from our members, our institutional funders in 2023 and 2024 included:

<u>Public</u>: European Institutions, Creative Europe, OFAJ, Paris Municipality, Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung.

<u>Private</u>: Volkswagen Foundation, Porticus Foundation, Allianz Foundation.



European Common Space for Alternatives. Workshop in Marseille (2024)

























## 7. Our Impact: Monitoring, Evaluating and Learning

The strategic period ranges from 2023 to 2025. The 2023-2024 period covered here already shows progress at several levels: growth in the size of our network and operational partners, greater project scope, increased institutional reach. The development of a monitoring, evaluation and learning system precisely seeks to highlight our impact within the sector, make it measurable and learn from it.

Over the period, we note a marked increase in partnerships and connections with an ever more diverse range of partners, helpful to collaborate across sectors and countries. Pre- and post-electoral periods - especially the 2024 European elections - have been especially conducive to greater engagement, which has been particularly relevant to highlight the theme of transnational action. In fact, our ability to create intersections between topics has allowed us to translate national discussions to a transnational context.

Operationally, we have significantly enhanced our capacity to organize larger and more logistically complex events, particularly multi-day training sessions or assemblies. This has been accompanied with a safeguarding and safety policy to ensure the welfare of participants, speakers, and team members.



#### IMAGINE

Under the IMAGINE stream, several achievements should be noted.
First, a platform for emerging artists has been established, featuring the Room to Bloom project, which includes a catalogue and manifesto presenting contributions to cultural institutions and the broader EA network, thereby reinforcing our position within the European cultural sector. Through an art residency program, we managed to explore alternative approaches to ecology and community building, enhancing our commitment to innovative practices in the arts.

We have also successfully organized five festivals over two years, including TEF, FLEM, and Fluctuations, which contribute to the cultural landscape.

Throughout this work we made sure to maintain a high degree of transversality, effectively bringing together academics, civil society organizations (CSOs), and newly engaged individuals on a diverse array of topics that resonate with our shared experience of living together in Europe.

The strength of this Stream lies in EA's ability to resonate with key issues at the forefront of the news cycle and the political agenda, such as climate justice, migration, the empowerment of local authorities, and democratic participation, especially during election periods.

#### <u>TRAIN</u>

Under the TRAIN stream, significant results have been achieved, mainly through the combination of large-scale, shorter and more accessible training sessions. With this work, over 1000 trainees from 24 EU countries have benefited from EA's sessions. Participant satisfaction levels have been notably high, averaging over 90%, with educator satisfaction at 80%.

The development and implementation of a movement learning curriculum have

been key to strengthening this stream, as it resulted in strong partnerships with the education community, and with ever clearer educational goals.

Thanks to those efforts, the community of learners who remain involved with EA for further training and other activities keeps growing, with nearly 100 people who stayed consistently engaged in EA's training activities over the period.

#### **ASSEMBLE**

Under this stream, eight transnational European assemblies took place throughout the EU, both in-person and online, testing innovative remote methodologies for citizen engagement. The Democratic Odyssey project has piloted the transnational assembly approach with a first event in Athens, exploring mechanisms for enacting direct democracy at the EU level, including the testing of sortition methods. This large-scale assembly approach will be refined throughout 2025 for broader promotion by EA and its partners.

EA has also worked closely with a number of local institutions over the period, with the assumption that this level of operation can be most effective in amplifying the voices of citizens. EA has expanded its capacity to engage with local authorities and strengthened connections with communities, especially around the issue of migrants and refugees and the network of welcoming cities. Launching assemblies has proven to be a relevant entry point to tackle and increase ownership over such complex issues with local populations.

#### AC

With the ACT stream, EA has launched, led and joined a number of initiatives and networks, all aiming at inflexing decision-making at EU level, in alignment with the work done in other streams.

The Citizens Take Over Coalition has

grown to 72 members, with a steady attendance of members looking to collaborate around advocacy efforts. We have maintained access to key decision-makers, even during the European Parliament election period, and increased our campaigning capacity through the launch of four campaigns supported by over 20 organizations and 24 signatories among Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). This collaboration underscores EA's robust position within the EU advocacy network. and thanks to these campaigns we have developed links with local and national European civil society organizations interested in transnational collaboration. EA also supported the work of social movements and activists, by joining the co-organization of the European Common Space for Alternatives, which convened 600 activists and over 200 organizations from 20 countries, and whose goal is to create transversal links between struggles.

#### **LEARN**

The LEARN stream reached a few notable milestones, from EA's reports and academic contributions being referenced 20 times in the literature. indicating our influence on the scholarly discourse. Stronger relationships with universities have been fostered, as demonstrated with over 20 invitations to academic events to present our work and support our partners'. Our connection to the European network of activists has been reaffirmed through over 70 invitations to conferences. trainings, and events, ensuring our team's continued engagement with the research community.

Finally, we are testing approaches to engage with new demographics, particularly youth under 18, to explore barriers to democratic engagement for this age group.

#### COMMUNICATIONS & NETWORK

We have published eight editions of the EA Journal in 2023 and 2024, providing a platform for sharing insights and developments. The team experimented with the podcast format to reach a broader audience and disseminate our messages more effectively. Trainings and webinars have been utilized as opportunities to interact with multipliers and proactive members of our network. and our activities have garnered local press coverage, increasing visibility and awareness of our initiatives. While progress has been notable, EA will continue strengthening press outreach efforts to ensure wider dissemination of our activities and impact.

#### <u>GEOGRAPHICAL AND</u> DEMOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

We note a steady increase in the number of participants attending our events, and a stable but slight overrepresentation of women and non-binary individuals among participants, trainees, speakers, and contributors (60% on average), reflecting our commitment to inclusivity. We have engaged individuals from over 30 countries, including 24 EU member states, with the intention of strengthening our anchorage in as many places as possible.



## 8. Closing words: together for a future beyond the nation-state

The years 2023 and 2024 have made it clear that there are enough reasons to continue working and mobilising to shift the meaning and future of Europe to be understood as open, diverse, democratic, curious and solidary space.

Our vision of Europe has been present on the mass protests in Georgia; in initiatives for a renewed European democracy; in acts of solidarity shown by citizens in welcoming migrants in spite of their governments; in protests against gender-based violence and for affordable housing in Spain; in citizens initiatives to call for meaningful action on climate change and in hundreds of other struggles.

European Alternatives is acting dynamically in different ways to promote a democratic, feminist and inclusive vision of Europe's future. We embody an ideal of Europe in its totality and complexity and we work both at the grassroots throughout the world and with the political institutions. Simultaneously highly local and transnational, specific and general ini the range of topics we cover, European Alternatives attempts to create a movement of thought, of proposals, of people and of organisations working together to create an alternative Europe.

We enact this approach in the work and initiatives we've presented in these pages. We hope to continue having you with us, engaging in our initiatives, contributing to co-create a new future for Europe and contributing in any way you want and in line with the values and ideals we work towards.

#### Imagine, demand, enact

SINCE 2007 EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES WORKS TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY, EQUALITY AND CULTURE BEYOND THE NATION STATE

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## ea