

The personal is political

My beloved Member Organisations,

It's official. I have decided to run for co-spokesperson of FYEG.

This was not an easy decision to make. I recognise that the past period has not been easy, and my position within FYEG has been complicated. After several months of deliberation and over 40 calls and discussions with many of those dear to me within FYEG and beyond – Member Organisations, active FYEGers, former co-spokespersons, fellow candidates, and friends of FYEG – it is clear to me that my vision is not of one, but of many. It has reinforced my belief that FYEG needs change, and it is this change I want to push for, together.

A politics of difference as a politics of inclusion

When I first became involved in politics in Europe in 2019 upon moving here, I was often harshly reminded that people like me, racialised and ethnicised communities, do not belong, and that European politics was and continues to be a space of exclusion. Even within progressive spaces, claims of inclusion and intersectionality were not backed by practice. We witness this exclusion across marginalised identities and power imbalances, from the voices of the LGBTQIA+ community, to voices of Southern and Eastern Europe and Balkan communities, to voices of the disabled community.

In finding my role in politics, I was often confronted with Audre Lorde's critique that the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house. Is my being here complicity in systems of oppression?

I deepened my knowledge of decoloniality, of justice, of inclusion, and confronted my own positionality, where the personal as the political could illuminate all my choices. DWARS and later FYEG quickly became a home, as I saw and believed in its potential to change and to become a community for marginalised peoples. Where these spaces and practices were absent, I sought to disrupt and to confront us with our exclusionary realities – our Whiteness, our Westernness, our Eurocentrism – in order to create them.

For 'community must not mean a shedding of our differences, nor the pathetic pretense that these differences do not exist.' For there is no equality, no inclusion, no true community, without the deepest of commitments to embracing difference. This is only possible if we challenge our spaces, confront our realities, and dismantle and recreate our thinkings and practices into one that centralises the differences of marginalised identities as strengths. Only then can we be inclusive and create a community for all.

A period of reflection: real change?

This process is not easy, and I am not in this alone. However, I had to confront it at its harshest this past year, as the genocide of Palestinians unfolded, facing a reality where racialised and ethnicised peoples are *tolerated* so long as it's within European terms.

I no longer saw European politics as a space where a community including racialised and ethnicised peoples was possible, and was forced to confront an entire shift in my own reality and long-term direction in life.

However, I have also spent a lot of this past period reflecting, learning, and growing, and in that time reflecting on what my involvement in FYEG means and what it should be. There were two stories shared with me that moved me deeply: one on how my criticism of exclusion in Europe and the need for racial justice at the Young Greens Decentralised Trainings inspired someone to write a book on antiracism that sold out; another on how my work on solidarity, justice, and inclusion inspired an MO to believe in change again.

They made me realise the value of my work in bringing forth necessary change, FYEG's potential to still be a home for all, that I get shit done, and that my fight is not over.

They also made me realise our urgent need for creating spaces and dialogues to recognise and understand these different identities, positionalities, and lived experiences in order to embrace them and truly foster community.


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I am fighting for a Europe where 'our personal visions help lay the groundwork for political action.' An FYEG where we deeply realise that the personal is political.

I am running for my community and people like me across Europe. I am running for racialised and ethnicised communities everywhere; for young people from the Global South; for Palestinians, Ukrainians, Armenians, Belarusians, Sudanese, Congolese, the Uyghurs, Rohingya, Kurdish and the Roma, and those fighting and disrupting across the globe.

For we cannot build communities where we don't meaningfully include the many. We have more work to be done and I'm not done yet. Let's fight this fight together and work for a politics for all. Let's get shit done. Not me, us.

For you, for us, for FYEG,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Srishagon Abraham