

OUR impact

Friends of the Earth Europe
Annual Review 2016

2016





Friends of the Earth Europe Annual General Meeting, Ireland, 2016. © FoEE

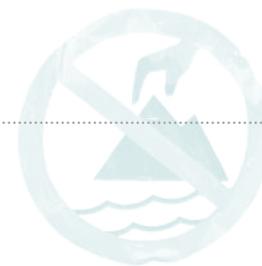
Friends of the Earth Europe Board 2016-2017

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/ THE EUROPEAN NETWORK'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE HEART OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CAMPAIGNING FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO BENEFIT THE PLANET, PEOPLE AND OUR FUTURE, INFLUENCING EUROPEAN AND EU POLICY AND RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

/ THE LARGEST GRASSROOTS ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK IN EUROPE UNITING 32 NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS AND THOUSANDS OF LOCAL ACTIVIST GROUPS ACROSS EUROPE

/ THE PEOPLE'S VOICE AT THE HEART OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



MAGDA STOCZKIEWICZ, DIRECTOR,
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE

MAY 2017

OUR IMPACT

Europe needs to change course.

The European Union has been shaken in the last 12 months by history-shaping events in its own member states and on other continents.

The UK's vote to leave the union, constitutional crises in Poland and Hungary, the emboldening of far right political parties in a number of countries, the failure to humanely welcome refugees seeking sanctuary, and failed austerity economics are some of the reasons why the EU project has arrived at a crossroads.

At the same time the world is already crossing safe planetary boundaries. In 2016 the Arctic saw 'unheard of' temperatures 20°C above normal, and atmospheric carbon dioxide officially passed the symbolic 400ppm mark. Meanwhile in the USA, climate deniers and fossil fuel company chiefs are no longer whispering in the ears of government – they are the government.

At Friends of the Earth Europe we are calling for a new vision for Europe. We believe that staying on the same tried and failed neoliberal road will result in further disillusionment with conventional politics, contributing to rising nationalism, racism and extremism.

Instead, Europe in its entirety needs to enter a new citizen-centred era of politics. It needs to reorient decision-making away from vested corporate interests and an obsession with growth, and to put the environment and social justice at its core.

At this time of immense change, it feels like the right moment for our network to also enter a new chapter. I have been proud to be director for nearly a decade, and now I am handing over to new leadership. I am passing on a strong office in Brussels, a united network of 33 member groups across Europe, and a vibrant and autonomous Young Friends of the Earth Europe.

This is the last review I will introduce, and like every year it is spilling over with activity. Stand-out campaigns include the mass anti-TTIP movement that forced governments to distance themselves from the EU-US trade deal and undoubtedly contributed to its current shelving (see page 11). Meanwhile, the Nature Alert campaign engaged huge numbers of people to stop any weakening of EU nature protections, meaning we can now work to better implement those laws (page 16).

As well as game-changing campaigns like these, we also strengthened our solidarity work with our allies worldwide. We fought for justice for Berta Cáceres, the environmental and indigenous rights activist murdered in Honduras. We added our voice to the struggle to stop oil drilling in the Norwegian Lofoten islands. And we are supporting our US colleagues to resist Trump's regressive policies.

I believe Friends of the Earth Europe is well equipped to carry on rising to challenges and fighting for a better Europe. I have been proud to lead the Friends of the Earth Europe network. It is always inspiring, always powerful – and as you will read in these pages – never more so than in the last 12 months.



“ENERGY CITIZENS CAN DRIVE THE TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON ENERGY SYSTEM”

MOLLY WALSH, CLIMATE JUSTICE AND ENERGY CAMPAIGNER IN EURACTIV

COMMUNITIES AT THE HEART OF EUROPE'S ENERGY MIX

Over half of citizens in the European Union could be generating their own renewable electricity by 2050 – and we continue to work to make this a reality. We highlighted the potential for citizen-owned renewable energy projects in Europe with new research, and successfully enshrined “energy citizens” at the core of the European Commission’s Energy Union package. People have the power to revolutionise Europe’s energy system, reclaiming power from big energy companies, and putting the planet first.

Below: Calling for a fossil free Europe in Belgium. Right: Beacons of hope in Norway for an oil-free Arctic. © FoEE



Demanding climate justice and renewable energy at the COP22 held in Morocco. © Leena Kontinen



Pushing for energy efficiency; protesting against gas in the Netherlands. © Milieudéfense

LIFTING MILLIONS OUT OF ENERGY POVERTY

Our campaign to boost energy efficiency across Europe was integral to the European Commission recommending a binding EU target of 30% savings by 2030. The increase from an optional 27% is equivalent to saving Belgium's annual energy use, or removing the annual emissions of about 35 million cars. Backed by legislation to make fridges, TVs, kettles and other products more efficient, alongside incentives to boost renovation and insulation of buildings, the proposals will lift millions out of energy poverty. Our tireless push for increased energy savings continues at the member state level. Savings of at least 40% are required to ensure a just solution to the climate crisis.

"[ENERGY EFFICIENCY] WILL LIFT MILLIONS OF PEOPLE OUT OF ENERGY POVERTY AND INCREASE EMISSIONS CUTS... WHY STOP AT 30%? WHY NOT GO FURTHER AND MEET THE EU'S FULL POTENTIAL?" **BROOK RILEY**, ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGNER IN THE BBC

FIGHTING FOR A FOSSIL FREE EUROPE



Climate change knows no borders, so we brought together groups from across our diverse European network to push the urgent and much-needed transformation towards a fossil-fuel-free Europe. We connected the dots between anti-coal struggles in the Czech Republic, Sweden and Germany; stood in solidarity with those resisting gas extraction in Scotland, England and the Netherlands, and will continue to work with all those pushing for the just, clean energy system we need. The Fossil Free Europe campaign aims to deliver a just transition to a 100% renewable, no nuclear, super energy-efficient, zero-fossil-fuel Europe by 2030.

CLIMATE CAMPS FOR CLIMATE GENERATION



Over 80 European and international youth activists from across the Young FoEE network and beyond came together in Scotland for a summer camp. It was an empowering space that engaged many young people currently underrepresented in the environmental justice movement, addressed issues of power and privilege, and sharpened campaigning skills. Participants organised and took part in an action outside the UK's main oil and gas lobby office. The protest made the national news, as activists demanded an end to subsidies for North Sea oil and called for sustainable jobs in Scotland.



Calling for a just transition to sustainable jobs in Scotland. © YFoEE/Lawrence Cheuk

“THE REAL ACTION TO CHANGE THE FOOD SYSTEM IS HAPPENING LOCALLY, WHERE GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS ARE STREETS AHEAD OF POLICYMAKERS.”

STANKA BECHEVA, FOOD AND FARMING CAMPAIGNER IN EURACTIV



Above/Below: Building a new food system at the Nyéléni forum in Romania. © Nyéléni

BUILDING A NEW FOOD SYSTEM

The fightback against industrial agriculture moved up a notch with the biggest-ever European meeting for food sovereignty. Held in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, the second Nyéléni Europe forum for food sovereignty brought together over 500 people from 40 countries, with Friends of the Earth Europe playing a key role in coordinating

the event. Farmers and indigenous peoples, community-supported agriculture movements and trade unions were present, and the energy has now been taken back home to push ever-more strongly for food sovereignty at the local and national levels.





PROTECTING EU FARMERS FROM TOXIC TRADE DEALS

Our major report, 'Trading away EU farmers', showed how the EU-US trade deal TTIP could spell disaster for European farming. It modelled the impacts of the deal and predicted EU farmers facing stronger competition and lower prices, threatening their very existence. It detailed the dangers of lower safety and animal welfare standards, and the likelihood of increased US imports flooding EU markets. The devastation of TTIP for farmers is just one of the reasons we vehemently opposed the TTIP agreement.

KEEPING GM-CROPS OFF THE TABLE

The majority of national governments still reject genetically modified (GM) crops. Farmers don't want them, and nor do consumers. We continue to push back against pressure from corporate giants like Bayer, Monsanto, Syngenta and Pioneer, who are seeking to consolidate control over the food chain, and sell toxic products like glyphosate, glufosinate and new GMOs. No new GM crops have been permitted in Europe for nearly 20 years and there is no political or public support for them – it's high time to take them off the table for good.

"THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO SECURE POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR THE CULTIVATION OF GMOS SINCE 1998. IT IS TIME FOR IT TO REJECT GM CROPS ONCE AND FOR ALL."

MUTE SCHIMPF,
GMO CAMPAIGNER IN LE MONDE

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS 2016 CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY



EXPOSING BARROSO'S REVOLVING DOOR SCANDAL

We highlighted the controversial high-level appointment of former European Commission President José Manuel Barroso to the financial firm Goldman Sachs. Over 63,000 citizens, as well as staff from the European institutions and other organisations petitioned to block these 'revolving door' jobs. As a result, the period where former Commissioners must submit their new jobs for review has been increased from 18 to 24 months, and to 36 months for the President. We continue to call for stricter regulation of ex-EU officials' career moves once they leave office.

Saying no to revolving doors outside the European Commission. © ALTER-EU

“THE EUROPEAN UNION HAS AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO PUT HUMAN RIGHTS BEFORE CORPORATE RIGHTS.”

ANNE VAN SCHAIK, ACCOUNTABLE
FINANCE CAMPAIGNER IN EURACTIV



FIGHTING FOR BINDING RULES FOR BUSINESS

We led calls on European institutions to support a binding UN treaty for business and human rights. We broke the EU and member state blockade and pushed them to the negotiation table. This treaty could bring much-needed protection for people from human rights abuses by the most reckless corporations and bring those responsible to justice.

HIGHLIGHTING THE ILLEGALITY OF THE INVESTMENT COURT SYSTEM

We continued to oppose the Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) and the new 'Investment Court System' (ICS) in EU trade deals. These mechanisms give excessive rights to corporations through a parallel legal system only available to overseas investors. We published reports showing that proposed changes to the system do not resolve its fundamental flaws while expanding its reach and



Fighting for a binding treaty on human rights in Geneva and Brussels.

© FoE / © Victor Barro

increasing the risk of claims against the EU and its member states. With our network and allies we worked to get governments to reject this mechanism. Belgium has stated that it will not ratify the EU-Canada agreement CETA unless the ICS is changed and is seeking clarification from the European Court of Justice on whether these courts are compatible with European law.

STOPPING CETA – TTIP'S CANADIAN COUSIN

We expanded our campaign against TTIP to make sure the EU-Canada deal, CETA, did not lay the ground for even more devastating impacts from the US deal.

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS 2016 RESOURCE USE, EU FUNDS, YOUTH

REACHING OUT FOR RESOURCE JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Over the year we held three inspiring outreach events. The first, in Bulgaria, was a gathering of grassroots activists from 19 different countries working on issues from stopping local incinerators, to building community composting schemes and educating schools on reducing consumption. The second was a four-day course at the degrowth summer school in Germany where we looked at resource use through the lens of power, privilege and system change. A final workshop in Budapest explored the links between wellbeing and material consumption. These events helped us connect with new groups and movements and has inspired our work in Brussels with stories and knowledge from local communities.



Inspiring and educating activists on resource justice.
© FoEE

We had high-level meetings with governments in the Netherlands, Austria, Hungary, Slovenia and Wallonia and mobilised citizens to demonstrate against CETA at European Council meetings. CETA has been signed but efforts to stop it during the national ratification process are continuing.



Opposing TTIP's Canadian cousin in Luxembourg.
© FoEE

ENSURING SUSTAINABLE SPENDING IN EUROPE

We highlighted some of the perverse European subsidies that are fuelling outdated carbon-intensive projects like motorways, airports, and fossil-fuel infrastructure. Our analysis showed €1.5 billion of the European Fund for Strategic Investments is earmarked for fossil-fuel infrastructure, and 68% of transport investment is destined for carbon-intensive projects. We also released research showing that billions of Euros destined to transform the energy systems of central and eastern Europe are being misspent – with only 7% of €178 billion going to renewables, SMART grids and energy efficiency.

“WE'RE SEEING EU FUNDS BEING SPENT ACROSS CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE FOR COAL, GAS AND DATED TRANSPORT SYSTEMS – LOCKING COUNTRIES INTO FOSSIL-FUEL DEPENDENCY, AT THE EXPENSE OF RENEWABLES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY.”

MARKUS TRILLING,
EU FUNDS CAMPAIGNER IN TREE ALERTS

BROADENING THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

Young Friends of the Earth Europe's expanded network – now over 20 groups across Europe – is focused on broadening the environmental justice movement, to bring in young people who are currently underrepresented in it. An event in Brussels brought together young people from different social justice campaigns across Europe to better connect struggles. A broad group of volunteers completed a new manifesto for equality and interculturalism that will underpin the rest of Young Friends of the Earth Europe's campaigns on climate justice, food and agriculture, and biodiversity.



Young people show solidarity with Haiti from Brussels.
© YFoEE



COUNTING THE GLOBAL COST OF CONSUMPTION

As the EU continues to revise its waste laws and starts to regulate the bioeconomy, our new studies detailed the extent and impact of current overconsumption across the EU. We showed that almost 40% of the total land embodied in the products we consume comes from outside Europe, and that animal products like meat and dairy account for over 70% of land requirements.

THE SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

With an incredible range of 500 innovative informal education and broad outreach activities at local and national levels, the School of Sustainability has directly engaged 10,000 activists and reached 3.8 million people. These activities have included information stalls at festivals about landgrabbing and mining, learning-by-doing programmes with migrants on

breaking down stereotypes, “gesticulated conference” theatre on resistance in the Global South, European-level events such as gatherings to plan and organise our network-wide Fossil Free campaign, public kitchens promoting the importance of food sovereignty, and workshops on degrowth and community organising, among others. We have formed a gender justice working group and built capacity on the power and impact that international solidarity gives to people affected, and to our issues. We now also have a new website, Tools for System Change, with useful tools, resources and case studies.



“IT IS UNJUST, IRRESPONSIBLE AND UNSUSTAINABLE THAT WE IN THE EU CONTINUE TO USE MORE THAN OUR FAIR SHARE OF GLOBAL LAND”

MEADHBH BOLGER,
RESOURCE JUSTICE CAMPAIGNER IN TELESUR



EXAMPLES OF THE SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY'S WORK ARE DOTTED THROUGHOUT THIS REVIEW, MARKED WITH THE ABOVE SYMBOL. THE PROJECT IS A NETWORK-WIDE DRIVING FORCE - GALVANISING GROUPS, ENGAGING NEW AUDIENCES, EMPOWERING YOUTH, AND DEVELOPING OUR POWER TO CREATE SYSTEM CHANGE.

Left: Raising awareness on sustainable resource use in Austria. © Global 2000 Below: Informal educators from across the network. © FoEE



"NOW IS THE CHANCE FOR THE EU TO LIGHT THE WAY AHEAD, RECLAIM SOCIAL DEMOCRACY, AND LEAD ON ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM THAT CONTRIBUTES TO A MORE EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD."

PAUL DE CLERCK,

TRADE CAMPAIGNER IN COMMON DREAMS NEWS



Opposing toxic trade deals in Bratislava, Luxembourg and Brussels. © FOE

TTIP 'TROJAN TREATY' ON HOLD

The Friends of the Earth Europe network was at the heart of a broad European movement to oppose the transatlantic trade deal between the EU and US – TTIP.

We analysed leaked documents and concluded that all approaches proposed by both the EU and the US would lead to the weakening or scrapping of social and environmental standards.

Our major report, 'Trading away EU farmers', showed how TTIP could spell disaster for European farming. The research showed that EU farmers would face stronger competition and lower prices, threatening their very existence. We detailed the dangers of lower food safety and animal welfare standards.

We exposed mechanisms in the deal which would give excessive rights to corporations through a parallel legal system only available to foreign investors.

Meanwhile, we supported key grassroots struggles against TTIP. With allies we organised the 'Democracy for Sale Awards' to give citizens the opportunity to call out the corporate lobbyists using TTIP to undermine democracy and the public interest. We supported the 'TTIP Game Over' citizen's initiative against free trade deals.

We piled pressure on European governments to distance themselves from this 'Trojan horse treaty'. Trade ministers were finally forced to admit TTIP was virtually dead.

ESTONIA STRENGTHENING ESTONIAN ROOTS



Friends of the Earth Estonia focussed on capacity building and development in 2016, and have established a dedicated team of four staff. From a previously small and mostly voluntary group, this has created the space for active engagement in the network through the School of Sustainability project, and leverage at a national level.



Building capacity in Estonia.
© FoE Estonia

BELGIUM (WALLONIA) CHALLENGING OVER-CONSUMPTION

Reducing consumption, especially during festive periods, can be challenging. Friends of the Earth Belgium offered an alternative vision with songs encouraging alternative gift-giving. The initiative generated nationwide interest, and prompted debate on giving fewer material goods, but more goodwill.



Encouraging alternative gift-giving in Belgium.
© FoE Wallonia

SPAIN SAVING SANTA CRUZ FROM DESTRUCTIVE HYDRO-PROJECTS

The Spanish multinational Ecoener Hidralia had plans for a large-scale hydroelectric project on the river of the Santa Cruz area in Guatemala. A threat to many local communities, and opposed by the local population since 2008, Friends of the Earth Spain worked with Friends of the Earth Guatemala to campaign in Spain for Ecoener Hidralia to pull-out of the project. After tens of thousands of Spanish citizens echoed their call, the company announced it would withdraw.



Giving voice to the voiceless in Guatemala.
© FoE Spain

MALTA SURVEYING MALTESE BIODIVERSITY



An innovative project led by Friends of the Earth Malta brought 30 young participants from both Malta and Belgium for specialised workshops and training on the unique species of the Maltese Islands. The 'Ecologica' project surveyed reptile populations and laid foundations for a nationwide bee census. Connecting young European biologists through education resulted in peer-reviewed data for the Museum of Natural History of Malta, and shared passion for the protection of the environment.



ECOLOGICA

Connecting young biologists in Malta.
© Antoine Borg Micallef



FINLAND PHASING OUT FOSSIL FUELS



Finnish citizens in six cities are calling for regional coal or peat power plants to be shut down. The local campaigns are part of the coal-free Finland campaign that aims to end Finland's reliance on fossil fuels. During the first year, the city council in Espoo committed to cut coal use, and in Vantaa, the municipality-owned energy company published investment plans to drastically reduce coal and gas use within the next few years. Lobbying, advocacy, public debate, and awareness raising will be used to push for investments in renewables and energy efficiency. Additionally, a new community power campaign, including collaboration with the University of Jyväskylä, aims to break down barriers to community energy.



Breaking down barriers to community energy in Finland. © FoE Finland

CZECH REPUBLIC WIN AGAINST UNFAIR RENEWABLE RULES

Friends of the Earth Czech Republic successfully challenged unfair proposals for new tariffs on energy production that would have discouraged energy savings and small-scale renewable energy producers. The proposals were withdrawn by the Czech prime minister; a successful result after an intense campaign and citizen mobilisation by the group. Work now begins to reinstate support for community-owned renewable projects.



Challenging unfair energy laws in the Czech Republic. © Hnutí Duha

POLAND SAVING POLAND'S NATURAL HERITAGE

Friends of the Earth Poland exposed insufficient national regulations on water use, and protested plans to change some rivers into canals. On a local level, three trees were named Monuments of Nature, and a series of workshops were organised for over 12,000 teenagers and university students to raise awareness of the value of forests. In the Biała river valley, a Natura 2000 site, local groups held workshops for school children, teachers and authorities to raise awareness of the region's importance. In Gliwice over 2,000 people attended an organic fair with 50 farmers, processors and traditional producers. There was also a high-level conference in Warsaw on the need to transition to economies free from fossil fuels, with a focus on reducing emissions in four cities.



Protecting Poland's trees.
© FoE Poland

NETHERLANDS
RESISTING GASQUAKES
IN GRONINGEN



Along with local communities, Friends of the Earth Netherlands organised a wave of actions in the earthquake-stricken region of Groningen to call for an end to gas extraction: a cycling tour, protests outside the headquarters of the gas company NAM, and several court cases. Groningen sits on one of Europe's largest gas fields, and earthquakes resulting from gas extraction are common. Combined with increased pressure from local politicians and other organisations, an 11% cut in permitted extraction was achieved. But more needs to be done, and with more politicians on board, the struggle continues.



Above: Standing up to gas extraction in the Netherlands.
© Michiel Wijnbergh

Left: Knitting resistance against gas in Groningen.
© Milieudefensie

GERMANY
UNITED AGAINST GLYPHOSATE

'United against glyphosate' was the name of Friends of the Earth Germany's successful nationwide campaign to stop Germany prolonging the approval of Monsanto's toxic weed-killer glyphosate. Over 200,000 online actions, three petitions, and several demonstrations reached out to millions – with nearly 20 interviews on national TV and radio. The result was disagreement on glyphosate between the main political parties, and an 18-month renewal period, instead of the proposed 15 years.



Making noise about the dangers of glyphosate.
© Jörg Farys/BUND

SCOTLAND
BANNING UNDERGROUND
COAL GASIFICATION

Burning coal seams under the Firth of Forth and other parts of the Scottish coastline would have threatened local habitats and made a major contribution to climate change. Friends of the Earth Scotland released a ground-breaking international report on the dangers of the underground coal gasification industry and worked alongside community groups to alert people and politicians to the risks. The Scottish Government decided to ban the technology – the first time they have said no to more fossil fuel extraction.



Beating underground coal gasification in Scotland.
© FoE Scotland





SWITZERLAND REGENERATING MOUNTAIN MEADOWS

With a light-hearted tip of the hat to Heidi, Friends of the Earth Switzerland is taking on the challenge of regenerating the country's mountain meadows, as part of their ten-year project 'Allegra Peter the Goatherd!'. Across the Swiss Alps the group is working with local farmers and regional authorities to restore abandoned high-biodiversity alpine meadows. 95% of these rich and unique habitats have disappeared in Switzerland due to agriculture, but traditional grazing can help restore them – while also bringing animal products for local markets and promoting agri-tourism. 80 hectares have so far been restored, with significant boosts in butterfly populations already observed.



Saving
Switzerland's
mountain
meadows.
© Florian Wallenwein

NETHERLANDS CALLING FOR CLEAN AIR

Friends of the Earth Netherlands gathered more than 80,000 people to call for healthier air in the Netherlands. The Netherlands continues to violate European air quality standards, and the group is now pursuing legal action against the state. More than 1,700 people have donated €35,000 for legal fees. The case continues in 2017.



Taking legal
action in the
Netherlands over
air pollution.
© Michiel Wijnbergh

CROATIA CAPITAL OF TRASH

Zagreb was named the 'European Capital of Trash' by Friends of the Earth Croatia, as part of their work to improve waste management. The group is working to resist a new incinerator in Zagreb, and instead promote more sustainable waste management and collection practices. Part of this work includes coordinating the Zero Waste Croatia network which rallied 25,000 citizens in support of a European 'Zero Waste 2020' strategy.



Highlighting
Zagreb's trashy
reputation.
© FoE Croatia

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA GETTING PEOPLE PEDALLING

Friends of the Earth Bosnia and Herzegovina celebrated a major step towards greater use of bicycles as a means of transport in the country, following the withdrawal of unnecessarily restrictive laws. A six-year campaign focused on the unfair classification of cycling as a dangerous activity, on the need for reducing road risks and air pollution through traffic regulation, and on the health benefits of cycling. Local communities are now being encouraged to return to the road with respect for traffic rules and to enjoy all the benefits that cycling provides.



Calling for
fair rules
for cyclists.

© FoE Bosnia & Herzegovina



Standing in solidarity with Young Friends of the Earth Norway, to save Norway's fjords. © Luka Tomac

SAVING NATURE LAWS IN BRUSSELS, SAVING NATURE ACROSS EUROPE

After a two-year struggle, Friends of the Earth Europe groups and our allies won a massive victory to save EU nature laws.

The EU's strong protections for nature were under threat of being rewritten and watered down under the European Commission's deregulation agenda.

But the Commission bowed to the record-breaking half-a-million EU citizens who called to save the laws via the #NatureAlert campaign, and has since presented a plan to better implement them. It is a setback for the deregulation agenda in Brussels, and a springboard to start better protecting our natural world.

Around our network, we have helped to mobilise our groups and supporters to internationalise some key local biodiversity struggles. We helped Friends of the Earth Norway in their campaign to resist the dumping of toxic mine waste in Norwegian fjords, and Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland to resist road building that would affect protected wetlands at Lough Neagh.



Protecting Bosnia & Herzegovina's rivers from destructive dams.
© Luka Tomac



Top: Saving Europe's nature laws in Brussels. © FoEE
Above: Showing solidarity with the struggle to save Kresna gorge. © FoEE

We backed Friends of the Earth Bulgaria in their ongoing campaign to stave off imminent construction of a motorway through the protected Kresna Gorge and Friends of the Earth Bosnia & Herzegovina in their struggle against destructive hydropower dams.

The year ended by supporting Friends of the Earth Norway to successfully halt a cull of Norway's tiny population of endangered wolves. Many of these struggles continue into 2017.

"WE ALL NEED NATURE
IN OUR LIVES FOR HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING."

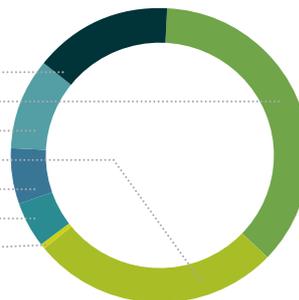
ROBBIE BLAKE,
NATURE CAMPAIGNER IN AFP

#NATUREALERT

FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2016

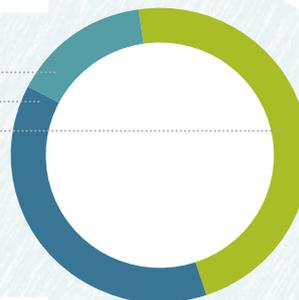
INCOME 2016 (IN EUROS)

Operational grant – EU	700,000	15%
Project grants – EU	1,610,234	36%
Project grants – Other governments/institutions	446,197	10%
Project grants – Private funders	1,206,633	27%
Project contributions – Members & partners	291,551	6%
Membership fees and donations	249,049	5%
Other income	5,680	<1%
TOTAL INCOME	4,509,344	100%



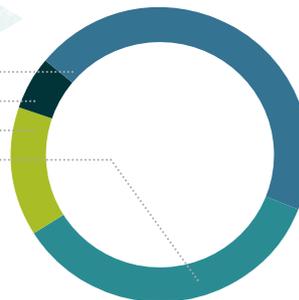
EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT 2016 (IN EUROS)

Operations and management	685,779	15%
Network development	1,674,562	38%
Campaigning and communications	2,086,660	47%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,447,001	100%



EXPENSES BY TYPE 2016 (IN EUROS)

Salaries	1,997,967	45%
Office costs	268,829	6%
Campaigning activities	615,840	14%
National member & partner projects	1,564,365	35%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,447,001	100%
Reserves allocation for 2016	62,343	



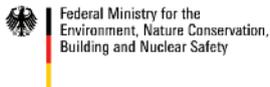


All figures rounded to the nearest Euro. Full copies of Friends of the Earth Europe's accounts are available from the Belgian national bank at www.nbb.be from 1st July 2017. Quote company number 0443.252.089. Details of our funding can be found on our website: www.foeeurope.org/about/financial

THANK YOU!

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FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN NETWORK'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE HEART OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CAMPAIGNING FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO BENEFIT THE PLANET, PEOPLE AND OUR FUTURE, INFLUENCING EUROPEAN AND EU POLICY AND RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.



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