

The Green East-West Dialogue

Fringe Meeting 16th of March 2007 Berlin

1. Opening, Agenda

Around 70 people from more than 25 countries took part in the fringe meeting of the Green East-West Dialogue on Friday Morning.

2/3 Reports and Calendar 2007

The reports on the activities of 2006 had been distributed earlier and were accepted. The activities foreseen in the Calendar 2007 focus upon four of the priorities set by the Green East-West Dialogue in Geneva, October 2006.

The GEWD will:

1. contribute to the preparations of the European Elections 2009
2. contribute to exchange of experience on local campaigning in participation in local councils (Round Table Central Europe, Vienna)
3. organise a meeting on effects of tourism in Pecs (Hungary) with participation of greens from neighbouring countries
4. continue with a focus on the Balkans. It will work together with Green Foundations for a conference in Sarajevo (autumn 2007, Sarajevo Bosnia) gathering NGO's, experts and green politicians especially on the situation of the Western Balkans.
5. continue with a focus on the countries around the Black Sea (June 2007, Istanbul Turkey)

4. Preparing the European Elections

György Droppa, member of the Steering Group presented the report on the European Election Campaign 2004 from the perspective of the CEE countries and introduced the Policy Recommendations concerning the preparations of a new Common European Green Campaign.

The report and the Policy Recommendations were presented to the meeting of the Party Leaders.

See annex (Policy Recommendations)

5. Green Experiences at the Local Level. Campaigning and participating in the local councils

6.

Vlasta Toth, co chair of the ZelenaLista (Zeleni za Zagreb) and member of the Steering Group on the situation in Zagreb. They entered four district councils for the first time in 2005, overcoming the threshold of five percent. The direct contact with voters enabled them to continue their focus upon concrete problems in the neighbourhoods, in this way gaining rather easy access to the local media. There is interest from independent councillors from other parts of the city and the country to work together.

Gerhard Jordan, member of Steering Group, informed about the Round Tables for Central Europe local councillors and the Barcelona Local Councillors Meeting. A meeting is in preparation for October 2007 in Vienna.

7. Elections Steering Group

The Steering Group of the GEWD is composed out of four members elected by the 22 Registered Participants from the GEWD and four members nominated by supporting green foundations and representative of the Committee of the EGP. In the meeting the four members were elected.

In the first round two female members were elected (out of three candidates) **Davida Pertena (Albania)** and **Vlasta Toth (Croatia)**

In the first round six male candidates stood for election but none received a 50% support. In the second round **Darko Krajnc (Slovenia)** was elected. Two other candidates Ender Eren and Serghiy Kurykin received equal votes. In the third round between these two candidates **Serghiy Kurykin (Ukraine)** received a majority support.

Next to the elected members of the Steering Group, three green foundations have nominated representatives in the Steering Group: **Marie Utter** (Green Forum, Sweden), **Gerhard Jordan** (Grüne Bildungs Werkstatt, Austria) **Anne de Boer** (Stichting Duurzame Solidariteit, The Netherlands).

Sophia Sakhanberidze will be the representative of the EGP Committee.

8. State of Affairs of the Green Parties in CEE

Due to lack of time the floor was only given to Maret Merisaar, recently elected Member of the Parliament of Estonia. She informed on the low-budget election campaign of the Estonian Greens. This most recent Green success was greeted with great applause.