



EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT

# BNC Board Elections

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024





## **About the Board of National Committees**

The Board of National Committees (BNC) is the assembly of representatives from all recognised National Committees (NCs) of the EYP, National Committee Candidates and EYP Initiatives. The BNC meets twice a year for a meeting, and is otherwise active through two mailing lists and sporadically via online votes on various issues.

The BNC holds full co-decision rights on the EYP Charter and policies together with the strategic body of the EYP, the Governing Body (GB). The Board of the BNC manages and chairs the BNC as a decision-making body and ensures democratic decision-making, based on the BNC's own working procedure.

## **Elections for the BNC Board**

Elections for the Board of the BNC are held every year, when all seats (usually one chair and two vice-chairs) become vacant after the Spring BNC meeting: only National Committees are able to cast a vote for the Board of the BNC.

Everyone who is interested can run for the Board of the BNC. There are no formal criteria.

The vote is held online and National Committees cast votes based on the pool of candidates.

All candidates run individually for the positions of Chair and/or Vice-Chair. Votes are cast simultaneously and the candidate with most votes becomes the new Chair of the Board of the BNC. The Vice-Chairs are those two candidates with the most votes after the Chair has been elected.

The election takes place in any scenario, when at least one candidate has come forward, and even without enough candidates for a competitive election.

Additionally, we will be sharing content regarding the BNC Board Elections in the Members' Platform (<https://members.eyp.org/elections>), the EYP Discord and our Instagram (@eyp\_network), so stay tuned for those!

## **Role of National Committees and members**

National Committees are asked to actively encourage candidates to run in the elections, and to help raise awareness for the elections.

The National Committee's representative will receive an e-mail invitation to cast the National Committee's vote. However, National Committees may not favour one candidate over another in their public statements. In contrast, individual EYP members are more than welcome to campaign on behalf of candidates and to share candidates' manifestos via email or social media.

Please refer to the [Working Procedure of the BNC](#) for other rules that apply during the elections.

## **BNC Board Mandate Period**

The Board of the BNC is elected after the Spring BNC Meeting in 2024 for a term of one year.

The term in office starts after the BNC board handover meeting; but transition work starts in the period between the election results (expected at the end of May) and the handover meeting (expected in July or August).

The elected Board of the BNC is expected to serve a one-year mandate. Re-election is possible.



## Work on the BNC Board

Towards the beginning of the term, the new Board of the BNC comes together with the outgoing Board of the BNC for a hand-over weekend to receive a thorough introduction to all documentation and ongoing policy discussions. The former Board of the BNC ensures a comprehensive hand-over of all materials to prepare the new Board of the BNC sufficiently.

The main aim of the Board of the BNC during the course of the year is to ensure that the [BNC Working Procedure](#) is followed to safeguard democratic decision-making and equal treatment of each National Committee.

The Board of the BNC manages itself and is free to distribute its tasks among their members.

The Board of the BNC normally meets **physically three times a year**, usually over a weekend in Berlin. The first meeting is a hand-over meeting in the beginning of the term; and then the next meetings are at the biannual BNC Meetings. The hand-over weekend dates will be coordinated amongst the new and old Board in summer 2024. For all these meetings, costs for flights and accommodation will be covered by the International Office. The two BNC meeting dates will be set based on suggestions from the International Office, and preferences voiced by the NCs.

A candidate for the Board of the BNC should:

- be able to make an average of 3 hours per week available for BNC work and reply to e-mails regularly throughout the week;
- be able to attend the hand-over weekend (dates open for discussion) and the two BNC Meetings (to be confirmed at the BNC Meeting prior);
- be able to free additional time (up to 10 hours per week) right before BNC Meetings to prepare meeting documents;
- be willing to familiarise themselves with EYP Policy and adopt given working procedures;
- have experience in chairing decision-making discussions with diverse members and interests;
- have some experience in NGO management.

Unlike Governing Body members, members of the Board of the BNC can hold any position on boards of National Committees, Candidate National Committees, or EYP Initiatives. Members of the Board of the BNC can also hold any officials' positions at International Sessions for the duration of their term.

## How to run in the elections

Anyone who is interested can sign up as a candidate for the Board of the BNC.

To nominate yourself (or somebody else) as a candidate for election, you must send an email to [elections@eyp.org](mailto:elections@eyp.org). All candidates are required to submit a filled in questionnaire and an optional video to [elections@eyp.org](mailto:elections@eyp.org) **by Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 CET**.

The questionnaire for candidates is attached to this call. Videos should be sent as a link to [elections@eyp.org](mailto:elections@eyp.org). The International Office will upload all videos simultaneously.

Campaign videos should be no longer than 3 minutes, and candidates are asked to introduce themselves, outline their motivation and to summarise their questionnaire. If campaign videos exceed 3 minutes, it will be at the discretion of the International Office to reject them, or to ask the candidate to provide a shorter alternative version.



## Election timeline

Below you can see the full timeline of the elections for the Board of the BNC:

- Call for candidates published: **Tuesday, April 23, 2024**
- Deadline for candidates/manifestos: **Thursday, May 9, 2024**
- Publication of manifestos: **Friday, May 10, 2024**
- Campaigning period: **Friday, May 10 – Thursday, May 16, 2024**
- Voting period: **Friday, May 17 – Thursday, May 23, 2024**
- Results announced: **Friday, May 24, 2024**

## Voting

All National Committees have up to three votes to cast – one for each available position.

All National Committees are asked to assign one person voting on their behalf in the elections, and to inform the International Office about the person voting on their behalf. Only the submitted person and their email address will be enabled to cast the votes. Voting takes place online, and voting instructions will be sent to all registered voters before the voting period begins.

- Voting takes place between **Friday, May 17 and Thursday, May 23, 2024**.

During the voting period, candidates are allowed to continue campaigning.

The elections are administered by the International Office to avoid any conflicts of interest. At the end of the voting period, the results will be announced, and the successful candidates appointed.