

European Youth Press membership procedure

1. What are the criteria your organization should fulfil to be able to apply to become a member of the European Youth Press?

- Being officially registered and working at a national level; Potential Full Members of the European Youth press should be registered for at least one year at the time of application. Otherwise, organizations can apply for the statute of Observer Members. After one year of Observer Member statute, at the decision of the General Assembly, the organization can upgrade its statute to Full Member.
- Being politically neutral
- Abiding by democratic and anti-racism and anti-discrimination principles
- Being youth-led (governing bodies under 35 years old)
- Having a membership of which the majority is under 35 years of age
- Having media as main field of focus and interest

2. How can your organization apply?

The following information must be submitted in English as well as in the original language:

- Statutes/ Constitution, or any other legal document governing how your organization functions
- Proof of registration (document according to state law, including date of registration, status of registration, jurisdiction)
- Current work plan if available, other documentation of the work of the applicant organization (maximum 2 A4 pages)
- Filled in application form (downloadable at www.youthpress.org)
- A report of the activities and projects of the applicant organization of at least the past year
- A list of the members of the highest decision-making body of the organization, their roles, age and contact details (e-mail address, Skype ID, mobile number)
- A written statement that your organization fully accepts the statutes and aims of the European Youth Press

Applications will only be considered as such when the European Youth Press receives all the required documentation described above. This must be sent in one package by e-mail to applications@youthpress.org. Once the documents have been received, you will be sent a confirmation of receipt.

Because of time constraints, applications to be reviewed before and voted upon at the General Assembly of that year should be fully submitted by November 1st the latest. Applications submitted later than that date will be reviewed by the General Assembly of the following year.

3. What happens once the application is complete and has been received by the European Youth Press?

Once the European Youth Press has received your application, the Office Manager has the responsibility of forwarding the application within 15 days to the Executive Board and Advisory Board.

They will examine the documents submitted for the application, e.g. membership statistics, statutes. In its examination of your application, they may request either further documentation or a study visit - should the latter be the case you will be informed at least one month in advance. A crosscheck of the membership of the applicant organization may be conducted, requiring information from our member organizations or other associations / individuals we deem necessary to consult on their contacts with your organization. Based on the information in its possession, the Executive Board and Advisory Board decide whether the applying organization is a valid applicant for European Youth Press membership. They have no fixed deadline when they must finalize their decision. However, the applicant will be kept up to date on any developments.

4. What happens when the applying organization has been considered a valid applicant?

The General Assembly of the European Youth Press is the only body that can vote on a membership application. The General Assembly, made up of the members of the European Youth Press, decides on the admission of a member by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, not counting abstentions. The applicant organization is invited to attend the General Assembly and given the opportunity to speak. The General Assembly takes place every year, generally in the period November-December. If there is a favorable vote by the General Assembly, the members grant the applicant observer status for one year. In the case of a negative vote, a new membership application will only be taken into consideration after a period of two years has elapsed.

Observer members, who wish to apply to become full members, may do so at the first General Assembly after they have been granted observer membership (i.e. after one year has elapsed). Again, the General Assembly decides on this granting of full membership by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, not counting abstentions.