

Warszawa, Sierpień 2023

FUTURE  
IS

IN  
OUR  
HANDS

# Green Advocacy Academy

Community of dreams and  
the future

ERASMUS ★

green  
advocacy  
academy



VISIO  
education



Współfinansowane  
przez Unię Europejską

FUTURE  
IS



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przez Unię Europejską**

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OUR  
HANDS

**Project co-financed by funds  
European Union Erasmus+**

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Green REV Institute 2023

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# organizers

● **Green Advocacy Academy** is inclusive, motivating and educates **young activists** in the climate debate and **advocacy for a sustainable food system**.



● The first edition of **GAA**, co-financed by the European Union Erasmus+, took place in 2023. 51 people from Poland and Finland took part in 2 national workshops, 5 international meetings and a study visit in Brussels combined with a climate debate, food and green transformation with MPs and Members of the **European Parliament**.

# organizers

**Green REV Institute** is a green, vegan advocacy think tank that works for a **just transition of the food system** by connecting the dots on the map of animal rights, human rights and climate.

**REV** operates in 7 international advocacy coalitions, is one of 10 NGOs in the EU Platform on Animal Welfare and is accredited to **the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)**.



REV effectively **runs advocacy campaigns** for sustainable food and agriculture, stands for the right to live in a clean environment and supports the fight against factory farms.

Creates the largest advocacy coalition of civil society organizations for the transformation of the food system **Future Food 4 Climate**.

Is an organizer of the **European Vegan Summit**.

# about GAA

Green Advocacy Academy is a unique inclusive educational project and preparer young people for advocacy for the climate and actions to transform the food system.

● **We show** how the food system and modern agriculture destroy the climate, biodiversity, life, **human health and animal rights.**

● **We teach**, we mobilize, we show that it's time a critical mass of people, **initiatives and organizations** that will change the system through **advocacy activities.**



# about GAA

Experts from around the world, activists, political advisors, scientists, NGO leaders support the **Green Advocacy Academy** so that participants and GAA participants received a dose of knowledge on **the transformation of the food system**, skills in the field of advocacy and effective action.



We know that green advocacy skills will provide **youth voices** in public debate.



# green advocacy academy

project co-financed by the European Union, ERASMUS+  
People aged 14-24 from Poland and Finland



## WORKSHOPS

### NATIONAL

1. Organizational Meeting
2. Mentoring Meeting

### INTERNATIONAL

1. EU policies for the sustainable food system
2. Food system transition vs. climate catastrophe
3. The role of green advocacy
4. Bringing food system transition at the local level
5. Advocacy in practice

# workshops

Creating a **platform to exchange** experiences, ideas and innovations between young people from Poland and Finland in the field of **climate initiatives** and civic activism.

Building competences in terms of **conducting** advocacy activities and the importance of **citizen participation**.

A critical look at the **food system**.

**Raising awareness** among young people in terms of the impact of the current food production system on **climate, environment, human rights**.

Including **young people** into action.



# national workshops



## speakers



# SYLWIA KOWALSKA

Member of the board of the Kongres Ruchów Miejskich, president of the NO.BA Foundation.



# KAROLINA SKOWRON-BAKA

President and executive director of Akcja Demokracja. Board member of Animal Advocacy Careers.



# PROF. PIOTR SKUBAŁA

Professor of biological sciences, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Silesia, ecologist, organizer and co-host of meetings of the Club of Ecological Thought.

# study visit



# international workshops

**ERASMUS** ★

**EU policies for the sustainable food system**  
21 March | 4PM CET

green academy REV VISIO

**ERASMUS** ★

**Food system transition vs. climate catastrophe**  
4 April | 6PM CET

green academy REV VISIO

**ERASMUS** ★

**Bringing food system transition at the local level**  
18 april | 6PM CET

green academy REV VISIO

**The role of green advocacy**  
16 May | 6PM CET

ERASML green academy REV VISIO

30 may | 6PM CET

**Advocacy in practice**

Advocacy practice  
Advocacy practice  
Advocacy practice  
Advocacy practice  
Advocacy practice

ERASMUS ★ green academy REV VISIO

## speakers



### **MEP DR. SYLWIA SPUREK**

Doctor of law, legal advisor, legislator and member of Parliament European. Vice-President of the Commission Women's Rights and Gender Equality.



### **MEP VILLE NIINISTÖ**

Member of the European Parliament. He is coordinator of the Verts/ALE groups in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and a member of the Committee on the Environment.



### **ANITA KRAJNC**

Co-founder and director of Toronto Pig Save executive of the Animal Save Movement. Global coordinator of the Plant Based Treaty.

## speakers



### **ANGELINA DOBLER**

Member of the Management Board of Sentience Politics, social and climate activist.



### **CAMILLA BJÖRKBOM**

Member of the Management Board of Sentience Politics, social and climate activist.



### **OLLI PUUMALAINEN**

Activist who led to the establishment "a vegetable day" in the Finnish army.



### **JOANA OLIVEIRA**

Vice-president and campaign manager Associação Vegetariana Portuguesa.



## speakers



# BARTŁOMIEJ GAWRECKI

Member of the Management Board of the Green REV Institute, PhD student in legal sciences at the Doctoral School of Social Sciences at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, lawyer.



# PEPPI SEPPÄLÄ

Former president of Green Youth City councilor in Espoo, Regional councilor for Western Uusimaa.



# BENJAMIN PITKÄNEN

Activist, one of the founding members of the Viral Vegans animal rights association.

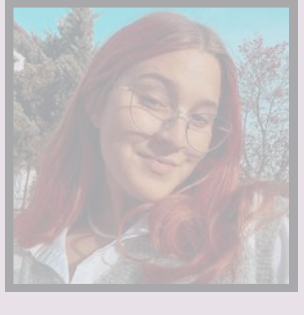
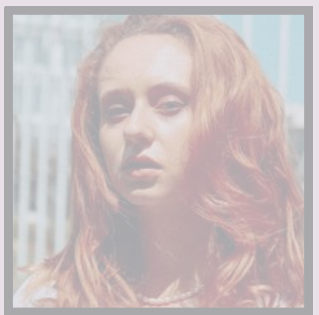
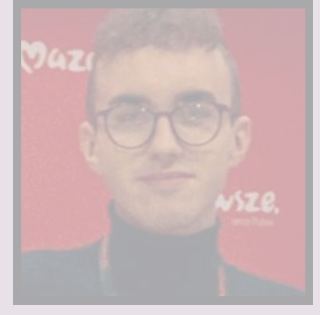
# what are we talking about

- A **just transition** is not only about energy and transport. Without fixing the food and farming system we will not ensure food security, We want to save biodiversity, we will not **stop** deforestation, water, soil and air pollution.
- Without a just **transformation** of the food system We will not stop an industry that destroys health and people's lives and causes **food poverty**.

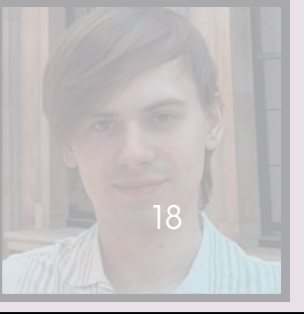
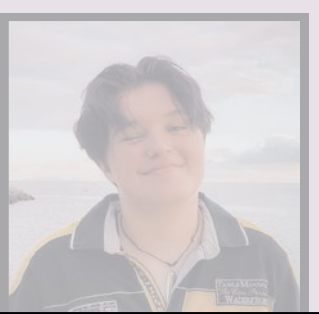
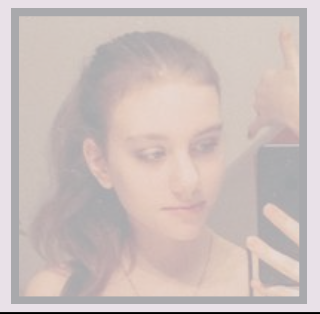
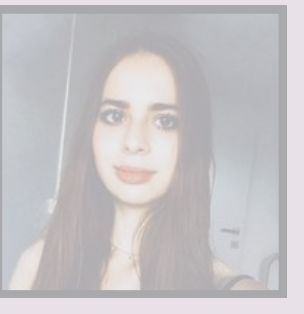
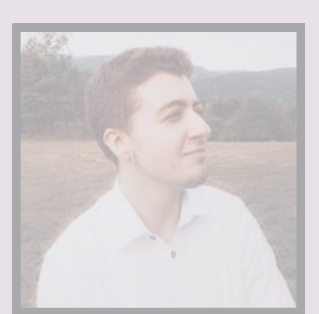
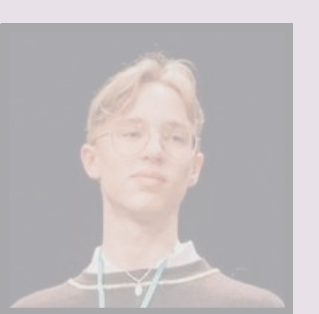
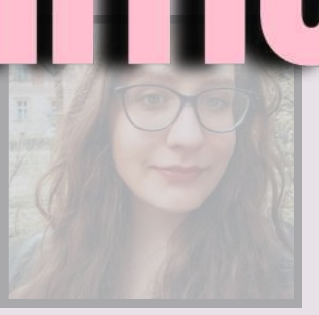
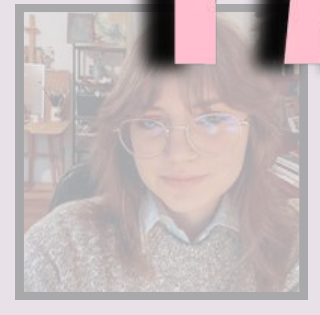


- We **teach advocacy** to repair the food system and show solutions and we share our **experiences and knowledge** to support young people in their fight about the planet.

- The **European Union** and its member states are creating a system that we can change through **citizen participation** and effective green advocacy. The European Green Deal, Farm to Fork, Biodiversity Strategy 2030, and the **Sustainable Food System Framework** need strong advocates to be effectively implemented.



# PARTICIPANTS



# what participants say

As part of the evaluation, over **30 interviews** were conducted with participants, meeting coordinators and mentors of **Green REV Institute** and **Visio**



**Anna**



**Morgan**



**Katja**



**Anja**

## knowledge and competences

"A combination of people from science, activism, politics gave me holistic knowledge and showed how to connect the dots"



"It's very motivating, that young people were driving workshops and meetings"

"I was aware of climate change, but today thanks GAA I know the facts about the environment"

## community for the future

"I met people  
who do  
**good things**  
at home  
in cities"

---

„I feel like I'm  
**not alone**  
that there are  
more of us"

---

"**Young people**  
**act** and it  
inspires!"



"It's great to see a group of people,  
who have a **common goal**"

## GAA Impact

"In the context of the upcoming elections, I want the people I vote for to **represent green ideas** for agriculture and food"



"I would like to **learn** how to become an ambassador of climate knowledge, few people are aware of what the transformation of **the food system** is"

# GAA Impact



Daniel Petryczkiewicz

"I want to eat **plant-based** and make **good choices** for the planet"

"This project gave me **hope**, that maybe there is a sense of **taking action**"



# GAA Impact

"Thanks to GAA, I had the courage to talk about the **climate** again because what was happening was causing me fear and **anxiety about the future**"



"I want to teach people and convince them, that it is worth getting involved"

"I'm glad I took part in GAA because of **motivation and good**, and the energy to act, that you give others"

# GAA Impact

"Getting to know **activist people** motivates and **gives courage** to do things which is considered correct"



"For me, the **European Parliament** has finally become a real place where EU policy is created"

## Anna Spurek's comment



"Conversations with participants and GAA participants it was a great adventure. I thank them for opening the door to their dreams and plans for the future to me.

Hope, fear about the future, sometimes doubts  
Is it worth taking action if so little changes?  
- all this is mixed with a large dose of motivation. It is amazing how much these young people are already doing in terms of volunteering, building initiatives and collectives, how much curiosity and openness they have on other people, on expert people, on accepting knowledge and acquiring new skills.

Participation through advocacy and systemic activism are still not present in school curricula, and climate education remains on the margin, although it should be an element of every subject - because climate, just like human rights and animal rights, permeate every area of life.

## Anna Spurek's Comment

Unfortunately, the European Parliament and the Commission still remain in the tightly closed Brussels bubble- incomprehensible and inaccessible to many young people, which means that knowledge is not being built about the EU's decision-making and its impact on our everyday lives.

Green Advocacy Academy opened ours - REV eyes for the needs of young people, the need to build knowledge about EU climate policies, the role of agriculture and the food system in the climate debate on civic tools for systemic change.

The fact that many people want to change, share the knowledge they have acquired, change their consumer habits, and want to continue to act shows that we must and have an obligation to include young people in debate and advocacy activism through such projects.

They show us a new perspective of action, new tactics and strategies, and give us hope that together we have the strength to create a future for everyone, alongside politicians and decision-makers.

# partners



# we are a part of



**nic o nas  
> bez nas**

**green** advocacy  
**academy**

# join us

**Contact us and find out how you can work with us!  
Together we are stronger and can act more effectively.**

**Do you want to take part in the Green Advocacy Academy?**

Write to us.

**Do you run your own organization, group or collective?**

Find out how to join Future Food 4 Climate and speak together for the climate at the European Union forum.

**Do you want to coordinate and support advocacy projects  
for the transformation of  
the food system and animal rights?**

Green REV Institute is the best place to work for food security, green recovery of agriculture and ensuring access to healthy, sustainable food.

