



**YOUNG
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Resolution

7. Trust Team & Safe Space

Resolution submitted by SJOe Austria, VSStOe Austria, Labour Youth Ireland, Mladi Forum Slovenia, GD Italy

We all have different approaches on feminism and anti-sexism in our organizations and often YES events are the first time, where activists from our member organizations join a Socialist or Social Democratic Event. Some of our MO's might deal with strategies on how to tackle sexism on a more regular basis while others might not be familiar with the concepts at all. Therefore it is important to set collective rules and make sure that everyone is fully aware of the importance of the anti-sexist strategies and the notion of full consent for the success of our events. For this aim to be achieved there should be a short workshop (maximum of 1 hour) on how we want to behave at the event so that everyone feels respected and has a good time. Every participant should attend this workshop BEFORE registration. After the workshop the participants should be aware that every person has personal boundaries which need to be respected by everyone. Ideally, the "no means no" trainings are held by members of the Trust Team. This way they can already introduce themselves as such and are thus known by the participants of our events.

Trust Team

Although as members of a socialist movement we might be more aware of sexual harassment and assault, as we constantly fight to raise awareness towards these issues, our events are most certainly not an exception to the "real world". Even at our events violence and sexual harassment are happening even though we try to prevent it. For this reason it is very important to have a reliable and well-trained Trust Team.

The Trust Team is a group of people from different organizations, who are experienced in dealing with harassment and are known to identify with feminist ideas. It is very important that the TT is representative of different marginalised groups. Women* and queer people must be represented in the Trust Team, in the full diversity of their communities.

The Trust Team members should be selected at least two months before an event and have a TT -meeting at least one month before the event. This way there should be enough time to involve the TT in the preparations of the event.

Moreover, the Trust Team should be able to divide their shifts during the event in a way that they do not suffer from sleep deprivation or other kind of physical and mental health issues. We must not forget the well-being of our Trust Team members, otherwise we cannot demand of them to handle difficult situations.

The victim defines

In our societies, victims of sexual harassment or/and assault are often blamed and made responsible for being harassed or assaulted. In these cases the perpetrators often go unpunished.

This is irresponsible and unacceptable. It takes a lot of courage to speak up about incidences of sexual harassment/assault. So we must not punish the victims for doing

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so. We shall always start by fully trusting the person who has the courage to report such disturbing events. The top priority for the Trust Team is the well-being of the victims who report incidences of harassment or assault. Only the victims should be able to define the incidences as such. If the person affected defines an incident as a violation/crossing of the self-defined boundaries the Trust Team must treat it as such. The Trust Team needs to take actions according to the definition of the victim and no one else. If the victim wants to stay anonymous the TT needs to respect their wishes. We should also assure that victims are not exposed to more stress after the events: No confrontations shall be organised without their full consent, and it shall not be asked of them to take any decisions concerning their perpetrators or the camp in general.

Safe Space

There needs to be a safe space at every festival where women* and LGBTQIA+ can seek exchange. Safe spaces are an important requirement. The demands from women* and LGBTQIA+ for a quality space to self-organise and support each other is central to our emancipation project, even if it might not always be understood or shared by everyone at the camp. Safe spaces must furthermore be trans-inclusive. YES has to make sure that every Summer Camp is facilitated with a safe space, and the reflexion on safe spaces need to be included in the preparation of smaller events. Moreover, there should always be a member of the trust team around in order to make sure that everyone feels safe and comfortable.

Trust Team procedures and Safe Space Chart

For several years now, Trust Teams procedure and similar documents have been edited on the margin by a succession of the Trust Teams. This was done with good intention but lack long term reflexion and democratic control.

This is why the Bureau task the Secretariat, in coordination with the Feminist Network and the Queer Network, to work on the reactualisation of the Trust Team procedures, and the redaction of a new Safe Space Chart to be signed by every activist of any YES event. Those documents must evidently be in line with the present resolution.

Summer Camp

As Summer Camps are the flagship event of YES, we should put an even greater emphasis on assuring the most empowering and safe environment for every participant. Trust Team in Summer Camps should therefore consist of at least 15 people.

Summer Camps are obviously the most challenging event for the staff in terms of logistic. A camp well built and well organised is mandatory to establish a Safer Space. In that regard, we shall make sure that the Trust Team is able to establish recommendations sufficiently early for them to be actionable. Notably a well-rested staff at the start of a Summer Camp is a prerequisite to the success of the event. Circumstances can make this extremely difficult and in some extreme cases made it impossible to assure a Safer Space: In those circumstances, it shall be the duty of the Secretary-General, on recommendation of the Trust Team, to cancel the Summer Camp. This is only when we are ready to renounce to our most important event that we can proof our commitment to the safety and the emancipation of all our participants.