

## Call for nominations to Civil Society Organisations to participate to

**10-11<sup>th</sup> May, Nyéléni Global Process – Europe and Central Asia regional meeting**  
**12<sup>th</sup> May, CSO Consultation prior to the FAO 34<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia**  
**(ERC34)**  
**Istanbul, Turkey**

26 March 2024

Dear Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Organisations of Europe and Central Asia,

It is with great pleasure that we extend our invitation to the upcoming meeting organised by the Nyéléni Europe and Central Asia Food Sovereignty Network (Nyéléni ECA<sup>1</sup>), scheduled to take place in Istanbul, Turkey from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

We cordially invite your organisation/movement to join us for three days of engaging discussions and collaborative initiatives aimed at building a common political agenda, strategies, and ways of working aimed at transforming the current food system to achieve economic, social, gender, racial and environmental justice, ultimately realising food sovereignty. We advocate for a paradigm shift that reclaims food systems as public Commons for the well-being of people and the planet. This movement is based on the centrality of human rights, and needs to become more intersectional. This is key to putting food sovereignty into practice, and achieving policies that recognise the primacy and strength of a genuinely inclusive, democratic, and coherent model of governance that can achieve the right to adequate food and nutrition for all, now and in the future.

### **Regional meeting towards the Nyéléni Global Forum 2025**

The two first days in Istanbul will be dedicated to our regional exchanges within the global process initiated by the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) towards the Global Food Sovereignty Forum to take place in March 2025 in India. This process is grounded in the principles of inclusive participation, while upholding shared values and political vision, including food sovereignty, climate justice, anti-capitalism, anti-racism, feminism, transparency, and accountability. It also distinguishes between social movements and NGOs, giving priority to the voices of social movements in the process.

The aim of the process towards the India Forum is to:

- 1. Foster deeper dialogue and convergence across themes, regions, and sectors, ultimately leading to the development of a global synthesis aligned with the struggles and priorities of the different regions and sectors.*
- 2. Consolidate analyses and positions, facilitating agreement on common strategies and agendas across multiple sectors and diverse themes of convergence.*
- 3. Strengthen and broaden the movement, to accumulate strength for the future, to build common guidelines and agendas of struggle after Nyéléni 2025.*

### **Civil Society Consultation prior to the FAO REU 34<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference**

The third day of the meeting will be dedicated to the Civil Society Organisations' (CSO) Regional Consultation, preceding the FAO 34<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia (ERC)<sup>2</sup>. These consultations serve as vital platforms for Civil Society actors to discuss pertinent regional topics linked

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nyeleni-eca.net/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fao.org/events/detail/erc34/en>

to the agenda set by the FAO, to evaluate the past FAO biennium, and to agree on the CSO inputs relative to the items of the FAO 34<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference (ERC). As regional section of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)<sup>3</sup>, the Nyéléni Network is also responsible for the facilitation for the FAO-CSO dialogue in Europe and Central Asia. We are currently forming a Steering Committee composed of the main constituencies within the food sovereignty movement and representatives of the sub-regions to politically guide the preparations for the CSO Consultation on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Participation**

In order to ensure inclusivity and balanced representation based on both constituencies and geographical areas, a quota system has been developed for the ECA region, and will guide participants' selection for in-person attendance in Istanbul. We aim to welcome 50 delegates to the 3-day meeting, coming from the following constituencies and sectors:

**Small scale farmers, Fisherpeople, Agriculture and Food Workers, Pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples, Food artisans, Urban food insecure, Consumers, Researchers, NGOs, Climate Justice movement, Solidarity economy movement, Human Rights defenders, Health movement, Artists.**

Furthermore, organisations are strongly asked to nominate delegates from the following social groups, which have extra slots reserved: **women, gender & sexual diversities, youth, migrants, BPoC, people with disabilities**, while also guaranteeing their **expertise** and **historical knowledge** within the discussions.

We are also reserving some slots for a local delegation from Turkey based on the logic of balanced participation.

The working languages of the entire three days of meetings will be English, Russian, Turkish, French and Spanish.

### **Expression of Interest**

We encourage you to disseminate this call for expression of interest within your organisation and network and invite your organisation to nominate delegate(s) to participate in the Nyéléni ECA meeting and the regional CSO Consultation. Please send your nominations to the secretariat of [Nyéléni ECA](mailto:info@nyeleni-eca.net), **Olcay Bingol: info@nyeleni-eca.net latest by 9th April 2024** by sending an email with a short description (max 150 words) including:

- The name of your organisation and its link with the Food Sovereignty movement;
- Name of the person/people you want to suggest and information about their role within the organisation;
- Describe in which quota criteria your candidate(s) fit in;
- Express whether you need financial support for the participation of your delegate or if you are applying as a self-funded delegate;
- Language ability/preference of candidates.

Kind regards,

### **Nyéléni ECA Facilitation Committee**

Alessandra Turco and Paula Gioia, ECVC – European Coordination Via Campesina  
Judith Hitchman and Isa Alvarez, URGENCI – The International Network of Community Supported Agriculture  
Rodion Sulyandziga, CSIPN - Centre for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North  
Fernando Garcia Dory - ESN European Chapter / WAMIP - The World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.foodsovereignty.org/>