

TREY's Action Plan 2023

Prologue

Hello there! This is a draft of the TREY Action Plan 2023. The Action Plan consists of four cross-sectorial projects which contain measures to improve the everyday life of a university student in Tampere. The projects in the Action Plan are the emphases of TREY work in 2023 and will be worked on alongside our ongoing activity.

The 2023 Action Plan consists of four projects only. This directs us to refine our operations and highlight the role of ongoing activity as a part of student union work. You can read more about our everyday advocacy and community work in the Description of Ongoing Activities.

This is the first Action Plan in line with the new strategy. Both this Action Plan and the strategy will be approved in the same meeting, and accordingly, they have been planned hand-in-hand. In the drafting process of the Action Plan, we also emphasised readability and a logical structure.

Together with the Action Plan and our ongoing activity, the Student Union becomes a better place for us students year by year. This is also the aim of our 2023 projects.

On behalf of the TREY Executive Board, I wish you good reading,

Aleksi Niemi, Chair

1. Project: Parliamentary Election 2023

Today: Many issues that are significant to students will be affected by the parliamentary election held in spring 2023. TREY has participated in preparing the electoral platform for the National Union of University Students in Finland (SYL) in collaboration with other student unions. TREY has prepared for joint efforts in election advocacy with the Students' Union of Tampere University of Applied Sciences (Tamko).

Target: The parliamentary election and its significance is visible to students and on campuses next spring. Voter turnout is high among students in higher

education. Student election objectives are clear to and will be advocated for by the Pirkanmaa members of the Parliament.

Plan of action:

- Election advocacy (responsible sector: parliamentary election sector)
 - We shall contact parties, candidates and other operatives who are relevant to the student union and discuss the student election objectives together with them.

- Interest group collaboration (responsible sector: parliamentary election sector)
 - Suitable interest groups shall be found, and we shall collaborate in advocating for our election objectives.
 - We shall collaborate with the university regarding the election and emphasise the importance of advocating for the core funding of universities and the accessibility of higher education as a part of their election work.
 - We shall find shared objectives for the parliamentary election with the city of Tampere.

- The visibility of the election in the community (responsible sectors: communications and association affairs)
 - We shall take part in the national student campaign on the parliamentary election. Our election communications shall be interesting and understandable to our students, and the students shall be encouraged to vote in the election.
 - In order to increase student interest in voting and the election, we shall organise election events on our campuses.
 - We shall make election advocacy information accessible to our associations and instruct them on organising electoral panel discussions and other election-related events.

2. Project: Strengthening the student community

Today: The Association Standing Order was written when the student unions merged, and parts of it should be updated to better suit current times.

Associations are asking for more trainings than before, and the trainings available to associations should be developed in both their number and contents. TREY is a visible actor, but TREY's approachability needs to improve.

For example, the Representative Council Election held in Autumn attracted less interest than previous elections.

Volunteer work is crucial to all student union operations from sections to forums, councils to the Representative Council. It is central to bringing the Student Union closer and more familiar to many of our students, and it provides valuable opportunities for student advocacy. The new Council of Representatives has been elected and will begin its term in January 2023. TREY's large-scale events are recovering from the effects of pandemic restrictions and organising these events in 2023 must be a point of focus.

Target: The Association Standing Order has been updated. TREY's association services include a functional and coherent selection of trainings for associations. TREY has clear guidelines for the future of volunteer work. TREY's work interest students and TREY's forums attract many participants. TREY's volunteer activities and the Executive Board are visible in TREY's communication channels with a low threshold. The Council of Representatives is well trained and motivated. Large-scale TREY events such as the 5th annual celebration and The Biggest Wappu in Finland are successes, and they bring the community together.

Plan of action:

- The Association Standing Order shall be updated to better reflect and serve the current association scene. (responsible sector: association affairs)
- The selection of trainings for associations shall be improved and association training shall be concentrated. When training associations, we shall make use of the executive board members' practical experience. (responsible sector: association affairs)
- We shall invest in training and building team spirit for the new Council of Representatives. We shall encourage and train the Council of Representatives to highlight its work in its own sphere of influence. (responsible sector: main sector, communications sector and Council chairs)
- We shall organise the 5th annual celebration of TREY and other anniversary events, and continue to establish the position of Wappu. (responsible sector: events sector)
- The TREY volunteer scene shall be developed to be more to the point and rewarding for the volunteers, and future guidelines shall be determined. (responsible sectors: community sectors)

- Student union administrative bodies shall be reviewed in terms of their purpose and necessity, and the situation shall be improved according to the review. (responsible sectors: community sectors)
- We shall develop more informal communication for TREY and increase the visibility of the work done by TREY's Executive Board and volunteers in TREY's communication channels. (responsible sector: communications sector)
- We shall create more equal operating principles for tutoring and define equality practices for tutor selection. (responsible sectors: tutoring and equality sectors)

3. Project: Focus points for advocacy in 2023

Advocating for and on behalf of association facilities

Various campus development projects are ongoing on the campuses of Tampere University, and the associations' voice must not go unheard. We shall ensure that the voice of our associations and students is heard where campus development decisions are made. We shall actively inform our

associations about the stages and progress of the development projects.

(responsible sectors: association affairs and campus development)

Municipal advocacy

We shall advocate to improve the student benefits for public transport tickets in the Tampere region, for example by working to make the yearly ticket discounted for students. (responsible sector: social affairs)

Student advocacy work in university administration

In 2022, we began improving the orientation process for student representatives in administration, and this work must be continued. We must develop shared models for increasing and improving student representative training, work and commitment. Our aim is to make the student representative scene more communal and better supported, and we shall focus on helping the representatives build team spirit and share information among themselves. (responsible sector: educational affairs)

Students with families

The National Union of University Students in Finland published a guide for students with families in 2022, and thus it is a good time to review TREY practices for students with families. We shall create a clear set of guidelines for TREY advocacy work regarding students with families. We shall survey the situation and needs of Tampere University students with families. Inter-sectorial cooperation in advocacy for students with families shall be strengthened. (responsible sector: social affairs)

4. Project: The internal development of the Student Union

Today: After the new strategy is accepted, objectives and clear processes for internal development at TREY must be developed. The processes in need of development range from everyday life at the office to recruitment, job satisfaction and bilingualism.

Target: TREY is an appealing workplace and provider of positions of trust. Job listings, the Executive Board and other positions of trust receive multiple,

diverse applications. Work at TREY is meaningful, goal-oriented and supports individual growth. A model for a bilingual TREY office is in development.

Plan of action:

- We shall make the internal development of the organisation more transparent by creating long-term objectives for the organisation's future. (responsible operatives: main sector and employee representatives)
- We shall make the Student Union a more appealing employer and provider of positions of trust by focusing on training, recruitment processes and work at TREY being meaningful. (responsible operatives: main sector, communications sector, and employee representatives)
- We shall develop a model for the TREY office to be able to work bilingually. (responsible sectors: main sector and international affairs sector)
- We shall investigate the operational and economic resources necessary for the office to function bilingually. (responsible sector: main sector)