

Main Priorities for the General Assembly Period 2019-2023

In accordance with the Norwegian People's Aid statutes, the General Assembly is to determine a number of main priorities. These priorities are to be specifically reported on and shall be traceable in action plans for the coming general assembly period.

A main priority is typically one that is not limited to a specific discipline or country programme, but which encompasses large parts or, indeed, the whole of the organisation.

1. Norwegian People's Aid is to grow by 50%

Activities inside Norway constitute the most visible work carried out by Norwegian People's Aid. The fact that we are a members' organisation is a strength for the whole organisation and gives legitimacy to our work. We need more members both to increase our political influence and because we need greater numbers to contribute actively in our voluntary work. Norwegian People's Aid knows that more of our members wish to be actively involved. We also know that there are still many people in society who could consider contributing in an organisation but who are not members or volunteers today.

We prioritise:

- Growth in the number of members
- Growth in local chapters, with the goals of countrywide geographical coverage by local chapters and opportunities within all activity areas in larger cities
- Growth in the number of individual members from within the labour movement
- Reducing drop-out of existing members
- Facilitating activities for children and young people and the recruitment of children and young people in particular

2. Norwegian People's Aid is to significantly increase its visibility

With visibility comes legitimacy. This makes recruitment and political influence easier and creates pride and identity in the organisation. Anyone wishing to become involved with Norwegian People's Aid should be able to do so because we are available where people live. We are a diverse organisation and need to give a clear account of who we are and what we do.

The whole of Norwegian People's Aid as an organisation and the issues that we work for will benefit from our being more visible. Increasing our visibility must remain a key priority throughout the General Assembly period at all levels of the organisation. This is relevant in a local, national and international context.

We prioritise:

- Ensuring that we are a countrywide organisation
- Ensuring a clear profile
- Strengthening the ability to work with visibility in all parts of the organisation

- The establishment by the National Board of an overriding plan to increase our visibility in which we set concrete targets and measure progress in this work
- Establishing a significant visual presence for First Aid and Rescue Youth and Solidarity Youth in their respective arenas

3. Being a volunteer should be both easy and attractive

We must work to establish simple, effective systems in relation to our voluntary work in order to ensure a low threshold for joining in and becoming active. Targeted training of resource personnel and elected representatives is important. We will prioritise increasing our capability to initiate and carry out activities.

Norwegian People's Aid offers various types of volunteer work requiring different organisational arrangements. There are great differences between the demands made of a rescue crew group which is to undertake hazardous missions and provide acute assistance at a qualified level and those placed on a group young people committed to international issues, wishing to contribute with activism. We need to find the most appropriate way of organising the work within the various activity areas of Norwegian People's Aid. The way to do this must be through discussion between the activity areas, the National Board and the administration.

We prioritise:

- Efficient, simple means of enrolment
- Ensuring appropriate means of organising the various activity areas
- Straightforward, targeted, accessible training of elected representatives
- Clear qualification procedures for activities where this is required
- Efficient organisational solutions to ensure that as much time as possible invested as a volunteer is directed towards the purpose
- Developing e-learning and digital tools to make training more accessible and flexible
- Effective, clear communication from the National Board, central committees and administration to the local chapters

4. Norwegian People's Aid must develop the link between our national and international work

Raising the voices of those demanding change and creating safe local communities are important elements in the work of Norwegian People's Aid both at home and abroad. National and international work must be viewed in connection with each other and create a basis for the exchange of experience. That which we aim to strengthen in the world at large in accordance with our values basis, we must also strengthen in Norway.

Arrangements are to be made to enable Norwegian People's Aid volunteers to build relations with civil society actors in other countries.

We prioritise:

- Building contact between our international partners and members in Norway

- Contributing to the political debate in Norway in the light of our experience from international work
- Creating opportunities for experience exchange between our national and international work where this is of mutual benefit
- Creating synergies with the labour movement as both a national and international partner
- Listening to and learning from the experiences of our international partners in relation to democratic structures and organising
- Strengthening and developing experience exchange between youth members and youth actors abroad