

Young Friends of the Countryside workshop at the General Assembly in Cáceres

The Art of Transmission: Culture and corporate governance in an age of acceleration. Passing on more than business.

On Friday afternoon, 24 Young Friends met at Casa Pizarro Hotel, welcomed by hosts Joaquín PITARCH and Amelia KEANE.

After a brief introduction by Youssef DIB of Apricus Wealth Management, participants split into three groups led by Elisabeth VAN EVERDINGEN, Giorenzo TREVES DE BONFILI and Hans-Christian VON ARNIM for a two-hour workshop on family transmission.

The lively discussion focused on family transmission, beginning with personal stories before moving to the core values that underpin family businesses, including honesty, discipline, collaboration and respect. Participants also explored future responsibilities, family purpose and legacy.

To conclude, each group presented its main takeaways. The workshop highlighted a strong sense of shared responsibility and curiosity among the next generation of Friends.



Group picture of the Young Friends of the Countryside

The General Assembly is more than a place to discuss the future of the countryside. For the Young Friends, it is also an opportunity to build friendships, exchange ideas and strengthen a growing European network. We asked two participants their impressions.



Claudia NAVARRO LÓPEZ

Member of the Young Friends Executive Committee



For me, the greatest value of the General Assembly is the sense of connection it creates. It is an opportunity to strengthen friendships built over the years, meet new people and exchange experiences with others who share a strong commitment to family, business and the countryside. Despite our different backgrounds and nationalities, we often face similar questions and share many of the same hopes, challenges and ambitions.

I find it especially valuable to hear how others approach succession, responsibility and the future of their family businesses. That openness, the willingness to share honestly and the opportunity to learn from one another are what make these gatherings so inspiring.

Caspar VON REDEN

YFCS member & intern



For me, the most valuable part of this year's General Assembly was meeting new people and connecting with members from across Europe who share similar interests and challenges. And there is still room to grow our network, in Albania, Romania, countries where ELO and FCS are less represented.

Being involved in ELO and FCS has also given me new perspectives on agriculture, forestry and cultural heritage, and I believe the younger generation still has a great deal to contribute in these areas.

Cáceres itself was a wonderful setting, with great hospitality and a programme that reflected the character of the region. The estate visits and FCS Gala dinner were particular highlights. This year also reminded me that we need greater visibility across Europe, so that more people understand who we are, what we stand for and the role our network can play in the future of the countryside.