

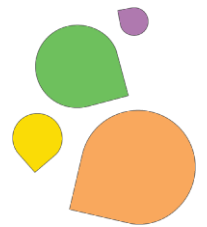


**Eurodiaconia** 


[www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

**Events and Meetings in 2012  
– an Overview**





Eurodiaconia is a dynamic, Europe wide community of organizations founded in the Christian faith and working in the tradition of Diaconia, who are committed to a Europe of solidarity, equality and justice.

 Eurodiaconia is a registered asbl in Belgium and receives support from the European Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007 – 2013). This programme was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievements of the Lisbon Strategy goals in these fields.

To that effect, PROGRESS purports at:

- providing analysis and policy advice on employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas
- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities
- relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large.

For more information see:

[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/progress/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/progress/index_en.html)

The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.

---

© Eurodiaconia, Brussels 2012

Eurodiaconia  
Rue Joseph II 166  
B- 1000 Brussels

Tel +32 2 2343860  
Fax +32 2 2343865  
@ [office@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:office@eurodiaconia.org)  
www [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)





## EVENTS AND MEETINGS IN 2012

### An Overview

*The purpose of this document is to give members details information about the meetings, conference, seminars and networks Eurodiaconia will be holding in 2012. Giving the information at this early stage is with the hope that it will assist members in their planning and encourage maximum participation from all members. Please do read through the activities planned and pencil the dates in your agendas. Details invitations and information for each event will be coming in the months before each activity. If you would like more information at any time please contact the staff person responsible directly.*

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>
1	EU Citizenship, Homelessness and EU Free Movement (Joint Seminar with FEANTSA)	8 <sup>th</sup> February	Brussels, Belgium
2	Roma Network Meeting	7 – 9 March	Cluj Napoca, Romania
3	Social Services Seminar	21 – 22 March	Brussels, Belgium
4	Marginalization and Exclusion Network	19 – 20 April	Stockholm, Sweden
5	Healthy Ageing and Elderly Care Network	23 – 24 April	Vienna, Austria
6	Conference: Social Services in a time of Crisis	May (date to be confirmed)	Brussels, Belgium
7	Annual General Meeting	13 – 15 June	Novi Sad, Serbia
8	Workshop on Social Economy	26 – 27 June	Brussels, Belgium
9	Capacity Building Training on Advocacy	September (date to be confirmed)	Paris, France
10	Social Innovation and Diaconia – Seminar and Study Visit	September (date to be confirmed)	Helsinki, Finland
11	Faith in Social Care Network	September (date to be confirmed)	To be announced
12	Marginalization and Exclusion Network	25 – 26 October	Hamburg, Germany
13	Round Table on Active Aging – Challenges for the Care Sector	1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week in November (date to be confirmed)	Brussels, Belgium
14	People in Diaconia Network	9 November	Brussels Belgium
15	Capacity Building Seminar on Funding for Diaconal Work	November (date to be confirmed)	Spain
16	Conference and Exhibition; Active Aging Through Social Inclusion	Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (date to be confirmed)	Brussels, Belgium
17	Exploring the Europe 2020 Strategy (joint meeting with the Conference of European Churches -CSC)	5 – 7 December	Brussels, Belgium

# EU CITIZENSHIP, HOMELESSNESS AND EU FREE MOVEMENT (JOINT SEMINAR WITH FEANTSA)

8<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
14.30 – 17.30 pm  
Brussels, Belgium

## Purpose of meeting:

To raise visibility about the issue of problems such as destitution and homelessness faced by intra-EU migrants when exercising their right to freedom of movement.

## Objectives and Programme:

- Members from Eurodiaconia and FEANTSA (Denmark, UK and Sweden) present the reality from the ground of how EU citizens exercising their right to free movement can fall through the gaps in the welfare system and end up homeless or destitute and how they are supporting people in such situations.
- Initiate discussion with representatives from European Union Institutions about the issue and how the EU can be part of the response to this problem.

## Who can Attend?

There are a few places available to attend this meeting. The meeting is open to members and partners of Eurodiaconia and FEANTSA.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The meeting is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This is a one-off meeting to raise awareness about an issue that has not received much political attention. However we intend to follow up this topic in particular with the Danish Presidency but also when sending out our policy paper on migration and social services which also highlights the issue.

## Financial Information:

Participants would in principle have to cover their own travel expenses as this is a half-day event. Very limited financial support is available for this event and therefore will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please email [catherine.storry@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:catherine.storry@eurodiaconia.org).

## Any Special Information:

There will be a short press conference from 14h00-14h30 preceding the seminar

# ROMA NETWORK

7 – 9 March 2012

Start at 17.00 on 7/3 and finish at 14.00 on 9/3

Cluj-Napoca, Romania

## Purpose of meeting:

To provide a forum for practitioners and policy makers working with Roma communities or in Roma advocacy and to discuss the recent National Strategies for Roma Integration in the context of the European Framework for national Strategies for Roma Integration. This will also have a thematic focus on Roma children and education including a visit to a Roma project in a village near Cluj.

## Objectives and Programme:

- To discuss issues of common interest and best practices relating to working with Roma children in particular in terms of education. This will include a study visit to the village of Mera just outside Cluj-Napoca.
- To inform members about recent initiatives at EU level that relate to Roma and to hear from members about the new National Roma integration strategies and future steps
- To discuss potential Eurodiaconia actions to take, in terms of advocacy at EU level or activities with members in these areas

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all members of Eurodiaconia interested in Roma issues. Participants can be practitioners and /or policy makers and are expected to have a good understanding of Roma issues and the role of diaconal organizations in Roma inclusion. Members are encouraged to send participants with a Roma background.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet once a year. However, it will be possible to continue exchange through an email based platform and our new online network pages where documents etc. can be shared.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest two months before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly e-news and will also be on the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

## Any Special Information:

Members are encouraged to send participants with a Roma background when possible.

# SOCIAL SERVICES SEMINAR

21 – 22 March 2012

Start at 9.30 on 21/3 and finish at 15.30 on 22/3  
Brussels, Belgium

## Purpose of the meeting

To provide an opportunity for members to receive information on current issues and recent developments in social services at European level, to discuss implications for their work and propose advocacy activities and follow up any other relevant issues.

## Objectives and Content of the meeting

A number of legislative and non-legislative initiatives have been taken by the European Commission since November 2011. The meeting will focus on presentation and discussion of the following proposals and decisions which affect social services:

- Proposals for the revision of the directives on public procurement including update on European Parliament position and next steps to take
- “Block exemption Decision” on state aid: How public service compensation is deemed compatible with the internal market and exempted from notification to the Commission
- “Framework” Communication - How public service compensation not fulfilling criteria in the Decision will be analyzed by the Commission, how it can be compatible aid
- Proposal for a Regulation - Classification of “de minimis” aid which is not seen as state aid

A representative of the European Commission working on the above issues will take part in the discussions. Discussions on further promoting quality in social services will look at following up the Voluntary European Quality Framework for social services and Eurodiaconia’s User Participation and Empowerment toolkit. Additionally we will further examine the use of vouchers and personal budgets in social services and how to ensure they empower service users. How we use the Eurodiaconia Award to share innovative best practice will be addressed, along with a presentation of the European Commission’s work on social innovation.

## Who can Attend?

Those likely to find it useful would be those dealing with contracts and financing with public authorities/insurance bodies, or those involved in advocacy relating to the regulation of and methods for funding/contractual arrangements.

## How does this fit into the 2011–2013 strategic plan?

The seminar is specifically linked to Goal 2: Change through advocacy: create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

Eurodiaconia will take into account the outcomes of the discussions in its policy-advocacy work and keep members informed, particularly in relation to feeding into the reform of the public procurement rules. Feedback on the tools to measure impact of social services will contribute to the May conference.

## Financial Information

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets or other reservations should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest six weeks before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly E-news and will also be on the events section of the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

## Further information

For more information please see here: <http://eurodiaconia.org/policy-areas/social-services/1974-commission-publishes-new-rules-for-state-aid-proposals-for-new-directives-on-public-procurement>

# MARGINALISATION AND EXCLUSION NETWORK

19 – 20 April 2012  
start 9.00 on 19/4 and finish 13.00 20/4  
Stockholm, Sweden

## Purpose of meeting:

To provide a forum for reflection and action on the issues of extreme poverty, marginalization and exclusion both from a political and practical perspective.

## Objectives and Programme:

This meeting will particularly address the issue of child poverty ahead of the publication of the European Commission recommendation on child poverty to which Eurodiaconia is working to contribute to.

- To reflect on the phenomena of child poverty, marginalization and exclusion apparent in Europe today and the differing approaches to combating the causes and effects, looking especially at the question of children and family poverty.
- To bring together members with a focus on child and family poverty to share examples of working on child and family poverty and identify potential common projects and exchanges
- To review recent political initiatives in poverty and identify actions that could be taken at European and national level.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all persons working or volunteering in Diaconia at national, regional or local level who are concerned with and working against child and family poverty, marginalization and exclusion.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet twice a year. However, the aim is that members will continue to work together with the Eurodiaconia secretariat via email and the web space, shadowing the EU process for the adoption of the EU recommendation on child poverty, ultimately trying to influence the content of the final text.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent in February. If you are interested in receiving more information about this meeting or contributing to it, please contact the person responsible for the event in the Eurodiaconia secretariat.

## Any Special Information:

This will be the first meeting in 2012 and will be hosted by the Church of Sweden. It will also include an opportunity to learn more about the work of the Church of Sweden through a study visit.

# HEALTHY AGEING AND ELDERLY CARE NETWORK

23 – 24 April 2012

Start 13.00 on 23/4 and finish 17.00 24/4

Vienna, Austria

## Purpose of the network

To provide a forum for Eurodiaconia members to engage in policy discussions related to ageing and care for older people, feeding into Eurodiaconia's advocacy work, and to share experiences and best practice in care for older people.

## Objectives and content of the network meeting

- To discuss issues of common interest on elderly care and aging as identified by participants and plan future work.
- To inform members about recent initiatives at EU level that relate to healthy ageing and elderly care.
- To discuss potential Eurodiaconia actions to take, in terms of advocacy at EU level or activities with members in these areas.
- Study visit to Diakonie Österreich member in Vienna – a "hausgemeinschaft", innovative form of residential care setting for elderly mainly with dementia services for people with dementia
- European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012 (EY2012)
- Forthcoming European Commission Communication on Long Term Care – what issues do we want to see addressed?
- WeDO project, working towards a quality framework for services for long term care
- Eurodiaconia December conference on combating isolation of older people

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all those working in Diaconia who are part of a network that is a member of Eurodiaconia. People who are likely to find it most interesting would be those working in the care sector for older people, or those involved in advocacy relating to care for older people or ageing issues.

## How does this fit into the 2011–2013 strategic plan?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet once a year. A network page on the Eurodiaconia website is available for exchange of information and discussion in between meetings, such as on input into the long term care Communication. Eurodiaconia will take into account the outcomes of the discussions in its policy-advocacy work. Proposals for action/activities that come out of the meeting will be followed up.

## Financial Information

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets or other reservations should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest six weeks before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly E-news and will also be on the events section of the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

# EURODIACONIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13 – 15 June 2012  
Start 12.30 13/6 and finish 12.30 15/6  
Novi Sad, Serbia

## Purpose of meeting:

To carry out the governance operations of Eurodiaconia and for members to set the operational and strategic direction of the organization for the coming year(s).

## Objectives and Content of the Meeting:

- To carry out the statutory business of the organization such as approval of work plans, budgets as well as electing the Supervisory Board where necessary.
- To provide space for members to meeting in regional and other interest groups.
- To share in the development of Eurodiaconia as a dynamic network for its members and give suggestions on future actions.
- To visit local projects and reflect on the experience in the wider context of Eurodiaconia"s membership.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open for all members of Eurodiaconia to attend. However, as this meeting involves statutory business participants must come through the direct member of Eurodiaconia. If there is any confusion about this please contact the Eurodiaconia office for clarification.

However, there is no limit on the number of participants that can come from one member organizations and members are encouraged to send more than one delegate.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The AGM is specifically linked to all Goals in the Strategic Plan 2011 -2013

## What planned follow up is there?

N/A

## Financial Information:

Financial Support is available for this event but preference will be given to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent to all member contacts in early February.

## Any Special Information:

The 2012 AGM will be hosted by Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation (EHONS).

# SOCIAL ECONOMY WORKSHOP

26 – 27 June 2012

Start 12.30 on 26/6 and finish 12.30 on 27/6

Brussels, Belgium

## Purpose of meeting:

To provide a workshop on social economy and in particular the role of social economy in the work of our members, the different models and approaches, the challenges and opportunities and how it contributes to employment and inclusion of disadvantaged groups.

## Objectives and Programme:

- Members gain deeper understanding of the concept of social economy and its role in the employment and inclusion of disadvantaged groups with input from *Social Economy Europe* (TBC) who will give us an overview of European developments in this field.
- To review recent political initiatives and developments on Social Economy at European level in particular the European Commission's *Social Business Initiative*
- Members share experiences and best practice from their experiences of social economy actions within their organizations such as work integrating social enterprises and (WISE) (e.g. sheltered workshops)

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all members interested in learning more about models of social economy in diaconia and also members who already have some experience in social economy actions.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This is a one-off seminar designed to gain a better understanding of the role of social economy in members' work. Depending on the outcomes of the discussions, work can be proposed for Eurodiaconia to carry out as a follow up to this meeting.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest six weeks before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly e-news and will also be on the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

# ADVOCACY TRAINING

September 2012,  
exact dates to be confirmed  
Paris, France

## Purpose of meeting:

To support Eurodiaconia's members (umbrella organizations and direct service providers) to deepen their knowledge of advocacy, especially by learning from each other about existing and past initiatives.

## Objectives and Programme:

- To develop a common understanding of diaconal actors legitimacy's for advocacy looking at the concept of prophetic diaconia.
- To present a holistic and integrated view on advocacy from a political and communication's perspective.
- To equip members with effective advocacy planning and communication tools to bring about change at local, national and European level.
- To help members to identify potential advocacy actions.
- To share existing Advocacy practices and look at their transferability in other countries.
- To help members to create partnerships at European and National level for advocacy.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all persons working or volunteering in Diaconia at national, regional or local level who are either already active in advocacy and/or communications or wanting to develop an advocacy strategy.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

Eurodiaconia will continue working with members through regular briefings and toolkits encouraging members to implement advocacy strategies at national and European level.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent in June. If you are interested in receiving more information about this meeting or contributing to it, please contact the person responsible for the event in the Eurodiaconia secretariat.

## Any Special Information:

This meeting will take place in France, hosted by the French Federation d'Entraide Protestante and will include presentation of best practices, aiming to keep an integrated view on advocacy from a political and communication's perspective.

# SEMINAR AND STUDY VISIT: SOCIAL INNOVATION AND DIACONIA

September 2012  
Exact dates to be confirmed  
Helsinki, Finland

## Purpose of meeting:

Social Innovation has become a focus of the European Commission in the past few years, organizing conferences on the topic and funding projects aiming to develop innovative approaches.

Diaconal organizations are often at the forefront of new methods to meet social needs. Eurodiaconia recognizes the importance of developing new or more effective approaches for meeting social needs, whilst stressing that existing methods or services that work must not be sidelined because they are not seen to be innovative. Social innovation is mentioned in the European Platform Against Poverty and Social Exclusion as a tool in this regard and Eurodiaconia co-organized a workshop at the Annual Convention on Poverty in 2011 on social services and innovation. Diaconal organizations have the opportunity to be seen as key partners in the discussions at EU level. This meeting aims to engage diaconal organizations in the initiatives related to social innovation in terms of policy and projects.

## Objectives and Programme:

How can diaconal organizations best learn from each other's innovative approaches? What are the different methods to "test" new approaches, how can they be evaluated and how then can they be scaled them up or mainstreamed once they have been seen to be effective? These will be among the questions that will be discussed in the one-day seminar. The seminar will be followed by a study visit to look at the Housing First approach, which is a different method for bring people out of homelessness than the "step" model involving emergency shelter and or transitional housing. Housing First, also known as "rapid re-housing", moves the homeless person or family immediately from the streets or homeless shelters into their own apartments. Support services are then provided for that person or family. Eurodiaconia members had expressed a wish to learn more about the approach and Helsinki Deaconess Institute, which is providing Housing First accommodation and is involved in an EU funded project examining its impact, will host the meeting and visit.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all those working in Diaconia who are part of a network or Organisation that is a member of Eurodiaconia.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

The meeting will identify future work for Eurodiaconia in networking members and the best ways to share innovative approaches within and outside of the network.

## Financial Information:

Limited financial support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to Eurodiaconia member participants coming from the Organisation/s that receive the Eurodiaconia Award, or from Central or Eastern Europe or minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation and registration information will follow later in the year.

# FAITH IN SOCIAL CARE NETWORK

September 2012  
Exact dates to be confirmed  
Venue to be confirmed

## Purpose of the Network:

To provide a forum for reflection on the links between our Christian beliefs and practical service and the resulting diaconal identity.

## Objectives and Content of the Meeting:

- To support members in reflection on the common identity of diaconal practice and theological orientation
- To develop contextualized understanding of diaconal praxis and the challenges this presents
- To identify further resources needed to support members in the development of diaconal social services

In 2012 it is planned to hold a seminar within the framework of this Network to look at the context in which diaconal actors currently operate and the impact the social, economic, spiritual and cultural context has on our provision of services and on our diaconal identity. It is intended that this reflection will set the course for a longer term process on diaconal identity and contemporary context.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to practitioners and/or theologians interested in diaconal identity. Participants are expected to have a good understanding of the theology of diaconia and its practical expression through social action.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal Three: *Supporting the development of approaches and thinking on Diaconia in Europe today.*

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet once a year. However, it is intended to continue exchange through an email based platform and web space where documents etc. can be shared.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest six weeks before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly E-News and will also be on the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org).

# MARGINALISATION AND EXCLUSION NETWORK (2)

25 – 26 October 2012  
Start 9.00 on 25/10 and finish 13.00 on 26/10  
Hamburg, Germany

## Purpose of meeting:

To provide a forum for reflection and action on the issues of extreme poverty, marginalization and exclusion both from a political and practical perspective.

## Objectives and Programme:

This meeting will particularly address the issue of EU Citizenship, Homelessness and EU Free Movement ahead of the European Year 2013 on EU citizenship and in the context of the social challenges arising from EU citizens exercising their right to freedom of movement within the European Union, namely poverty and destitution of EU migrants.

- To reflect on the phenomena of destitution and free movement, and to look at different existing responses and approaches to the issue by members and by local and national authorities.
- To bring together members with an interest in fighting EU destitution to share their challenges and best practices in tackling this issue.
- To review recent related political initiatives and identify potential actions that could be taken at European and national level.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to all persons working or volunteering in Diaconia at national, regional or local level who have an interest in fighting EU destitution and to share their challenges and best practices in tackling this issue.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet twice a year. However, the aim is that members will continue to work together with the Eurodiaconia secretariat via email and web space to follow EU developments around this issue and continue and where possible contribute to the debate.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent nearer to the date. If you are interested in receiving more information about this meeting or contributing to it, please contact the person responsible for the event in the Eurodiaconia secretariat.

## Any Special Information:

Due to the nature and interest of members in extreme poverty and marginalization this network will meet TWICE a year. Each meeting will have a focus on some specific topics as well as on general political updates. This will be the second meeting in 2012 and will be hosted Hamburg Stadt Mission (City Mission) in Hamburg, Germany. The network meeting will also include an opportunity to learn more about the work of the Hamburg Stadt Mission thanks to a study visit.

# ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

## ACTIVE AGEING: CHALLENGES FOR THE CARE SECTOR

1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of November  
Exact date to be confirmed  
Brussels, Belgium

### Purpose of meeting:

In the context of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012 this meeting will aim to highlight certain challenges for the care sector in ensuring active ageing, such as in relation to employment and developing forms of care provision, then to present responses to those challenges from diaconal organizations.

### Objectives and Programme:

The meeting will be co-organized with Diakonisches Werk der EKD Brussels office so there will be in part a focus on German diaconal organizations' responses but other Eurodiaconia members will also be asked to present. The meeting will aim to showcase diaconal organizations expertise and also invite responses on how the European Union can help tackle problems raised. Presentations from diaconal organizations will be followed by reactions from external panelists. A German MEP active on issues related to ageing will participate. The meeting will be around two hours long, preceded by lunch.

### Who can Attend?

In addition to invited speakers the meeting is open to other members who would have contributions to make on the discussions. Other relevant Brussels-based organizations and representatives from EU institutions will be invited to attend.

### How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

Goal 1: *Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources* and Goal 2: *Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.*

### What planned follow up is there?

Issues raised by members will be followed up with the relevant people at EU level in the framework of Eurodiaconia's advocacy work.

### Financial Information:

Speakers' participation will be funded but no financial support is available for other members.

### How to Apply:

More information on specific topics to be addressed and registration procedures will follow later in the year.

# SEMINAR AND STUDY VISIT ON NON STATUTORY SOURCES OF FUNDING (TO BE CONFIRMED)

Exact dates to be confirmed  
Spain

## Purpose of meeting:

To provide capacity building to members on applying for non statutory sources of funding (e.g. raising funds from private and public foundations, individual and corporate giving, sponsorship and cause related marketing)

## Objectives and Programme:

- To increase member's knowledge on opportunities available from non statutory sources of funding such as grants and donations, cost recovery activities and cause related marketing.
- To provide training on how to access non statutory funding and the tools needed for successful applications
- To provide practical exchange between members on how they have accessed funding to support diaconal social work.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting is open for all members of Eurodiaconia to attend. However, it is suggested that participants will get a better benefit of the training if they have background experience of fundraising.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develops praxis and extends resources.

## What planned follow up is there?

This seminar is part of a three year project. This is the second phase, following on the September 2011 training on access to EU funding. Between seminars an e-network will be established in 2012 for alerts on funding, building of partnership, and exchange of information. If funding allows, this seminar will be accompanied by a study visit and a third seminar in 2013

## Financial Information:

Financial Support may be available for this event thanks to the grant received from the Otto Per Mille Fund. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will initially only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations. Additional participants will be considered dependent on the budget available.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent when the funding for this activity will be confirmed. If you are interested in receiving more information about this meeting or contributing to it, please contact the person responsible for the event in the Eurodiaconia secretariat.

## Any Special Information:

This event will only take place if funding is received. Currently we are waiting for information on a grant request to the Otto Per Mille fund of the Waldensian Church.

# PEOPLE IN DIACONIA NETWORK

20 – 21 November 2012  
Start 14.00 on 20/11 and finish 14.00 21/11  
Brussels, Belgium

## Purpose of the Network:

To provide a forum for reflection on a variety of issues relating to topics of employment and volunteering in diaconia. The 2012 meeting will *only* focus on employment issues including the topic of recruitment and value based training for employees in diaconia.

## Objectives and Content of the Network:

- To provide a platform for members working in the field of human resources in diaconal organizations. The topic of recruitment of care workers as well as value based training for care and health workers will be discussed.
- To brainstorm possible future topics for discussion and areas for work for the network such as a staff exchange project.
- To discuss potential Eurodiaconia actions to take, in terms of advocacy at EU level or activities with members in these areas.
- To identify issues relating to employment in diaconia for further co-operation in 2013.

## Who can Attend?

The network is open to practitioners interested in topics relating to employment, training, human resource management. Participants are expected to have a good understanding issues relating to human resources and people working in diaconia.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

The network is specifically linked to Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources.

## What planned follow up is there?

This network will physically meet once a year. However, it is intended to continue exchange through an email based platform and via our new online network paged where documents etc. can be shared.

## Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent at the latest six weeks before the meeting. The invitation will be circulated through the weekly e-news and will also be on the Eurodiaconia website [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)

# CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION: ACTIVE AGEING THROUGH SOCIAL INCLUSION

1<sup>st</sup> week in December  
(exact dates to be confirmed)  
Brussels, Belgium

## Purpose of meeting:

In the context of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012 this conference is aimed at highlighting the problem of social exclusion and isolation of the elderly as barriers to active ageing, living a life in dignity. Projects and policy responses to overcome these barriers will be shared.

## Objectives and Programme:

The three “pillars” of active ageing in the European Year 2012 are to create age friendly working environments, support older people’s participation in society and promote independent living. Intergenerational Solidarity is seen as a theme running through all areas. Isolation and exclusion can be found in all these areas of life. Projects presented and discussed will be those submitted for the Eurodiaconia Award 2012, which will focus on services tackling isolation of older people in the three areas, and through fostering solidarity between generations. Policy responses will also be presented for discussion, based on input from the Eurodiaconia Healthy Ageing and Elderly Care Network and outside speakers. An evening reception will be around an exhibition of photos from Eurodiaconia members depicting positive images of the inclusion of older people in society and the community.

## Who can Attend?

The meeting in the Parliament is open to all interested parties, on registration. Eurodiaconia members involved in service provision and advocacy for older people are especially encouraged to attend.

## How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

Goal 1: Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources and Goal 2: Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level.

## What planned follow up is there?

The meeting will identify areas where Eurodiaconia work could be further developed. The photo exhibition will be displayed in other venues in Brussels and all the projects and services submitted for the Award and other examples of good practice will be publicized in a brochure.

## Financial Information:

Limited financial support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to Eurodiaconia member participants coming from the Organisation/s that receive the Eurodiaconia Award, or from Central or Eastern Europe or minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

## How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation and registration information will follow later in the year.

## Any Special Information:

Entries for the award will be submitted and evaluated by an independent panel in advance. Information on how to submit a project or service for the Eurodiaconia Award will be sent to members on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The Award recipient will be informed by the 1<sup>st</sup> October. More information on the process for submitting photos for the exhibition will be sent to members in February

# EXPLORING THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY,

## JOINT MEETING WITH THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN CHURCHES

5 – 7 December 2012

Start 13.00 on 5/12 and finish 13.00 7/12

Brussels, Belgium

### Purpose of meeting:

To provide a platform for exchange and support on the involvement of churches and diaconia in the Europe 2020 strategy process, in order to work toward “strengthening the social dimension in European and National policies, exploring the Europe 2020 strategy”. This meeting will be organized in partnership with the Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches, following on the 1<sup>st</sup> common meeting on Europe 2020 in November 2011.

### Objectives and Programme:

- Evaluation of the involvement of churches and diaconia in the 2012 European semester (including the national budget discussions and decisions).
- Discussion and exchanges with EU representatives on the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy and diaconal involvement's
- First analysis of the 2013 Annual Growth survey in the context of the EU social inclusion strategy and preparation of the 2013 European Semester for an enhanced diaconia and churches involvement

### Who can Attend?

The meeting is open to Eurodiaconia members or their members. Participants should have experience of advocacy at national and/or EU level. The meeting is also open to representatives from the Church and Society Commission who will have to register directly with CEC.

### How does this fit into the strategic plan 2011 – 2013?

This meeting is specifically linked to Goal 1, Develop and enable membership engagement and partnerships, both internally and externally, that develop praxis and extend resources, and Goal 2 Create a network of competence to impact relevant social policies at national and European level .

### What planned follow up is there?

We will circulate the conclusions of the meeting to all Eurodiaconia members and will facilitate the involvement of members in the process through briefings and updates on the European Semester. It is imagined that if the process is useful to members Eurodiaconia and the CSC will organize another meeting in the end of 2013.

### Financial Information:

Limited Financial Support is available for this event and therefore financial support will only be allocated to participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets etc. should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given. Financial support will only be given to one representative of eligible member organizations.

### How to Apply:

A more detailed invitation will be sent in February. If you are interested in receiving more information about this meeting or contributing to it, please contact the person responsible for the event in the Eurodiaconia secretariat.

