



May 2016

INVITATION

THE WAY AHEAD FOR EURODIACONIA 2018-2020: STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

Dear members,

Eurodiaconia is pleased to invite you to a workshop to define its Strategic Planning for the period 2018-2020. The workshop will take place from 1pm on 18 October until 12pm on 19 October 2016 at Eurodiaconia's offices in Brussels (Rue Joseph II 166, 1000 Brussels).

Aim of the meeting

As Eurodiaconia is embarking on the development of its new strategy for the period 2018-2020, it is essential to ensure ample opportunity for members to contribute to the process. As part of this work, Eurodiaconia will be helped by an external strategy consultant, Thomas Lewinsky, who will facilitate the process as a neutral outsider, including organising different workshops to ensure we capture all essential perspectives.

Setting clear priorities for Eurodiaconia remains pivotal and should be based on a solid analysis of what goes on around us in a rapidly changing world as well as on how we see our roles to contribute to address social injustice within a faith-based European context. This is where Eurodiaconia needs its member organisations' valuable input.

Eurodiaconia has, therefore, planned a strategy workshop in Brussels, on 18-19 October 2016, where we hope to benefit from your input and guidance on where Eurodiaconia should focus its attention in the coming years.

Who can take part?

Eurodiaconia would like you to appoint one person from your organisation for this important strategic event. Ideally, participants attending would have had some previous exposure to strategy processes and are able to keep "the big picture" in mind for Eurodiaconia, with a good mix of analysis and collective thinking and with some English proficiency to ensure full participation.

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 diaconal organisations.

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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.

How to Register:

Please register on our online form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oZuWk5bH-ytRyLiOkXMLxoDO4PFyUdwCrKi_b6bOnw/viewform

For further information or for any questions please contact alexander.elu@eurodiaconia.org at the Eurodiaconia secretariat

Draft agenda

Tuesday, 18 October

Creating the bigger picture

12.00-1.00 pm	<i>Welcome lunch</i>
1.00-1.15 pm	Opening and devotion
1.15-2.15 pm	Eurodiaconia in a changing world, some predictions and likely trends (kick-off presentation)
2.15-3.15 pm	Opportunities for Eurodiaconia to engage effectively: what are our options? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group session: analyse opportunities in depth
3.15-3.30 pm	<i>Coffee break</i>
3.30-4.30 pm	Challenges for Eurodiaconia to pay attention to: what are our options? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group session: analyse challenges in depth
4.30-5.30 pm	Presentations and conclusions: key opportunities and challenges for Eurodiaconia mapped
7.30 pm	<i>Dinner offered by Eurodiaconia</i>



Wednesday, 19 October

What does this mean for Eurodiaconia? Our responses

9.15-10.00 am	Implications for Eurodiaconia: concrete priorities coming 3 years based on analysis from previous day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group session: identify priorities (must, should, could)
10.00-10.45 am	Main strategic future partners for support and funding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are our partners still relevant, what may need to change?
10.45-11.00 am	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00-11.45 am	Remaining relevant to membership - plenary discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How best can members contribute to Eurodiaconia's work coming 3 years• How best can Eurodiaconia contribute to members' own priorities?
11.45 am-12.00 pm	Conclusions and next steps
12 pm	<i>End of meeting</i>

Preparatory work

In preparation for the workshop, we would like participants to reflect upon the following strategic questions and bring their answers or thoughts with them at the workshop itself. That will help the process getting started and ensure that participants are already bringing with them a collection of perspectives to feed into the workshop from the beginning:

- What are the three biggest opportunities you see for Eurodiaconia in the future to maximize its contributions to combat social injustice?
- What are the three major challenges surrounding Eurodiaconia, which may influence what we can accomplish?
- How do we maintain and strengthen our faith identity in a relevant and identifiable way?
- How can we harness member experiences better to ensure continued relevance and to combine our forces effectively?
- Are all our current partners still relevant or do we need to look for new partners to increase our influence and impact?
- How do we ensure sustainable funding at the level we currently have for stability?