

The work of Eurodiaconia in 2018

Easy to read version

Easy to read is a way
to make information accessible
so people with intellectual disabilities
and all people can understand it.



Who we are

We are **Eurodiaconia**.

We are an organisation in Europe that works to help people who are in need or left out.

We want things to be fairer for all people in Europe and no one to be left out of the community.

Here you can see our logo:



This is the symbol we use when we talk about Eurodiaconia.

At Eurodiaconia:

- We **hope** and work for a better and fairer world.
- We **care** for all people around us.
- We **speak out** when we see people being treated unfairly.
- We believe that all people are **equal** and should have the same chances in life.
- We believe that we can make a difference, if we **stand together**.
- We **help** and support people in need.



Our members

We have 50 members in different countries.



These are churches and organisations
that work to make things better for all people in need.

We are all Christians.

This means that we believe in Jesus Christ.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God.

We try to follow his words and stand by people in need.

You can see all our members on our website here:

www.eurodiaconia.org/who-we-are/member-organisations.

Our Board

Our members come together and talk about important things.
They also choose the Board of Eurodiaconia.
The **Board** is a group of people
who can make decisions for Eurodiaconia.
Here you can see the people who are part of our Board:



Sindre Skeie



Victoria Munsey



Olli Holmstrom



Iwona Baraniec



Ramona Petrika



Stephanie Scholz



Vasilios Meichanetsidis

These people live in different countries in Europe
but they meet often to talk about important things
and make decisions for Eurodiaconia.

Our office

Eurodiaconia has an office in Brussels.

Here you can see the people who work at our office in Brussels:



Our members, our Board and our office in Brussels work together to make things better and fairer for all people in Europe.

If you want to contact us,
you can send an email to: office@eurodiaconia.org.

Working together

We often meet with other people and organisations that also work to make things better for people in Europe.

This way, we understand each other's work,
we share our knowledge



and learn from each other.

For example, in 2018 we worked closely with the European Anti-Poverty Network.

This is an organisation that tries to help people who are poor and left out of the community.



What this booklet is about

We wrote this booklet to talk about all the good work we did in 2018.

In 2018, we grew bigger and stronger.

For example:

- We got 4 new members.
- We organised and took part in many meetings to talk about important things.
- More people learnt about us and our work.
- We sent our news to the media and people who were interested to hear from us.
- We met and talked to different people who make decisions in Europe.
- We published our news on social media like facebook and twitter.



Good services for all people

In Eurodiaconia, we think that countries in Europe should give people good social services.

That means that countries should give people help and support to have a good life.

For example,

all people in Europe should have the chance to:

- Get good health care and go to the hospital when they are sick.
- Have a house to live in.
- Have a job and earn money to live independently.



In 2018, we made a group of experts.

These are people who know a lot about this topic.

We worked to make sure that all people in Europe get the right services and support to live a good life.

We also organised many meetings with people who make decisions in Europe.

We asked them to make sure that all people in Europe get good social services and **no one is left out**.

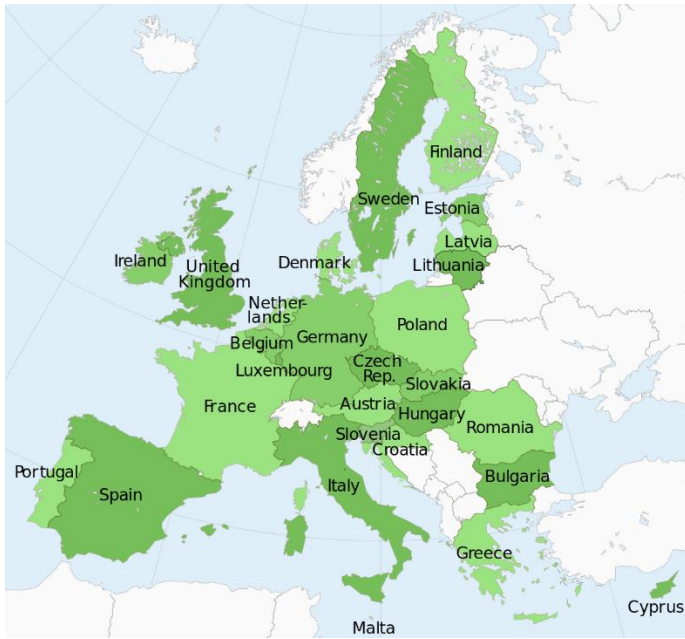


The Social Pillar

Some things in Europe are still not fair.

For example, many people do not have the chance to get a job or be part of the community like other people.

The **European Union** is a group of 28 countries in Europe.



The European Union made a plan to make things better and fairer. We call this plan **‘the Social Pillar’**. With this plan, the European Union is trying to help all people to have the same chances to:

- get a job,
- be treated fairly in their job,
- be part of the community.



At Eurodiaconia, we believe that this plan is very important.

If it happens, it will help many people in Europe.

In 2018, we worked a lot on the Social Pillar.

Together with our members, we checked how different countries in Europe work to make the Social Pillar happen for the good of their people.

We also met people who make decisions and laws in Europe.

We asked them to use the Social Pillar

to make the lives of all people better and to **leave no one behind**.



Having a job

Having a job helps to be independent
and have a good life.
It also helps to be part of the community.



Sadly, many people in Europe
do not have the chance to get a job.
Without a job, they may not have enough money
to buy the things they need in their life.
They may be left out of the community.



Things can be even harder for women,
people with disabilities
or people who come from different countries.

At Eurodiaconia, we believe that all people
should be able to get a job
and have the same chances in life.
Women, people with disabilities
or people who come from different countries
should not be left out.

In 2018, we talked
to people who make decisions in Europe
about this important issue.
We asked them to make sure that
all people in Europe have the chance to work
and be part of the community.



The European Semester

In recent years, Europe has an economic crisis.
This means that countries in Europe have problems with money.
Some countries are poorer than before
and their people don't have enough money to have a good life.

The European Union made a plan to make things in Europe better and more stable.

We call this plan '**the European Semester**'.

The European Semester helps countries in Europe to work together to go out of the economic crisis and grow stronger.



At Eurodiaconia, we think that the European Union can make things better and we work to make this happen.

In 2018:

- We wrote booklets to talk about how the European Semester can make the lives of all people better.
- We organised a training in Spain for people who wanted to know more about the European Semester.
- We told people who make decisions and laws in Europe about how we think that the European Semester can work for the good of people in Europe.



Roma people

Roma people are a group of people who in the past used to live in India and other places.

Today many Roma people live in Europe.

Some of them live in one place and others travel from place to place.

Sadly, too many Roma people in Europe are very poor and left out of the community.

For example many Roma families do not have a house, water or toilets.



At Eurodiaconia, we believe that countries in Europe should work to make things better for Roma people.

That is why in 2018

we talked to people who make decisions and laws in Europe about the biggest problems Roma people have.

We asked them to make sure that Roma people are not left out of the community.

We also wrote a booklet to talk about how countries in Europe can help Roma people have the chances in life like all other people.

Poverty

Sadly, there is much **poverty** in Europe.

That means that there are many people who are poor and do not have the things they need to have a good life.

For example, there are many people who:

- do not have a house to live in,
- do not have a job,
- do not have enough money to buy the things they need.



People who are very poor are often left out of the community.

Things can be even harder for children.

They may not have a home, go to school with other children or go to the doctor when they are sick.



At Eurodiaconia, we think this must stop.

In 2018, we talked to people who make decisions in Europe and asked them to protect all people from poverty.

We also wrote a booklet to explain how the European Union can protect children from poverty.

Migrants

Migrants are people who left their countries and their homes because it was not good or safe for them to live there anymore.

For example, maybe there was war in their country and their life was in danger.

Or maybe their country was very poor and they couldn't find a job anymore.



In recent years, many migrants have come to Europe hoping for a better life.

Many of them are women.

At Eurodiaconia, we think that migrants

should have the chance to live a good and safe life like everyone else.

That is why in 2018:

- We became part of a project that tries to make things safer for migrants.
- We wrote a booklet that talks about migrant women and how they can be helped to be part of the community.
- We met with other organisations and people who make decisions in Europe to talk about how things can be better for migrants who come to Europe.

Young people

It is important that young people:

- are informed about things that are happening around them,
- talk about what they think,
- are part of the community.

In 2018, we organised meetings and wrote booklets to talk about this. We think that all young people in Europe should have the chance to take part in the community and talk about things that are important to them.



European money

The European Union gives money to its countries.
This money is called '**Funds**'.
The countries use this money
for many things and services for their people.

Also, many organisations
get money from the European Union
to be able to do their work.
Eurodiaconia and its members
need this money to do their work too.
So it is very important for us and our members
to know how this works.



In 2018, we organised meetings with our members
and helped them understand:

- how funds work,
- how they can apply to get this money for their work.

Projects

In 2018, Eurodiaconia took part in 4 projects that aim
to help people in Europe have better lives.
For example, we took part in projects that aimed to make things better
for migrants and young people.

Our money

Eurodiaconia needs money to make its work happen.

In 2018, we got most of our money from the European Union. We also got money from our members and people who paid to take part in our events.



We used this money:

- to pay the people who work for us,
- to travel for important meetings,
- for other things that are important for our work.

More information

If you want to find more information about Eurodiaconia and our work, you can visit our website at www.eurodiaconia.org. You can also send us an email at office@eurodiaconia.org.

