



## Annual Conference and General Meeting

22 - 24 April 2020  
Paris, France



## Welcome to Paris! – Bienvenu à Paris!

**Paris** - the "City of light" - is the capital city of France, and the largest city in France and around 2.15 million people live there. If suburbs are counted, the population of the Paris area rises to 12 million people.

Paris is also the centre of French economy, politics, traffic and culture. Paris has many art museums and historical buildings. The city has a multi-cultural style, because 20% of the people there are from outside France. For centuries Paris has been one of the world's most important and attractive cities. It is appreciated for the opportunities it offers for business and commerce, for study, for culture, and for entertainment; its gastronomy, haute couture, painting, literature, and intellectual community especially enjoy an enviable reputation. Its sobriquet "the City of Light" ("la Ville Lumière"), earned during the Enlightenment, remains appropriate, for Paris has retained its importance as a center for education and intellectual pursuits.

**Eurodiaconia** is a network of churches and Christian organisations that provide social and health care services and advocate for social justice. As a network of 51 members in 32 countries we work together for just and transformative social change across Europe, leaving no one behind.

**La Fédération de l'Entraide Protestante (FEP)** brings together 360 associations and foundations working in the social, medico-social and health fields. Recognized as a public association since 1990, the FEP's goal is to fight against all attacks on human dignity and for a more just and more socially inclusive society. At the heart of its charter, the FEP states that "poverty and precariousness, unemployment, loneliness, exclusion and multiple forms of suffering are not fatal.

Key figures from FEP

- 1,000 establishments and services
- 28,000 volunteers and employees
- 360 associations and member foundations



..." and having done everything, to stand firm"

*Ephesians 6 13b*

Across Europe our members face various challenges. Some concern identity, legitimacy and sustainability. Others relate to the binary political theatre in Europe and the expanding of populist rhetoric which has an impact on the services and advocacy some of our members can do. Other challenges arise from how to respond to new social phenomena and how to combine our social services with participatory democracy. We also know that we have to deal with changing funding environments, new partnerships, breaking down silos of service provision as well as address gaps in our systems of care.

Challenges can be overwhelming but Diaconia has a 2000 year history of facing challenges and responding with love, care and innovation thanks to our Christian tradition and beliefs. We must stand firm in the face of challenges, not compromising our values our vision – but we need to work together to do so. Therefore our Annual Conference in 2020 will be organized around the theme of ***Diaconia – the strength to face today's challenges.***

For the first time, our Annual General Meeting and Conference will be combined with the National Days of our host member in France. By doing this we will further explore both the challenges and richness of Diaconia in practice and connect the European questions and policies with local realities.

Our programme will take place over three days, each day having a particular dynamic. Our first day (Wednesday) will see Eurodiaconia members gather to deal with the Business of the Association in our statutory annual Business Session **It is important that as many members as possible attend this session to approve the annual report and accounts, discuss future actions and potential debate our statutes.** This session is for Eurodiaconia members only and each member should be represented by a minimum of one person.

From Wednesday afternoon we will be joined by members of our host organisation and we will explore several topics that focus on identity, the search for justice and solidarity. These sessions will be led by our host.



On Thursday we will continue with workshops on some of the wider policy issues we are dealing with across the network. These will include the new EU Budget and funding programmes, the action plan for the European Pillar of Social Rights, the policy frameworks for long term care and for social enterprises and addressing workforce shortages in social care.

We will also hear from our keynote speaker and in the afternoon we will have the opportunity to visit several projects and services run by the members of FEP.

On Friday we will have some further external input and discussion rounds on how we work together to address challenges and what we may wish to do on a European level. This dialogue will be with politicians and theologians and promises to be both dynamic and challenging in itself!

Attending our annual conference and general meeting gives you the opportunity to learn and exchange with peers from around Europe, develop new projects and ideas and discuss how our work in Diaconia can shape systemic and structural social needs in our communities. Together we are stronger – together we can stand firm.



## Programme

Tuesday 21 April	
19:00	<b>Meeting point</b> for those who may wish to go as a group for dinner. <i>Please note this is not a formal part of the programme and is 'self-organised'. The actual meeting point will be announced nearer the event.</i>

Wednesday 22 April	
08:00	<b>Registration</b> open at Palais de la Femme
08:30	<b>Opening Service</b>  Venue: Palais de la Femme
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Opening Greetings and setting the scene</b> Icebreakers  Sindre Skeie – Chair of the Supervisory Board of Eurodiaconia  Jean Fontanieu , Secretary General, La Fédération de l'Entraide Protestante
09:30	<b>Business Session 2020 -Eurodiaconia Members only</b>
	See separate agenda (to be circulated in early 2020)
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>



13:15	<p><b>Lunch time drop in sessions for Eurodiaconia members</b> (details to be announced)</p>
14:00	<p><b>Welcome and introduction to the theme “Diaconia – the strength to face challenges “</b></p>
<p>14:30  (end around 16:30)</p>	<p><b>Workshops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The new EU Budget and funding programmes – how to use for Diaconal work?</li> <li>■ What should be in an action plan for the European Pillar of Social Rights?</li> <li>■ The future of Long Term Care</li> <li>■ Building an action plan for the social economy</li> <li>■ Workforce shortages in social care – what is the answer?</li> <li>■ Addressing child poverty – can a child guarantee work?</li> <li>■ ‘Nothing for us without us’ – methods for partnership with people of experience of poverty and social exclusion.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note, more workshops are likely to be added.</i></p>
18:00 – 20:00	<p><i>Evening Programme – to be announced</i></p>



Thursday 23 April	
08:30	<b>Morning Worship</b>
09:00	<b>Feedback from Wednesday afternoon</b>
09:30	<b>Key note speaker</b>
10:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:00	<p><b>Workshops and Seminars</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The demand for justice – the migration question</li> <li>■ Living together – disability, young and old.</li> <li>■ The Environmental Crisis – our responsibility towards creation</li> <li>■ Freedom of belief – the challenge of losing our identity</li> <li>■ The Digital society – the danger of exclusion</li> </ul> <p><b>Group rapporteurs to meet to prepare feedback session for the next day</b></p>
13:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00	<b>Study visits</b>
19:00	<b>Festive evening</b>



Friday 24 April	
08:30	<b>Morning Worship</b>
09:00	<b>Sharing feedback from workshops and study visits</b>
09:30	<b>Keynote speaker</b>
10:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:30	<b>Round Table</b>
12:30	<b>Blessing for the Road</b>
13:00	Departures



## Practical Information

### Travel

Paris is well served by several international airports that connect Paris globally with the major cities of Europe. We would also encourage members to consider taking the train to Paris. Transfers from the airports and train stations is very convenient.

### Registration

Participants should register as soon as possible using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/WGTPywCqor4x2VJu8>

Information on accommodation will be required as will registration for workshop and seminar sessions.

### Conference Fee

Conference and General Meeting Fee: **250€** includes attendance at the conference and general meeting, all meals as specified in the programme, documentation and social events. It does not include accommodation.

A request for payment of fees will be sent by the Eurodiaconia office shortly after registration has been received and payment of the fee is required to confirm registration.

### Support for Participation

Thanks to the support of the European Union E@SI programme we are able to over reimbursement of travel and accommodation to a number of participants. This will follow the usual Eurodiaconia policy of support participants from Central and Eastern Europe and minority church members. If you would like financial support to attend the Conference, please indicate this on the registration form. **If you have requested financial support please do not book any accommodation.**

### Languages

Due to the combination of our event with the National Days of the FEP (France) we will exceptionally be providing English and French interpretation. It is anticipated that both languages will be used in plenary and in some workshops. However members who require



support with other languages should contact the Eurodiaconia office to discuss options for support for an additional participant to assist with interpretation.

### Accommodation

A number of rooms have been pre-reserved at several hotels in the area of the event venue. Participants are responsible for booking their own hotel rooms and their payment unless you have something else agreed with the Eurodiaconia office. Please note carefully the deadlines for booking accommodation. After this date we cannot guarantee that rooms will still be available and/or they will still be at the negotiated price. This, combined with the fact that April is a very busy time in Paris due to school holidays and other tourism means **we strongly encourage you to book your accommodation as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Information on hotels can be found on the next page.**

When booking at the proposed hotels please use the booking reference 'Eurodiaconia' to access the pre-reserved rooms and prices.

For any further questions please email [conference@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:conference@eurodiaconia.org) or consult the conference website [www.eurodiaconia.org/conference2020](http://www.eurodiaconia.org/conference2020)

Information on pre-reserved hotels					
Name	Tel	Email/Web	Number of rooms available	Price per night including breakfast	Deadline for booking (reserved rooms and prices)
<b>Hôtel des arts</b> 2 rue Godefroy Cavaignac 75011 PARIS	0033 1 43 79 72 57	<a href="mailto:info@paris-hotel-desarts.com">info@paris-hotel-desarts.com</a> <a href="http://www.paris-hotel-desarts.com">www.paris-hotel-desarts.com</a>	20	105 €	31/01/2020
<b>Grand hotel nouvel opéra</b> 152 avenue Ledru-Rollin 75011 PARIS	0033 1 43 79 98 76	<a href="mailto:ghno152@gmail.com">ghno152@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.grand-hotel-nouvel-opera.com">www.grand-hotel-nouvel-opera.com</a>	45	92 €	15/01/2020
<b>BLC Design Hotel</b> (reservation by email only) 4 rue Richard Lenoir 75011 PARIS	0033 1 40 09 60 16	<a href="mailto:reservation@blcdesign-hotel-paris.com">reservation@blcdesign-hotel-paris.com</a> <a href="http://www.blcdesign-hotel-paris.com">www.blcdesign-hotel-paris.com</a>	10	199 €	31/01/2020
<b>BLC Design Hotel</b> (reservation by email only) 4 rue Richard Lenoir 75011 PARIS	0033 1 40 09 60 16	<a href="mailto:reservation@blcdesign-hotel-paris.com">reservation@blcdesign-hotel-paris.com</a> <a href="http://www.blcdesign-hotel-paris.com">www.blcdesign-hotel-paris.com</a>	7	150 €	31/01/2020
<b>Hôtel Exquis</b> 71 rue de Charonne 75011 PARIS	0033 1 56 06 95 13	<a href="mailto:contact@hotelexquisparis.com">contact@hotelexquisparis.com</a> <a href="http://www.hotelexquisparis.com">www.hotelexquisparis.com</a>	20	169 €	31/01/2020



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