



**Eurodiaconia**  *Connecting faith  
and social justice  
through action*

# WHY BECOME A MEMBER AND HOW TO DO IT?

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MAY 2023

## WHO WE ARE?

Eurodiaconia is **dynamic** and **committed European network of 58 churches and Christian NGOs**, dedicated to providing essential social and healthcare services while advocating for social justice. We are proud to **represent national and regional organizations from 32 countries**, giving us a strong and diverse voice that can speak up for the needs and experiences of communities across Europe.

Our story began in 1997, when several diaconal organizations in Europe came together to tackle the issues and policies of the European Union and their impact on diaconal organizations. Since then, we have been registered as an NGO in Strasbourg, France, and transferred our legal entity to Belgium in 2008 as an Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif, a not-for-profit international association.

### OUR MISSION:



Our mission is to create real and lasting social change that leaves no one behind. We are inspired by our Christian faith and believe that serving those in need is at the heart of our mission. The name Eurodiaconia comes from the Greek word diakonia, which means service, a concept that guides everything we do.

### OUR VISION:



Our vision is of a Europe where every person is valued for their inherent worth and dignity, and where social justice is a reality for all, including the most vulnerable and marginalized. We are determined to achieve this by strengthening diaconal social services and advocating for social justice, addressing the root causes of inequalities, poverty, and exclusion.

Social and  
healthcare services  
**FOR ALL**



## HOW WE WORK:

We are a leading European network of diaconal health care and social service providers dedicated to fostering inclusion, care, and empowerment while promoting dignity for all. Through Praxis, Advocacy, and Identity, we drive positive change.

Our network meetings facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration among members, partners, and experts, empowering them to shape social policies and enhance services through practical action.

We tackle critical issues like marginalization, social exclusion, healthy aging, elderly care, and Roma inclusion, advocating for a more inclusive and equitable society at EU and national levels.

Reflection on the role and identity of diaconia and Christian social practice in contemporary Europe is an integral part of our work. By adapting to evolving societal needs, we strive to make a meaningful impact and improve lives.

**Join us in creating a more inclusive and compassionate Europe through our commitment to Praxis, Advocacy, and Identity.**

## PRAXIS

We actively engage our members and foster partnerships, leveraging their expertise in social service provision. Through collaborative platforms and knowledge exchange, we enable them to share their experiences and forge valuable connections.

## ADVOCACY

We empower our members to drive positive change and advocate for the empowerment of marginalized individuals. By building a network of competence, we influence social policies in Europe. Our members receive the necessary tools and support to advocate effectively.

## IDENTITY

We promote reflection on Diaconia's role in contemporary Europe. Through introspection and dialogue, we explore the significance of faith in social care. Together, we develop resources to strengthen the relationship between Diaconia and societal well-being.



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## OUR VALUES:

Our network's work is rooted in the values and attitudes that stem from our shared Christian faith, which serve as the foundation and driving force behind our mission

### HOPE



We believe there is light amid darkness

### CARE



We provide services for all God's children

### LOVE



We show God's unconditional love for each person

### DIGNITY



We believe that each person has equal worth and value

### COURAGE



We speak out where we see injustice

### MUTUALITY



We bear responsibility for the wellbeing of each other



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## OUR MEMBERS:

Our members are the foundation of Eurodiaconia and play a pivotal role in shaping our organization. They set the strategic direction at our Annual General Meeting, while the Elected Supervisory Board develops our vision. Together, we work to influence EU policies that impact the most vulnerable individuals. Through reflection and partnerships, our members enhance their methods and advocate for socially excluded people. Solidarity, equality, and justice unite us, driving our collective efforts to create positive change and improve lives.

## WHY BECOME A MEMBER OF EURODIACONIA?

As a member of Eurodiaconia, you gain access to valuable resources and opportunities for your daily work. Our dynamic network focuses on putting the people you serve and your services at the center of our work. We cover various topics, such as homelessness, migration, Roma inclusion, and diaconal identity, providing networking and partnership opportunities with like-minded members.

Your input as a member is crucial for our policy work, ensuring the voices of vulnerable populations are heard. Eurodiaconia helps you understand and access European funding through tailored trainings, support in writing funding applications, and project partnerships. We advocate for members' interests in Brussels and strive for policies that support marginalized individuals.

Join our community of motivated diaconal actors to strengthen your work, contribute to the dialogue, and enhance diaconal efforts across Europe.

## HELPING MEMBERS UNDERSTAND AND ACCESS EU FUNDING

Eurodiaconia supports members in accessing European funding through tailor-made trainings, assistance in writing funding applications, and active participation in member-led projects. We facilitate match-making between members to form project consortia and provide timely information through newsletters and notifications. In Brussels, we advocate for our members' interests, striving to secure adequate and sustainable EU funding for a more socially inclusive Europe. Our goal is to empower diaconal organizations and amplify their impact on social development across the continent.



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## HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER:

Joining Eurodiaconia is a simple and transparent process. You can apply through our website, where you will find the application pack. Once you have confirmed that your organization meets the membership criteria outlined in the pack, you can complete the form and submit it to our Communications and Membership Officer. Membership fees are paid annually by our members.

Upon receiving your application, our Secretariat will review it and may contact you for additional information. A recommendation will then be presented to the Supervisory Board of Eurodiaconia for approval. Throughout the process, potential members will be kept informed, and a decision can typically be expected within three to four months from the date of application.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES:

According to Article 8 of the Eurodiaconia statute, each member is required to pay a yearly membership fee. The fee amount is determined by the General Meeting based on a proposal from the Supervisory Board. The standard membership fee is set at 1500 Euros and is adjusted based on the region's GDP per person, using GDP statistics obtained from the European Union Eurostat service.

In the case where a member is an umbrella platform that brings together multiple organizations, an additional levy is imposed on the umbrella organization for each of its component organizations. For example, if an organization has 5 members, it will pay the membership fee adjusted by GDP, along with an additional levy for each of its component members.

### To download the application pack:

<https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/membership-application-pack.pdf>



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# THANK YOU!

Rue Joseph II 166 – 1000 Bruxelles – Belgium

Tel.: +32 (0)2 234 38 60 Email: [office@eurodiaconia.org](mailto:office@eurodiaconia.org)

Fax: +32 (0)2 234 38 65 Web: [www.eurodiaconia.org](http://www.eurodiaconia.org)



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