

# Join the EU-CORD network



Photo by Pixabay

## Contents

Membership Options .....	2
Criteria for Membership .....	2
Application Form .....	3
Network Concept.....	3
Mission, Goals, Values .....	4
Membership Fee .....	5
Membership Agreement / Letter of Intent.....	6
The final word .....	7

## 4 Easy Steps

If you think that EU-CORD could be the right network for your organisation, then:

1. Complete the online application form: [https://form.jotform.com/eu\\_cord/membership-application-form-](https://form.jotform.com/eu_cord/membership-application-form-)
2. Meet with Ruth Faber (EU-CORD CEO) and the Administrative Council (the executive body of the General Assembly).
3. Formally present your organisation to the Administrative Council either in person or virtually.
4. Wait for the General Assembly vote (spring or autumn).

## Membership Options

There are four types of membership: Member, Associate Member, Affiliate Member and Observer.

- The standard membership option is that of **Member** this is an organisation that fulfils the membership criteria and is subsequently approved by the General Assembly.
- An **Associate Member** is an organisation that shares a similar mission and vision and adopts similar strategies as Members but does not strictly meet the criteria to become a full Member.

Associate Members have equal status to Full Members but have no General Assembly voting rights and are not electable into the Administrative Council (AC). The Associate Membership fee is equal to the Full Membership fee. Associate Members have access to the General Assembly as well as to all programme working groups and other meetings.

- An **Affiliate Member** is an organisation that is an affiliate of an EU-CORD member. The largest (€) of the family should be the EU-CORD Member. Any organisation retains the right to membership in the network, and potential affiliates should discuss the right approach internally before approaching the Secretariat. There may be different approaches for different affiliates. The affiliate makes a flat-rate contribution to EU-CORD's budget of either €250 or €500 per year; it has full access to all working structures but does not have voting rights and cannot sit on the Administrative Council.
- An **Observer** is an organisation with a different mission and vision and core business as Full Members. Still, it has valuable contributions to the network's members' mission, vision, and strategies.

In the application form, you will be asked to identify which membership option you are applying under – you can also say that you are not sure!

## Criteria for Membership

Full Members need to fulfil the following membership criteria:

1. A Christian organisation which clearly articulates its Christian basis and values.
2. Has a good reputation and can demonstrate a commitment to quality and accountability in

the delivery of its activities.

3. Has an international agenda whose primary aim concerns at least one of the following: the eradication of poverty, reduction of inequality, and ending social exclusion through activities relating to international development and/or peacebuilding and/or emergency relief, and /or advocacy and/or human rights and/or development education.
4. Is legally established in a European country.
5. Has an independent governance structure (Board of Trustees or Directors).
6. Maintains its own operations to address its aim rather than simply acting as a fundraising subsidiary of a parent organisation.
7. An organisation that has other affiliations must accept that membership of the Association is exclusive to itself and does not confer any rights on any affiliates. If any affiliated agency wishes to benefit from membership of the Association, they must apply in their own right.

## Application Form

The application form assesses applicants against the criteria mentioned above. To complete the application, you will be asked to upload the following:

- Articles of association/statutes
- Most recent annual report
- Organisational strategy
- Quality frameworks or quality statement (*if available*)

In case of application as an affiliate, the family partnership agreement and a supporting letter from the full Member who will be in the lead are also required.

The link to the application form can be found here:

[https://form.jotform.com/eu\\_cord/membership-application-form-](https://form.jotform.com/eu_cord/membership-application-form-)

## Network Concept

We are a member-led network with the network's actions carried out by its members, facilitated by a 2-person Secretariat located in Brussels. The 2022+ strategy has identified the following goals:

1. Supporting partnerships and funding
2. Supporting member-led advocacy initiatives
3. Communicating the added value of faith-based actor
4. Developing knowledge and capacity building

In pursuit of these goals, we build connections and aim to mobilise around issues that matter most to members. For up to date information on current activities, please take a look at our website: [EU-CORD Network – European Christian Organisations for Relief and Development](#)

## Mission, Goals, Values

### *Mission*

*Christian organisations collaborating for a transformed, just, and equal world.*

### *Goals*

1. Supporting members and their national counterparts to develop partnership approaches, diversify funding options, and access funding from the European Union.
2. Equipping members and their national counterparts to advocate towards European policymakers on issues concerning humanitarian action, sustainable development, peacebuilding, and the role of faith-based organisations.
3. Communicating the added value of faith-based actors and the importance of engaging with faith communities towards the European Union and other civil society actors.
4. Developing the knowledge of members and their national civil society counterparts through mutual capacity building and learning.

### *Values*

**Relationship:** at the heart of the network lies the quality of the relationship between us and those with whom we partner and the degree to which we co-operate.

**Servanthood:** we strive to achieve our mutual goals in a spirit of servanthood, supporting each other while respecting each agency's specific identity.

**Compassion:** through our actions, we show that Christian organisations can bring a professional standard of work that embraces humanity and promotes dignity.

### *Strategy*

You can find our 2022+ strategy here: [eu-cord-strategic-direction-2022.pdf](https://eu-cord.org/eu-cord-strategic-direction-2022.pdf)

## Membership Fee

Membership fees wholly fund the network. Fees are allocated proportionally to members based on an average of the 3-year turnover. The amounts vary year-on-year depending on the budget and changes to the membership. There is an upper and lower cap.

The General Assembly approves the budget.

### What can you expect to contribute? Members and Associate Members.

For a rough calculation, you can take your annual turnover for last year and see where you are placed in this recent membership fee calculation.

Member	Annual Turnover	Annual Membership Subscription
Member	298,725	500
Member	893,367	842
Member	1,026,185	967
Member	1,834,064	1,728
Member	2,318,281	2,184
Member	2,601,899	2,452
Member	3,141,757	2,960
Member	4,733,610	4,460
Member	6,495,974	6,121
Member	7,587,869	7,150
Member	9,115,083	8,589
Member	9,167,923	8,638
Member	10,341,347	9,744
Member	11,251,264	10,601
Member	18,308,440	17,251
Member	19,031,877	17,932
Member	27,405,083	20,328

## Membership Agreement / Letter of Intent

*All members are asked to sign the letter of intent.*

As leaders of EU-CORD member organisations, we share high levels of trust and confidence in each other. This letter has been written to affirm our commitment to the EU-CORD network in which we belong and to the spirit of deep and meaningful partnership within it.

### EU-CORD Overview

EU-CORD is a network of Christian organisations collaborating for a transformed, just, and equal world. The EU-CORD network comprises of 26 NGOs that work alongside their national civil society counterparts in 87 countries. As individual organisations (and as a network), we are an inter-denomination grouping of Christian relief, development, and peacebuilding agencies, inspired by Christian values to accomplish our work. As such, we are independent of any political, social, or religious authority.

### Our Commitment

We, the undersigned, agree with and wholeheartedly support the following foundational values of the network:

- **Relationships:** at the heart of the network lies the quality of the relationship between us and those with whom we partner and the degree to which we co-operate.
- **Servanthood:** we strive to achieve our mutual goals in a spirit of servanthood, supporting each other while respecting each agency's specific identity.
- **Compassion:** through our actions, we show that Christian organisations can bring a professional standard of work that embraces humanity and promotes dignity

Aligned with EU-CORD's strategy, as leaders of the member organisations, we commit to ensuring that:

1. Our organisation contributes to improve the practice and capacity of our EU-CORD network through knowledge sharing, mutual learning, joint innovation
2. We mobilise human, financial and other organisational resources for the common actions of the network.
3. We live out our faith, as individuals and organisations, and advocate for social, economic and environment justice, in the countries of our operations.
4. We support the vision and functioning of the network to maintain relevance and financial sustainability.

In order to make this a reality, we recognise that relationships need to be developed at all levels of our organisations and in all locations. These relationships need to be based on trust and confidence and on the shared values that we as Christian faith-based organisations hold and as are outlined in this letter.

The approach we are committing to means pro-actively seeking out EU-CORD member organisations wherever we are and pro-actively looking at ways that we work together in a range of areas.

Our aspiration is that within our organisations, there is a culture where the EU-CORD network is prioritised and invested into such that there is clear mutual benefit for all in the network. At times that can mean contributing our knowledge, skills and experience whilst at other times that could be benefitting from other organisations' strengths.

We recognise that there is a risk that collaboration is restricted mostly at a European level and that this does not enable the full benefit of the network. In light of that, we will actively promote country-level engagement with EU-CORD members within our own organisations and explore ways to formalise this approach.

As leaders of EU-CORD member organisations, we are resolute and committed to seeing the EU-CORD network thrive and realise its full potential.

Signed by the CEOs of the EU-CORD members:

## The final word

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your potential application, please contact Ruth Faber: [ruth.faber@eu-cord.org](mailto:ruth.faber@eu-cord.org)