

MEMBERSHIP

Join Us

Your guide to navigating the application process

Introduction

Welcome to our guide on joining the EU-CORD network. In this document, you will find information on our membership criteria, links to the application form, and all the resources you need to determine if EU-CORD is the right fit for your organisation. Our network is built on a foundation of shared values and a commitment to collaborative action, and we are excited to explore the possibility of partnering with organisations that share our vision for impactful relief and development work. This guide is designed to help you navigate the membership process and make an informed decision about joining our community.

4 Easy Steps

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

1. Complete the online application form:
2. Meet with Ruth Faber (EU-CORD CEO) and the Administrative Council (the executive body of the General Assembly).
3. Present your organisation to the Administrative Council in person or virtually.
4. Wait for the General Assembly vote (spring or autumn).

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 visit our website: EU-CORD Network—[European Christian Organisations for Relief and Development](#).

Mission, Goals, Values

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 cooperate.

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.

2022+ strategy here: [eu-cord-strategic-direction-2022.pdf](#)

Membership Options

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

The standard membership option is Member. This organisation 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 only partially meets the criteria to become a full Member.

Associate Members have equal status to Full Members but no General Assembly voting rights and are not electable to the Administrative Council (AC). The Associate Membership fee is equal to the Full Membership fee. Associate Members have access to the General Assembly, 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, vision, and core business as a full member. Still, it contributes value 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 for.

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 its activities.
3. It 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, peacebuilding, emergency relief, advocacy, human rights, and development education.
4. It 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 acting as a parent organisation's fundraising subsidiary.
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 in the Association, it must apply in its own right.

Annual Membership Fee

Membership fees are the single source of core funding for the network.

- Fees are distributed among members based on a three-year turnover average.
- Amounts fluctuate annually depending on the budget and membership adjustments, with set upper and lower limits.
- The General Assembly approves the budget.
- Contributions are expected from both Members and Associate Members.

To *estimate* your contribution, you can use last year's annual turnover to gauge your position in the membership fee structure (2024).

Member Turnover €	Membership Fee
342.63	1,265.75
4,289.80	1,400.43
1,828.67	1,605.82
3,594.67	2,450.08
5,197.00	6,606.49
9,668.00	7,755.37
11,554.67	8,667.94
13,008.33	9,210.97
12,964.33	10,445.13
16,275.33	11,907.92
14,772.33	12,510.30
17,912.02	14,814.57
21,756.33	18,044.36
22,113.67	19,537.31
54,553.33	21,759.09
34,775.67	23,155.90
70,687.33	27,766.69

As part of your application, you will be asked to share your organisational turnover for the past three years.

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 statements (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-

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Ruth Faber: ruth.faber@eu-cord.org