



Join Us

Membership Application Pack

Revised 2026

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
4 Easy Steps	3
Network Concept	4
Mission, Goals, Values	4
Governance Documents	4
Membership Options	4
Criteria for Membership	6
Annual Membership Fee	6
Application Steps	7
Application Form	7
Initial Conversation	7
Presentation to the Administrative Council	7
General Assembly Vote	8

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:

Complete the online application form:

Have a first conversation with someone from the Administrative Council (the executive body of the General Assembly).

Present your organisation to the Administrative Council in person or virtually.

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.

In pursuit of these goals, we build connections and aim to mobilise around issues that matter most to members.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Governance Documents

[EU-CORD-network_AoA_approved-2021-11-09-EN.pdf](#)

[EU-CORD-Internal-Rules.fv_.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

1. Full Members need to fulfil the following membership criteria:
2. A Christian organisation which clearly articulates its Christian basis and values.
3. Has a good reputation and can demonstrate a commitment to quality and accountability in its activities.
4. 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.
5. It is legally established in a European country.
6. Has an independent governance structure (Board of Trustees or Directors).
7. Maintains its own operations to address its aim rather than acting as a parent organisation's fundraising subsidiary.
8. An organisation that has other affiliations must accept that membership of the
9. 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 constitute the core source of funding for the network.

- Annual membership dues are determined by the Administrative Council, in accordance with the Internal Rules of the Association.
- Fees are calculated using a methodology based on the organisation's turnover (typically a three-year average), with defined minimum and maximum thresholds.
- Membership contributions are expected from all Members.

Only Members who have paid their membership dues in full are entitled to vote at meetings of the General Assembly.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to provide their organisational turnover for the past three years in order to determine the applicable fee range.

Based on the information provided, a representative of the Secretariat or Administrative Council will indicate the expected level of membership contribution.

Application Steps

Application Form

Applicants are assessed against the membership criteria established by the General Assembly.

At this stage, applicants are required to complete the application form and provide key organisational information.

The link to the application form is provided here:

[Membership Application Form – Fill in form](#)

For general enquiries, applicants may contact:
info@eu-cord.org

Initial Conversation

Following submission of the application form, an initial review is conducted by a member of the Administrative Council.

Applicants who meet the initial criteria will be invited to an introductory conversation with a representative designated by the Administrative Council.

Ahead of this conversation, applicants will be asked to submit the following documents:

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

For applications as an affiliate (where applicable under Internal Rules), additional documentation may be required, such as:

- A partnership agreement
- A supporting letter from a full Member

Purpose of the conversation:

- Assess alignment with membership criteria
- Provide an overview of how the Association operates
- Clarify expectations, commitments, and participation

Presentation to the Administrative Council

If that goes well and there is mutual agreement to continue the journey, then you will be invited to make a presentation virtually or in person to the whole Admin Council.

General Assembly Vote

The decision to approve a new organisation to the network is taken at the General Assembly – normally, applicants are not present for this vote, and you will be informed of the decision after the meeting.