



# Churches Together for Hope

Annual Report 2021



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# INTRODUCTION

The ecumenical movement is about moving hearts and minds. Some would even say it is about moving the world. To a place of hope. As COVID-19 kept its stronghold on people across the world, including Europe, movement literally remained a challenge in 2021. However, 2020 had already taught us how to act and communicate in new and innovative ways.

The CEC Annual Report Churches Together for Hope is a witness to the fact that, despite pandemic-related restrictions and organisational challenges, CEC managed to navigate unpredictable circumstances, adapting to a situation beyond our control. This was possible through CEC's dedicated staff, committed Member Churches, National Councils of Churches and Organisations in Partnership.

2021 saw a number of significant CEC events and initiatives organised and executed virtually and physically: the launch of an EU-supported project to increase security in and around places of worship, solid CEC impact on the EU-initiated Conference on the Future of Europe, the celebration of 20 years of Charta Oecumenica, the development of Christian perspectives on the European Green Deal, and a summer academy on populism. Just to mention a few.



Rev. Christian Krieger  
CEC President



Dr Jørgen Skov Sørensen  
CEC General Secretary

Last year, together with its members and partners, CEC moved hearts and minds as a strong and significant voice in European societies, grounded in its historical role as bridge-builder. However, can we also in the future take this position for granted in an increasingly secular and plural Europe? The question was on the CEC Governing Board's agenda during 2021.

As the ecumenical movement is indeed about moving, CEC moved towards new directions in 2021. Several years of organisational scrutiny and analysis brought the CEC Governing Board to decide on working towards a better profiled, and not least, more focused organisation, by the end of 2021.

The CEC Governing Board sketched the outline of an organisation



better equipped to meet the needs and demands of an increasingly secular and plural Europe, and more resilient to future financial fluctuations.

CEC will witness to churches' commitment to the future of Europe and support churches and their presence in society. Therefore, CEC envisages more cooperation between and with its Member Churches, together with a more agile organisation that can adjust to its operational capacity, a task that CEC is mandated to undertake by its Member Churches and other supporters.

CEC is owned and sustained by its Member Churches, and the Governing Board has taken on the task of navigating the organisation through what at times turn out to be unpredictable waters.

As we read about CEC's journey in 2021, learning about its accomplishments and challenges, let us hold on to a resilient hope, as we move into our common future.

Moving the world. To a place of hope. Together as European churches.

Dr Jørgen Skov Sørensen CEC General Secretary  
Rev. Christian Krieger CEC President



# CEC AND THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



What, where and who is the church during a COVID-19 pandemic? Throughout 2021, CEC continued to explore, in creative ways, the practical and theological facets that make up the many answers to this question.

As Europe continued to reel from the COVID-19 crisis, with communities experiencing separation and isolation, churches observed the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in new and innovative ways. Many CEC Member Churches held online prayers and celebrations that offered both times for mourning and times for looking ahead with hope.

## Vaccination: a spiritual approach

CEC also took a role in providing fact-based information and insights related to vaccinations. In messages, webinars and statements

geared to churches and society, CEC addressed issues of skepticism and conspiracy theories.

A webinar, “Vaccination – Curse or blessing? A spiritual and theological approach to COVID-19 vaccination,” explored the current state of scientific knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination from ethical Christian perspective.

Building on this messaging, European churches continued to urge people to get vaccinated against COVID-19, emphasizing responsibility and care, and encouraging vaccination together with necessary sanitary measures. CEC and Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Union (COMECE) issued a joint appeal that stated, in part, “let us manifest Christ’s love by demonstrating responsibility and care for all.”

CEC also offered a new monthly series, entitled “Communion in Crisis: The Church during the COVID-19 Pandemic,” featuring monthly theological reflections. The series offered intergenerational voices bringing messages of solidarity, church fellowship and hope from diverse faith traditions.

## Health and healing

As Easter-time arrived, CEC, in a joint message with the COMECE, affirmed sheer hope in Christ’s resurrection in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CEC also addressed responses to human rights in the times of COVID-19, releasing a new video featuring impressions from participants of its 7th virtual Summer School on Human Rights.

Contributing a European perspective, CEC also participated in a WCC health and healing consultation, emphasizing the deep connection between Christian ethics and health and healing.

## Strengthening church fellowship

To discuss the impact of the COVID-19 on the churches, CEC conducted a meeting with the representatives of the European National Councils of Churches. The events not only highlighted churches’ creative ways of responding to the challenges posed by the pandemic, but also gathered significant experiences grounded in national and local contexts.

“...let us manifest Christ’s love by demonstrating responsibility and care for all.”

– Excerpt from joint appeal from CEC and COMECE

Another meeting with the NCCs discussed the relationship of church and state in different national contexts, sharing concrete examples of reconciliation of unity in an increasingly secular and plural societies.



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# PROMOTING PEACE, JUSTICE, AND RECONCILIATION IN EUROPE



During 2021, the pursuit of peace, justice, and reconciliation in Europe was full of challenges as well as points of hope that kept dialogue open. Through expressions of concern and solidarity, as well as urgent calls for justice, CEC worked to honour its legacy of clearing a path towards peace for all of Europe.

## Advocating for just laws

In a letter to Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Minister for Church Affairs Joy Mogensen, CEC expressed deep concern regarding a new suggested initiative on the compulsory translation of sermons from other languages into Danish. The letter highlighted how, historically, CEC Member Churches have been making a positive impact by encouraging the use of mother tongues in religious contexts, assisting migrants in joining and forming communities that

support and help them navigate the societal contexts of which they become part.

Another letter from CEC was sent to the French government expressing concern over a draft law related to Islamic radicalism. While recognising the need to counter extremism, CEC, together with its Member Churches in France, pointed out the damaging effect the law could potentially inflict on law-abiding religious communities. Addressed to Prime Minister Jean Castex and Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin from the CEC Brussels office, the letter stressed the need for the government to engage further with religious leaders and considered the draft law from the perspective of European integration, an ecclesial vision from the churches, and the foundation of human rights.





are, raise the question with your government.”

At the printing of the present CEC Annual Report, the war in Ukraine was continuing. Although this report covers events that occurred during 2021, CEC continues to strongly condemn the advance of the Russian military and unequivocally calls for peace.

## Concern for the vulnerable

In a joint statement with COMECE, CEC conveyed solidarity for vulnerable people in Afghanistan, urging European decision-makers to show humanity and act with determination in addressing the human tragedy currently unfolding there.

CEC also amplified its call for lasting peace in Nagorno-Karabakh. Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Primate of the Armenian Church of the United Kingdom and Ireland, who also serves as a member of CEC Governing Board, spoke about the conflict. As the fallout of conflict weighs on the backs of Armenian villagers, he said that “we have to pray and we have to speak more of this”, and that “internationally we have to increase awareness and accurate information. Wherever you



“Politically, CEC sees such legislation as an unreasonably negative signal in relation to religion and the role of religious communities in society.”

—Excerpt from letter of 26 January 2021 to Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Minister for Church Affairs Joy Mogensen



“We urge the EU to be instrumental in creating humanitarian corridors, resettlement and other secure passages, to bring refugees to safe places outside Afghanistan.”

—Excerpt from joint statement by CEC and COMECE, 2 September 2021



# STRENGTHENING ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP AND PROMOTING THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH



## Ecclesiology and Mission

CEC in 2021 reflected an increased passion for working toward a stronger ecumenical fellowship and a shared sense of Christian unity. Through celebrating milestones, and through bringing theological reflection to life in the practical realm of daily church life, CEC's commemorations and resources stretched from the regional to the grassroots.

## 20 years of Charta Oecumenica

CEC and the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE) issued a joint statement marking the 20th anniversary of the landmark document "Charta Oecumenica—Guidelines for the Growing Cooperation among Churches in Europe."

"Churches have strengthened their work towards a just and peaceful world, not least because of the increased movement of people from other continents, and have increased their efforts towards the care for creation. The message of the Charta Oecumenica has contributed and given new vigour to all of this growth and transformation," read the statement.

An Ecumenical Service, held under the theme "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer" (Romans 12:12), also marked the special anniversary. The service, held online due to COVID-19 restrictions, was still able to celebrate the joy and pray about the challenges churches face in their ongoing quest for stronger cooperation. The service also celebrated the Charta Oecumenica itself. Signed in 2001,





the document has, for two decades, served as a guiding light to preserve and develop fellowship among European churches.

## Mutual recognition of baptism

An ongoing study during 2021 on the mutual recognition of baptism in Europe tied theological reflection to real-life experience in Europe. Recognising that mutual recognition of baptism – and the obstacles toward it – is an issue that affects the daily lives of countless Christians across Europe and beyond, CEC initiated a study process to explore this topic.

The study seeks to identify agreements concerning baptism within CEC Member Churches, and explore official guidelines with regard to the reception of Christians moving from one church to another,

recognition of and pastoral care for inter-church families, and Christian initiation, religious education, and pastoral care of children raised in inter-church families. A survey related to the study was sent to the CEC Member Churches and a webinar on the mutual recognition of baptism in Europe was held in December 2021.

## Praying for Christian unity

Hosted by the European Parliament, CEC and COMECE held an online Ecumenical Prayer for Christian Unity and for the Future of Europe.

The prayer, attended by nearly 200 people and viewed later by many more, was held under the theme “Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit” (John 15).



# ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP, MISSION OF THE CHURCH



During the virtual prayer, First Vice-President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola, delivered a message that stressed the values of peace, stability and development—and how much she values the voices of churches. “Sometimes their views differ but many times we can see common threads joining us all together,” she said.

The service also featured a special message from His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, reflecting on the European values of peace and justice, and the role of the European churches, especially amid the trying pandemic.

“For us, Europe is a great experiment of solidarity and pace, a product of freedom and justice,” he said.

## 100 years of church fellowship

Theologians and church leaders from Europe and beyond participated in the online conference on “The Hope of Communion: From 1920 to 2020.”

The conference, gathering over 100 participants, reflected on the significance and impact the two landmark ecumenical texts from 1920 had on the ecumenical dialogue: “The Patriarchal Encyclical Letter to the Churches of Christ Everywhere” issued by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and “The Appeal to all Christian People” issued by the Lambeth Conference of Anglican Bishops. The event was organised by CEC together with the Louvain Centre for Eastern and Oriental Christianity.



# ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP, MISSION OF THE CHURCH

## Rejoice in hope!

In the season of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, European churches carried a message of hope to the world, one that shone brightly as the child born in a manger. A hope deeply rooted in Christ's nativity, in which God came to dwell among us as our source of life. A hope beyond a mere dream or an act of wishful thinking.



# RAISING CHURCHES' VOICES IN EUROPE AND THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS



## Dialogue with European Institutions, EU Policy and Legislation

As a church fellowship, CEC strengthens its work to develop Christian voices in European political institutions and beyond while grounding it in firm theological reflection.

A major landmark in the European context during 2021 was the launch of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE), an initiative to involve European citizens—particularly young people—and civil society in a broad-based discussion about the future of Europe and the European Union. An interactive multilingual digital platform was created to enable citizens and organisations to share ideas and information about CoFoE-related events.

Citizen panels were arranged at both European and national levels. A non-exhaustive list of suggested topics for the conference included climate change, health, social fairness, digital transformation, the EU's role in the world, European democracy and values. The conference is to reach conclusions in spring 2022 to provide guidance for future EU policies and Europe's future direction.

## Engaging in CoFoE

As the CoFoE was officially set up via a joint declaration, CEC expressed appreciation of the move, anticipating a strong contribution from the European churches. CEC and COMECE reiterated these feelings of appreciation and joy with a joint statement. Representing millions of European citizens,



European churches were encouraged to bring forth a Christian perspective towards the development of the European project.

CEC and COMECE also addressed a letter to the newly appointed members of the CoFoE Executive Board, advocating for the integration of churches in the Conference Plenary as distinct key stakeholders, in line with the provisions of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU, Article 17), according to which the EU maintains an open, transparent and regular dialogue with churches and religious associations.

A group of the European People’s Party conference in Rome, in collaboration with COMECE and CEC, contributed to the dialogue on “Christian Values and the Future of Europe.” CEC further affirmed in a contribution the aspiration of churches to actively engage with CoFoE and participated, together with other European faith-based organisa-

tions, in the Article 17 Dialogue Seminar on CoFoE, hosted by former Vice-President Roberta Metsola. The Brussels event “Our Hope for Europe” brought into focus the contribution of the churches to CoFoE. It was organised by CEC, COMECE, and Chapel for Europe, with participation from representatives of the three main EU institutions.

### Delegations offer a sense of solidarity

Through Article 17 of TFEU, CEC engaged in open, transparent and regular dialogue with the EU and churches.

An ecumenical delegation from CEC and COMECE participated in an online meeting with Ambassador Nuno Brito, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the European Union, exchanging views on the priorities of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European







# RAISING CHURCHES' VOICES IN EUROPE AND THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

Union. Another delegation later met with Augusto Santos Silva, Portuguese Minister of State and Foreign Affairs. The ecumenical delegation also participated in an online meeting with Ambassador Iztok Jarc, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the European Union, exchanging on the priorities of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. A later delegation also met with Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša.

In the above encounters, CEC and COMECE stressed the importance of promoting human-centered recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating for global vaccine equity, strengthening resilience against future crises and encouraging coordinated EU health policy. They also called the decision-makers to protect and promote the fundamental right to religious freedom in European societies, thereby protecting European values and principles.







# HUMAN RIGHTS

## Security awareness in Europe

CEC, together with the European Jewish Congress (Security and Crisis Centre), Faith Matters, and the European Buddhist Union, received a grant from the European Commission to assist in the protection of places of worship in Europe. The outcome of this interfaith partnership, representing Christian, Muslim and Jewish communities across Europe, is called Safer and Stronger Communities in Europe (SASCE). It is the first time that four European religious organisations will be working together on a European Commission-funded common project to enhance security.



The project enlists 15 countries in which CEC is sharing with church leadership about the security situation in Europe and presenting the SASCE project. In these countries, church leaders are instructed and receive resources, in their own language, related to law enforcement, leadership, and staff and congregational security, as well as video materials included in the SASCE training. CEC is working with ecumenical councils in many countries as they appoint security experts who report hate crimes and incidents.



## Places of Worship and Holy Sites in Europe and the Middle East

Status and Protection under National and International Law

Elizabeta Kiranovic and Patrick Roger Schnabel (Editors)



### Resources for promoting human rights

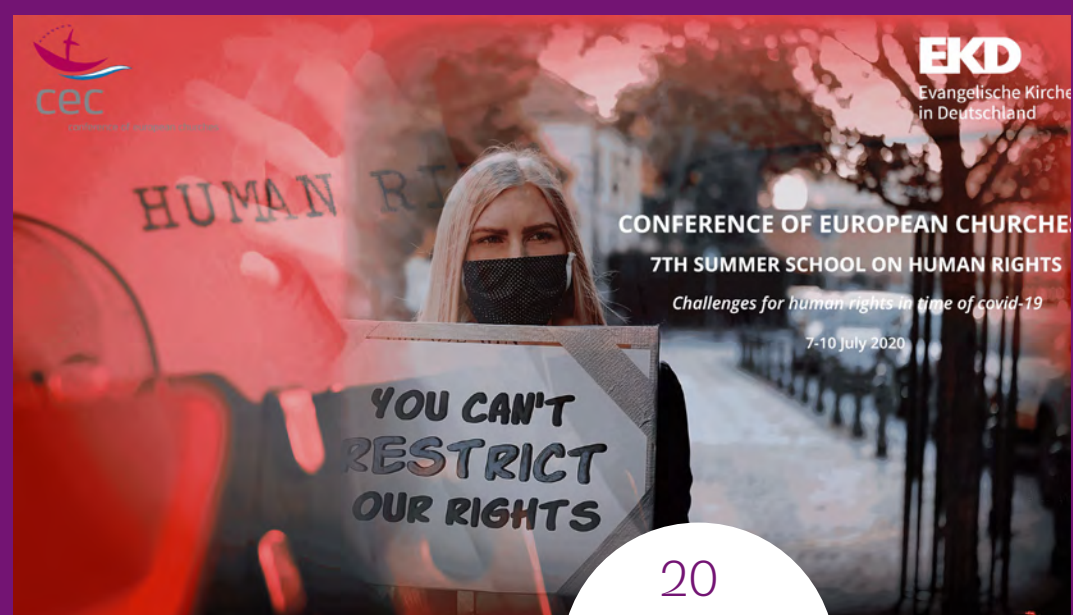
CEC and Globethics.net co-produced the book *Places of Worship and Holy Sites in Europe and the Middle East: Status and Protection under National and International Law*. Featuring a collection of essays from renowned church leaders, academics, and experts in the field, it offers deep insights about the protection of religious sites, the implementation of freedom of religion or belief, and ways of fostering peaceful relations among different religions.

Continuing on a path promoting freedom of religion, CEC's 8th Summer School on Human Rights focused on protection of worship places and religious communities. Participants discussed why freedom of religion or belief is a fundamental human right, and how it encompasses the right to publicly exercise one's religion, including the possibility to dedicate special places—churches, synagogues,

mosques, cemeteries and other holy sites – to religious and cultic purposes.

A CEC video featured responses on the state of human rights in the times of COVID-19 together with impressions from its 7th virtual Summer School on Human Rights.

"Places of worship are meant to be places of peace, wisdom, and spirituality," said Rev. Christian Krieger, CEC president, speaking at a conference on "International Religious Freedom and Peace" convened at the behest of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. "All religions, and all political and civil institutions must act together in solidarity and cooperation to safeguard their purpose," said Krieger.









# CARE FOR CREATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Hosted and supported by CEC, the 2021 Assembly of the European Christian Environmental Network (ECEN) addressed the theme “Reconciled with Creation: A Call for Urgent Action on Climate and Biodiversity.” It brought together over two hundred participants from Europe and beyond and highlighted responses to climate change and efforts for a sustainable future with an ethical dimension, addressing questions of individual and collective freedom, as well as the pursuit of justice and responsibility for the future.

In Norway, youth are living into green ministry—and bringing adults along too—with a green initiative, the winner of the Roman Juriga Award that commended its creative response to our world’s environmental challenges.

## Season of Creation

ECEN, together with CEC, extended an invitation to celebrate Season of Creation 2021, under the theme “A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God.” A joint statement by CEC and COMECE explained:

This year, the biblical sign of Abraham’s tent was chosen to represent our commitment towards caring for our common home, caring for creation, in a spirit of welcoming and dialogue. The wisdom of this biblical passage enlightens the journey and the work of the churches in Europe and reinvigorates their commitment to the safeguard of creation.



Season of Creation opened with an online worship service prepared with CEC and ECEN's contributions, drawing hundreds of participants from church communities around the world. The event nurtured a spirit of reverence for creation and action for climate, creating momentum beyond Season of Creation, which is celebrated each year from 1 September through 4 October.

## Church presence vital at COP26

Before, during, and after COP26 in Glasgow, CEC Member Churches and partners shared how the climate change conference was not only a question of politics but a question for the heart. Churches and faith-based communities have become, over the years, visible actors on the scene.



CEC and ECEN were part of the ecumenical team present at COP26 led by the WCC. A significant moment of the conference was an ecumenical worship service in Glasgow cathedral prepared in cooperation with churches in Scotland. Reporting from the event stated that pledges of the Paris Agreement signed six years ago are not being fulfilled: "Revision of national contributions undertaken on the run-up to COP26 make clear that only about half of the parties of the Paris Agreement are fulfilling what they signed and consequently ratified in their own national legislative procedures." It also underscored why COP26 is a concern for churches: "Churches are at the forefront in raising awareness on the global environmental crisis, praying and taking actions to protect our common home."

# CARE FOR CREATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Active collaboration between CEC, WCC, local ecumenical groups, and churches in Scotland was an important moment at COP26, manifesting a strong contribution from churches.

## European Green Deal

The European Union adopted last year the European Green Deal, which manifests the EU's commitment to reach climate neutrality by 2050. To reach this objective, the EU is committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 percent by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.

The strategy aims to reduce the risk of the future impact of climate change. The European Green Deal offers a space for dialogue, addressing environmental concerns and new economic models that

cover a broad agenda beyond merely reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CEC and its Member Churches welcomed the strategy. CEC addressed the challenges, joining global voices stressing that patterns of extracting, using, and disposing of resources must change. In their work, European churches have highlighted how restoring balance with our environment is essential for present and future generations, especially in consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic.







# EDUCATION, DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

How can European churches deal with populism by being the “salt of the earth”? The question guided a lively exchange at the CEC Online Academy on Populism, Diversity and Democracy. Participants discussed how public discourse has been, at times, reduced to a trade in competing slogans and devoid of any underlying vision or content. They explored the importance of an international ecumenical organisation like CEC to work out what lies behind the issues and questions dogging our societies today, particularly populism. They tried to answer a key question: How can education prepare both young and old to be alert to “fake news” and overly simplistic answers and aware of the pitfalls of misinformation?





# SCIENCE, NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND CHRISTIAN ETHICS



A discussion paper entitled “COVID-19 Vaccination – Christian Perspectives” was published by CEC. “Critically examining the evidence is an essential part of scientific work,” the paper noted. “From a Christian perspective, this also includes critical questioning in ethical terms.” CEC continued to pay close attention to the legal and intergovernmental discussions surrounding basic questions and connections between anthropology, law, and Christian ethics.

## Strengthening interreligious dialogue

At the Council of Europe, the question of an interfaith dialogue platform was included in a recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2015. Under the joint leadership of CEC and the European Buddhist Union, an interreligious and inter-confessional Dialogue Committee was set up in 2021. One of its important projects will be to screen the non-formal education programmes of churches and

religious communities throughout Europe that aim to combat hate and discrimination. Antisemitism, hate speech, and discrimination on grounds of faith or belief are becoming more and more common and CEC is combating this by building interreligious bridges.

CEC holds the position of co-chair of the Interreligious and Interconfessional Dialogue Committee of the Council of Europe. CEC monitors and contributes to the work of the European Institutions in Strasbourg, especially the Council of Europe. It has a participatory status at the Council of Europe and an observatory status in three intergovernmental committees (Human Rights, Bioethics, and Education). In this regard, CEC works closely with the Council of Europe.

# MIGRATION AND ASYLUM



In 2021, as in previous years, CEC supported and subsidized the work on migration and asylum undertaken by the autonomous organisation, Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME). CEC also supported a coalition of nine Christian organisations from across Europe, including CCME, by publishing a series of position papers reflecting on the proposals put forward by the European Commission regarding a European "pact" on asylum and migration. The five papers issued by the Christian organisations reflected on the pact in general, proposals on pre-entry screening and border procedures, return and readmission, search and rescue, and criminalisation of solidarity, as well as solidarity on asylum and migration. Building on this focus on refugees, CEC, together with CCME, invited churches on World Refugee Day to commemorate the lives of thousands of migrants and refugees who lost their lives in the Mediterranean as they sought safety on their way to Europe.

With support from CEC, CCME published Mapping Migration, Mapping Churches' Responses in Europe: Being Church Together. In commenting on the third edition, CCME General Secretary Dr Torsten Moritz wrote in the foreword: "In addition to presenting more recent statistical data, this third edition of the study particularly looks at how migration is changing the reality of churches in Europe – with new patterns of Christian churches springing up and changing the reality of existing churches."



# GOVERNING BOARD | PRESIDENCY

PRESIDENT Rev. Christian Krieger, Reformed Protestant Church of Alsace and Lorraine

VICE-PRESIDENT Rt Rev. Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Church of England

VICE-PRESIDENT His Eminence Metropolitan Cleopas of Sweden and All Scandinavia

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Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, Church of England  
Rev. Jelle Brouwer, United Protestant Church of Belgium  
Dr Valérie Duval-Poujol, Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches of France  
Very Rev. Anders Gadegaard, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark  
Archimandrite Ignatios, Church of Greece  
Ms Emma Weaver, Methodist Church in Britain  
Metropolitan Joseph of Western and Southern Europe, Romanian Orthodox Church  
Rev. Frank Kopania, Evangelical Church in Germany  
Prof. Petr Kratochvil, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren  
Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Diocese of the Armenian Church of the United Kingdom and Ireland  
Rev. Alison McDonald, Church of Scotland  
Archimandrite Nektarios, Church of Cyprus  
Dr Aleksandra Pistalo, Serbian Orthodox Church  
Ms Zsuzsanna Répás, Reformed Christian Church in Slovakia  
Ms Lea Kathrin Schlenker, Evangelical Church in Germany



# GOVERNING BOARD | ELECTORAL RESERVE

## ELECTORAL RESERVE:

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Archimandrite Iakovos Andriopoulos, Church of Greece  
Rev. Ella-Maria Boba, Evangelical Church in Austria  
Ms Katarzyna Charkiewicz, Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church  
Rev. Peter Ciaccio, Evangelical Methodist Church in Italy  
Rev. Dr Vilmos Fischl, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary  
Ms Karine Haryutunyan, Armenian Apostolic Church  
Ms Åsa Ingårda, Church of Sweden  
Ms Renate Japenga, Protestant Church in the Netherlands  
Rev. Klaas van der Kamp, Protestant Church in the Netherlands  
OKR Rainer Kiefer, Evangelical Church in Germany  
Ms Maria Mountraki, Orthodox Church on Finland  
Mr Tuomo Mäkelä, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland  
Rev. Gregory Pelushi, Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania  
Rev. Dr Daniel Topalski, United Methodist Church Central and Southern Europe  
Dr Petr Jan Vinš, Old-Catholic Church in the Czech Republic



# MEMBER CHURCHES

ALBANIA	Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania
ARMENIA	Armenian Apostolic Church
AUSTRIA	Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria Evangelical Church of Helvetic Confession in Austria Old-Catholic Church of Austria United Methodist Church in Austria
BELGIUM	United Protestant Church in Belgium
BULGARIA	Pentecostal Assemblies of Bulgaria Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Bulgaria United Methodist Church in Bulgaria
CROATIA	Baptist Union of Croatia Church of God in Croatia Evangelical Church in the Republic of Croatia Evangelical Pentecostal Church in Croatia Reformed Christian (Calvinist) Church in Croatia
CYPRUS	Church of Cyprus
CZECHIA	Czechoslovak Hussite Church Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren Old-Catholic Church in the Czech Republic Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic United Methodist Church in the Czech Republic

# MEMBER CHURCHES

## DENMARK

Baptist Union of Denmark  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark

## ESTONIA

Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Orthodox Church of Estonia

## FINLAND

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland  
Orthodox Church of Finland

## FRANCE

Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches of France  
Malagasy Protestant Church in France  
Union of Protestant Churches in Alsace and Lorraine  
United Protestant Church of France

## GEORGIA

Evangelical Baptist Church of Georgia

## GERMANY

Catholic Diocese of the Old-Catholics in Germany  
Evangelical Church in Germany  
Union of Evangelical Free Churches in Germany (Baptist Union)  
United Methodist Church in Germany

## GREECE

Church of Greece  
Evangelical Church of Greece

## HUNGARY

Baptist Union of Hungary  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary  
Reformed Church in Hungary  
United Methodist Church in Hungary

## ICELAND

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland



# MEMBER CHURCHES

IRELAND	Church of Ireland Methodist Church in Ireland Presbyterian Church in Ireland
ITALY	Christian Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy Evangelical Lutheran Church in Italy Evangelical Methodist Church in Italy Waldensian Church in Italy
LATVIA	Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Latvia Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad
LIECHTENSTEIN	Evangelical Baptist Church of Georgia
LITHUANIA	Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lithuania
LUXEMBOURG	Protestant Churches in Luxembourg
NETHERLANDS	Mennonite Church in the Netherlands Old-Catholic Church of the Netherlands Protestant Church in the Netherlands Remonstrant Church
NORTH MACEDONIA	United Methodist Church Macedonia
NORWAY	Church of Norway

# MEMBER CHURCHES

## POLAND

Baptist Union of Poland  
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland  
Evangelical Reformed Church in Poland  
Old-Catholic Mariavite Church in Poland  
Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church  
Polish Catholic Church (Old-Catholic)  
United Methodist Church in Poland

## PORTUGAL

Pentecostal Assemblies of Bulgaria  
Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Bulgaria  
United Methodist Church in Bulgaria

## ROMANIA

Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania  
Reformed Church in Romania (Kiralyhagomellek District)  
Romanian Orthodox Church  
Transylvanian Reformed Church

## RUSSIA

Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia  
(The Russian Orthodox Church suspended its membership in 2009)  
Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of Russia

## SERBIA

Reformed Christian Church in Serbia  
Serbian Orthodox Church  
Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia  
United Methodist Church in Serbia



# MEMBER CHURCHES

SLOVAKIA	Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia Reformed Christian Church in Slovakia
SLOVENIA	Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Republic of Slovenia
SPAIN	Spanish Evangelical Church Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church
SWEDEN	Church of Sweden Uniting Church in Sweden
SWITZERLAND	Protestant Church in Switzerland Old-Catholic Church of Switzerland United Methodist Church in Switzerland
UKRAINE	Reformed Church in Transcarpathia
UNITED KINGDOM	Baptist Union of Great Britain Church in Wales Church of England Church of Scotland Congregational Federation Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches UK Methodist Church in Britain Presbyterian Church of Wales Salvation Army – UK Territory and Ireland The Scottish Episcopal Church Shiloh United Church of Christ Apostolic Worldwide United Reformed Church

# MEMBER CHURCHES

## INTERNATIONAL AREAS

Ecumenical Patriarchate  
European Baptist Federation  
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Russia and Other States  
Moravian Church – European Continental Province  
Salvation Army – International Headquarters  
United Methodist Church – Nordic & Baltic Area



# NATIONAL COUNCILS OF CHURCHES

AUSTRIA	Ecumenical Council of Churches in Austria
BELGIUM	Concertation of Christian Churches in Belgium
CZECH REPUBLIK	Ecumenical Council of Churches in the Czech Republic
DENMARK	National Council of Churches in Denmark
ESTONIA	Estonian Council of Churches
FINLAND	Finnish Ecumenical Council
FRANCE	French Protestant Federation
GERMANY	Council of Christian Churches in Germany
HUNGARY	Ecumenical Council of Churches in Hungary
IRELAND	Irish Council of Churches
ITALY	Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy
THE NETHERLANDS	Council of Churches in the Netherlands
NORWAY	Christian Council of Norway
POLAND	Polish Ecumenical Council
PORTUGAL	Portuguese Council of Christian Churches

# NATIONAL COUNCILS OF CHURCHES

ROMANIA	Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania
SLOVAKIA	Ecumenical Council of Churches in Slovakia
SPAIN	Spanish Committee on Cooperation between the Churches
SWEDEN	Christian Council of Sweden
SWITZERLAND	National Ecumenical Council in Switzerland
UNITED KINGDOM	Action of Churches Together in Scotland Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Churches Together in England Churches Together in Wales



# ORGANISATIONS IN PARTNERSHIP

Church and Peace

Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe

Conference of European Clergy

Conference of European University Chaplains

Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women

Eurodiaconia

European Alliance of YMCAs

European Forum of Christian Men

The European YWCAs

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) – Europe and Middle East Section (EMES)

Intereuropean Commission on Church and School

International Association for Christian Education

International Prison Chaplains Association – Europe

Oikosnet Europe

Protestant and Anglican Network for life-long learning in Europe

Union of Evangelical Free Churches

World Student Christian Federation (Europe)

# GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

CCEE	Council of European Bishops' Conferences
CCME	Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe
CEC	Conference of European Churches
COFOE	Conference on the Future of Europe
COMECE	Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union
COP26	UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019 (SARS-CoV-2)
ECEN	European Christian Environmental Network
EU	European Union
SASCE	Safer and Stronger Communities in Europe
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
WCC	World Council of Churches



# FINANCES

In an exceptionally challenging year for so many in the world, the financial support, creativity and resilience of CEC Member Churches kept a sense of hope lit even through the darkest days.

Thanks to membership contributions, CEC is able to not only continue but gain momentum on its work towards common witness, theological dialogue and bridge-building.

In addition to annual membership funds, CEC continued to receive valuable support from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, the Union of Protestant Churches of Alsace and Lorraine, and the Conference of Churches on the Rhine through staff secondments and allocations.

CEC also thanks other churches and partners who provided vital support for individual projects or infrastructure. These included: Church of Norway, Dioceses of Montenegro and Littoral of the Serbian Ortho-

dox Church in Montenegro, Evangelical Church in District Balingen, Protestant Church in Switzerland, Bremgarten-Mustschellen parish of the Reformed Church, Church of Sweden, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark, Evangelical Church in Germany, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Northern Germany, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Braunschweig, Evangelical Church of Westphalia and Interfaith Alliance.

CEC Member Churches, individuals, congregations, parishes, church-related organisations and foundations walk together to bring a prophetic voice and a sense of unity making a difference in European people's lives.

In total, CEC's asset and liability balance in the year 2021 amounted to 2.120.195 euros.

CEC asks for the continued prayerful support of Member Churches and partners as we forge ahead in 2022.

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