

Roadmap for CCME (2026-27)	GA 2026-5
Mission <i>CCME is an ecumenical organization that serves the churches in their commitment to migrants at European level. In the fulfilment of this mandate it is responding to the message of the Bible which insists on the dignity of every human being and to the understanding of unity as devoid of any distinction between strangers and natives.</i>	
Fields of Interest for 2024 – 2027 • Monitoring and informing the membership about implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum (and related legislation) on European and national level, especially in relation to border and human rights issues, externalization policy and agreements between the EU and third countries; • Stimulating and supporting safe passage for persons in need of international protection through resettlement and complementary pathways; • Promoting and developing the vision of an alternative asylum system which protects people more than borders; • Improving communication with members and others by modernizing the website and strengthening CCME’s presence on social media.	
Priorities for 2026 – 2027 1. Fulfilling the mandate of the churches by fostering the network, provision of expertise and information. Communication and visibility is key. (See further at Priority 1 below). 2. Maintaining partnerships with organizations concerned with European policy that share our values on migration and asylum, ecumenical and beyond. (See further at Priority 2 below). 3. Facilitating advocacy on the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum or initiatives replacing the pact and advancing discussion on an alternative asylum system focused more on people than on borders. (See further at Priority 3 below). 4. Advancing funded projects: e.g. Mapping Migration.	
Context: CCME’s key strength lies in its relationships Network of ecumenical partners, NGO’s and specialized agencies: • The CCME network comprises 39 direct members and numerous indirect members (members of the councils who are CCME members) in 19 countries together with contacts in almost all countries of the Council of Europe. CCME is in contact with its members primarily through (a) the migration specialists of its membership, (b) the ecumenical officers of its membership and (c) the church leadership of its membership. • The broader ecumenical network with which CCME connects includes the World Council of Churches, the Conference of European Churches, GEKE, Christian World communions, the All Africa Council of Churches, and other regional ecumenical organizations and agencies. • The thematic network with which CCME regularly positions itself is the “Christian Group”, together with other organizations connected with churches which have good access to the EU decision-making process. In addition, CCME is in regular intensive contact with other civil society organizations based in Brussels and working together on the issues of migration, refugees and human rights, not last through its co-chairing the European NGO Platform on Asylum and Migration (“EPAM”) and its membership of ECRE and ENAR, whilst others are	

less organized but have significant access to the EU decision-making process. Maintaining these networks is an essential but complex task.

EU Institutions:

CCME maintains regular contact with the European Commission, the European Parliament and Council of the European Union and thematically driven contacts with the Council of Europe. This enables CCME to monitor European policymaking in the migration, integration and asylum spheres and to present the concerns of the churches to the relevant institutions. Specifically, CCME:

- Monitors activities and maintains open and critical dialogue with Christian democratic and other centre-right parties with links to churches;
- Is a member of the Frontex Consultative Forum;
- Is a member of the EUAA Consultative Forum
- Liaises with the Council of Europe through contact with like-minded organizations based in Strasbourg and thematic direct contacts with the Council of Europe's institutions

Priorities for 2026-27 (Detail)

Priority 1: Fostering the CCME network, provision of expertise and information

Goal/Outcome: Reinforced membership

Strategy: Improving CCME visibility and communication with members through a better internet site, newsletters, meetings and events

Focus group	Activity	So that (wanted change)...	Time, responsible, expected cost	Comment	Status
<i>CCME Membership</i>	<i>Website and policy updates continue to provide information, expertise and news on policies and legislation</i>	<i>(1) Public knows what CCME is, does and stands for; (2) membership abreast of notified member activities and policy developments</i>	<i>2026-27, ES/GS/OA, 10.000 from budget</i>	<i>Membership participation required (their news and activities)</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>CCME Membership</i>	<i>Regular information sharing; specific focus on "Changing the Narrative" project with WCC/WACC</i>	<i>Attention is drawn to the involvement of members in issues, ideas for cooperation are created</i>	<i>[beginning May 2026 ES,GS,OA</i>	<i>Format to be decided</i>	<i>Will partly depend on WCC taking up CCME suggestions</i>
<i>CCME Membership</i>	<i>Annual training on European policy, advocacy and international cooperation</i>	<i>Members are better equipped to enroll & participate in local/national programs that connect to European policy</i>	<i>9-11 June 2026, GS,ES,OA [Costs: travel, venue, speakers.]</i>	<i>Pilot in March 2024 in Athens was a success, as was the second in June 2025 in Brussels</i>	<i>Planning started in autumn 2025</i>
<i>CCME Membership</i>	<i>Annual country focus: France</i>	<i>New and existing members are nurtured</i>	<i>Sept/Oct 2026 GS/OA Travel, accommodation</i>	<i>2025 UK focus was a success</i>	<i>Planning underway</i>

Priority 2: Maintaining CCME's external relationships					
Goal/Outcome: Sound relationships with a broad network and a clear profile of CCME as the voice of the churches of Europe on migration					
Strategy: Active participation in existing coalitions; providing opportunities for shared analysis and collaboration in areas of common interest					
Focus group	Activity	So that (wanted change)...	Time, responsible, expected cost	Comment	Status
<i>Keeping all relevant partners in Brussels/ EU focused on CCME's priorities of CCME</i>	<i>Ongoing participation in Christian Group; ongoing co-chairing of EPAM; actively seeking co-operation with external partners; drafting and co-signing statements</i>	<i>The voice of the churches is more clearly articulated and heard.</i>	<i>GS/ES</i>		<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Members and partners together</i>	<i>Autumn events: interim meeting on "Protecting people, more than borders!"; link to Council of Europe PACE; participation in "Changing the Narrative" project with WCC/WACC</i>	<i>Relationships are strengthened and members and interested parties are better informed on areas of common interest</i>	<i>Sept/Oct 026 GS/ES/OA</i>	<i>Follows successful 'safe passage' meetings in Berlin in 2022 and 2021 and work of</i>	<i>Task force started work in Dec '24</i>
<i>Dialogue with the churches in Africa</i>	<i>Encourage and plan; biannual CCME-AACC meetings: spring 2027 in Europe (Brussels ?)</i>	<i>Perspectives on migration advocacy are mutually broadened; common initiatives may be developed</i>	<i>Liasing with AACC at AACC partners' meeting and virtually Search for European venue for 2027 to start in summer 2026 GS/ES/OA</i>	<i>Meetings in 2023 (Hamburg) and 2025 (Addis Ababa) were considered a success</i>	

Priority 3: Facilitating advocacy on the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and advancing discussion on an alternative asylum system focused more on people than on borders.					
Goal/Outcome: Influence asylum and migration policies and related practices to protect people on the move, on the borders and within member states					
Strategy: Continue participation in consultative forums of Frontex and EUAA; continue to participate in debates, monitor legislation and practices of EU institutions and agencies; publish (in cooperation with others) crucial information from members' practices					
Focus group	Activity	So that (wanted change)...	Time, responsible, expected cost	Comment	Status
<i>Politicians, civil servants, and EU agencies</i>	<i>Attending public meetings, speaking at events, events and hearings etc</i>	<i>CCME is on top of policy developments so that they can be shared with and commented on for members</i>	<i>Consistent. GS/ES</i>	<i>Ongoing problem to be heard in hostile context "at home" in European countries</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Lobby organizations</i>	<i>Attending meetings, sharing information, joint strategizing and joint positioning</i>				
<i>Academia</i>	<i>Attending meetings and exchanging on feasible</i>				

	<i>alternatives to the current asylum system</i>	<i>alternative asylum model focused on people rather than borders – interim results presented in autumn 2026, final proposal in 2027</i>			
<i>Frontex</i>	<i>Continue to monitor and seek to influence the practices of Frontex on the borders through continued membership of the consultative forum (CF) - CCME membership of CF renewed by autumn/end of 2026...)</i>	<i>Frontex operates with greater transparency and accountability in regard for human rights.</i>	<i>Consistent. GS and ExCom member plus (primarily) former GS on volunteer basis [travel costs]</i>	<i>CCME is formal member of the consultative forum, where others are not</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>EUAA</i>	<i>Monitor and seek to influence EUAA practices through continued membership of the EUAA Consultative Forum (CF) and, specifically, attendance at its annual meeting</i>	<i>CCME is on top of policy developments so that they can be shared with and commented on for members</i>	<i>Annual meetings. GS/ES [travel costs]</i>	<i>CCME is a formal member of the EUAA CF</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>