

In cooperation with:

Invitation to the CALL-conference
EU-labour-mobility
A gift or a burden?

Brussels, Belgium, 26 - 28 October 2015

Esteemed Church Leaders,
Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Dear Friends,

From 26 - 28 October 2015 the CEC CALL-network will hold a conference in Brussels.

CALL stands for "Church Action on Labour and Life". The CALL-conference brings together delegates from Churches and Church organisations across Europe who work on or are concerned with social questions relating to labour, employment policies and economy. They exchange experiences and share ideas from their respective countries, thus helping the churches to learn from each other and make their voices heard together in the European context.

This year the conference will be organised in close cooperation with the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME) and Eurodiaconia. Both organisations have a long-standing experience and expertise in the topic of the conference.

Labour mobility is an intensively discussed issue in European policy today. For some, labour mobility is one of the main answers to the unemployment crisis in Europe. Others highlight – possible or real – the misuse of social benefits. Municipalities and social services raise awareness about the misuse of mobile workers as well as their problems if a work engagement fails. Many churches and diaconal organisations are concerned with the access of EU mobile citizens to social and health care services along with other social impacts of EU mobility. The European Commission will publish a set of proposals and recommendations regarding labour mobility at the end of this year.

This conference will give the opportunity to analyse more in-depth the different aspects of labour mobility, sharing the knowledge and experience also of the participants, and will propose answers for the churches' engagement in this area. It will offer the possibility to discuss the challenges of labour mobility with different policy makers, especially the European Commission.

Churches and parishes are aware of this topic, being affected by people and church members leaving their region and their country; while others perceive the arrival of new comers, coming from other countries with perhaps some apprehension.

At this October conference 2015 the CALL-network will also start a common project for members of the network. It will be presented and discussed during the conference.

We would be grateful, therefore, if you could pass on this invitation to those in your church or church organisation who are involved in these issues and who would be best suited to participate at this conference.

Practical Organisation

Enclosed you will find a draft Programme and a Registration Form.

The working language of the Conference will be English.

The main venue for the Conference will be the Maison Notre-Dame du Chant d'Oiseau, 3A avenue des Franciscains, 1150 Brussels, Belgium.

The Chant d'Oiseau Centre is a recently renovated Roman-Catholic conference centre which provides meeting rooms, board and lodging. It is a nice residential venue set in green surroundings and offering all that we need but, being a former convent, it is modest and does not provide *ensuite facilities* in the bedrooms.

Conference Fee

The conference fee for the meeting will amount to: **180 €.**

This includes meeting facilities, accommodation and meals at Chant d'Oiseau.

Participants are expected to cover their travel costs and to make their own travel arrangements.

We would be grateful if you would transfer the exact amount prior to the meeting to our bank account as follows:

Accountholder:	Conference of European Churches Rue Joseph II 174, BE-1000 Brussels
Bank BNP Paribas Fortis	
IBAN	BE43 2100 9891 5501
BIC	GEBABEBB

With the reference "**CALL Conference + (name of participant)**"

Funding

It is possible to apply for subsidies for churches and organisations wishing to be represented at the meeting but unable to meet the costs. **The subsidy fund is, however, very limited.** The organisers of the conference will not be able to bear the costs caused by any late cancellations of registrations.

We would appreciate if you could register as soon as possible, preferably before 26 June 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact the CEC Brussels office (Frank-Dieter Fischbach), Rue Joseph II, 174, BE-1000 Brussels, Tel. +32 2 234 68 39, Fax +32 2 231 14 13, E-mail: fdf@cec-kek.be. Upon registration you will receive confirmation of your participation together with additional practical information.

With best wishes,

Rev. Frank-Dieter Fischbach

Elena Timofticiuc
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CALL Network -
Church Action on Labour and Life

Conference of European Churches (CEC)
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Encl: Draft Conference Programme and Registration Form