Annual Report 2020

INTRODUCTION

Encounter and communion are physical affirmations of our common Christian identity. Exchanging greetings is a gesture of peace, reconciliation and love, while hymn singing is a communal sign of celebration and sharing space.

The usual ways of doing all of this became difficult or impossible during a prolonged period in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic struck and European churches had to adapt to the challenges of the situation – each and every church tradition and family did so in its own unique way.

The Conference of European Churches (CEC) also felt the impact of the pandemic. In spite of obstacles, CEC still managed to deliver in almost all areas in 2020. In-person gatherings, events and meetings were largely cancelled or postponed. Yet, just as did our Member Churches, we found ways and means to adapt.

This Annual Report bears witness to the variety of activities that took place – even under these unforeseen conditions. Some events attracted more participants than ever before because they were held online, with no travel or accommodation costs.

A crisis also brings opportunities. In 2020 the CEC Governing Board reflected on how the organisation would emerge from the pandemic. How will Europe change? How will CEC change with Europe? And what does Europe need from CEC?

Discussions have focused on CEC’s work with a view to improve a sense of ownership, enhancing organisational coherence and visibility. Particular attention was given to the financial situation of CEC. Even as 2020 yielded a positive result, we know that challenges lie ahead and due diligence is needed.

For both CEC and for our Member Churches, 2020 was a year of saying many prayers. Praying together became a powerful vaccine against the loss of hope, against the absence of communal resilience and against the lack of human sustainability.

Let us keep praying that in the future all may be safe - rooted and trusting in the Triune God of love.

Rev. Christian Krieger
CEC President

Dr Jørgen Skov Sørensen
CEC General Secretary

CEC
Conference of European Churches
Vygotskyová 26, 120 00 Praha 2
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2020 was a tumultuous year to say the least, laden with uncertainties. As the COVID-19 pandemic engulfed the world, the Conference of European Churches (CEC) clearly professed its vision “Together in Hope and Witness,” advocating hope, bearing witness to Christ through prayer, solidarity and action.

In response to COVID-19 in early March, CEC together with Churches’ Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME) put in place measures cancelling all physical operations in its offices in Brussels and Strasbourg, resorting to continuing its mission only via online communication. This became the basic modus operandi throughout the rest of the year, and was not without its challenges.

CEC followed preventive health measures as set out by the World Health Organisation and the relevant local authorities, sharing updates with its staff, Member Churches, Organisations in Partnership, related networks, as well as with visitors to the website. A prayer accompanied these practical actions:

Give us the courage to face illness and death, and never give up.
Give us the vigour to spread hope where fear darkens the world.
Give us the strength to encourage people who feel lonely and excluded.

On 25 March, CEC joined Pope Francis’s initiative to hold a global Lord’s Prayer as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged. Following the prayer a joint ecumenical statement was issued with other Regional Ecumenical Organisations (REOs), facilitated by the World Council of Churches (WCC). CEC joined its voice to those of churches from across the globe to say, “This is a time to touch each other’s hearts, by what we say, share, and do.” The statement highlighted the urgency of adapting modes of worship and fellowship to the needs and constraints of the pandemic.

To encourage people, families and communities reeling from the effects of COVID-19 in Europe, CEC together with its long-time Catholic partner the Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Union (COMECE), issued a special message for celebrating Easter in exceptional circumstances. “May the Easter Gospel stir this breath of hope in the hearts and thoughts of Christians, may the breath of God animate our steadfast expectation so that the Church and each one of us becomes a beacon of hope and light.”

As the pandemic continued to make its impact felt in religious, political, social and national spheres across Europe, CEC came together once again with COMECE to say, “Let us remain united”, calling churches to steadfastly affirm commitment to common European values of solidarity and unity. Political decision-makers were encouraged by the churches to establish “measures alleviating social, economic and financial shocks.” Information about all initiatives undertaken by CEC related to the pandemic are available on the CEC website in a special section titled “Church response to COVID-19.”
Seeking to honour its history and legacy, CEC continued its efforts to promote peace, justice and reconciliation in Europe, an important pillar of the organisation’s strategic priorities.

The year 2020 witnessed the United Kingdom leaving the European Union. The CEC leadership, including its Vice-President Rt Rev. Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani from the Church of England, stressed that such developments do not change the mutual ecumenical commitment of European churches. ‘On the contrary, there is a call for us to intensify the commitment of churches towards reconciliation, cooperation and solidarity in Europe to shape our common future.’

Affirming church voices from across Europe, CEC called for an immediate end to military actions in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Engaging with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group and the European External Action Service (EEAS), CEC urged both parties to increase their efforts to arrive at a sustainable peaceful solution.

CEC fully endorsed a statement issued by the WCC expressing ‘deep concern about the violations of the humanitarian ceasefire agreed between Armenia and Azerbaijan’. It called on ‘all parties to the conflict to end all military actions immediately, to respect the ceasefire agreement reached in Moscow, and to engage in constructive dialogue aimed at protecting human lives and rights, preventing attacks on civilian infrastructure and places of worship, and achieving a sustainable peace.’

In response to the conflict, CEC shared a Prayer for Peace:

God of goodness,
in the middle of uncertainty, fear of illness and death in our world, people break their arms, hatred, violence and death destroy reconciling neighborhoods and hurting coexistence.

Merciful God, in the glaring light of exploding shells we hear the cry of our sisters and brothers for peace.

In the deafening noise of weapons, we see eyes full of tears and sorrow longing for justice.

With deep regret, CEC witnessed the conversion of Hagia Sophia, a world heritage site, from a museum into a mosque. CEC engaged with UNESCO and the European Institutions on the issue, urging concrete actions from the Turkish government to prevent this change of status.

CEC Vice-President Metropolitan Cleopas of Sweden and All Scandinavia said, ‘In its status as a museum, Hagia Sophia brings together people and cultures from all over the world. A change in this status undeniably diminishes this remarkable structure’s legacy as a universally accessible bridge uniting East and West, symbolising the peaceful coexistence, mutual understanding and solidarity.’

Following the devastating explosions in Beirut, which caused immense loss of life and property, CEC shared prayers and expressed its solidarity with the Middle East Council of Churches. Similarly, in the aftermath of violent attacks in France and Vienna, CEC expressed its support and accompanied churches in prayer, showing solidarity at times of tragedy, while seeking to strengthen European churches’ commitment to peace and the building of hospitable and inclusive societies.

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Through activities conducted online in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CEC continued to evaluate the impact of the Charta Œcumenica, the joint CEC-CCEE document from 2001. It also facilitated theological and ecumenical dialogue on topics related to ecclesiology and mission, exploring Christian unity together with “migrant” and “minority ethnic” churches, and studying the mutual recognition of baptism in Europe.

A major online conference “The Hope of Communion: From 1920 to 2020” brought together over 150 theologians and church leaders from Europe and beyond. The conference focused on the significance and impact of two landmark ecumenical texts from 1920, namely “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 in cooperation with the Louvain Centre for Eastern and Oriental Christianity (LOCEOC) and examined the expectations for unity formulated in these texts, exploring their role in subsequent ecumenical developments, focusing on the question of what the hope of communion means for relations between the churches today. Contributions to the conference were published online in video format, sharing conference presentations with the wider CEC constituency.

CEC co-organised the international conference on “Person in a Post-Religious Society” together with St. Andrew’s Biblical Theological Institute, VU University Amsterdam – Faculty of Religion and Theology, Beliefs ECCLESIOLOGY AND MISSION and Practices, and Pokrovskie Vorota Cultural Center in Moscow, Russia. Addressing a range of topics, a number of distinguished speakers from Europe explored the theme. Contributions to the conference were published online by St. Andrew’s Biblical Theological Institute and CEC.

The CEC Thematic Group on Ecclesiology and Mission initiated a study project in 2020 to explore the mutual recognition of baptism in Europe. The study seeks to identify agreements on baptism within CEC Member Churches, exploring official guidelines with regard to the reception of Christians moving from one church to another, Christian initiation, recognition of and pastoral care for inter-church families, as well as the religious education and pastoral care of children raised in inter-church families. The study will take stock of experiences and practices from CEC Member Churches, bringing together diverse perspectives from Anglicans, Orthodox and Protestant traditions, engaging in bilateral and multilateral dialogue. A questionnaire on the subject was sent to CEC Member Churches requesting feedback by December 2020.

As part of the baptism study project, the CEC Thematic Group on Ecclesiology and Mission planned and organised a series of webinars. The first of these webinars was held in 2020 and focused on “The Mutual Recognition of Baptism in Europe”. Participants reflected on the mutual recognition of baptism and its difficulties, set out the theological positions in different church traditions and looked at possible solutions. There were studies of formal declarations on the recognition of baptism and their theological and practical consequences, as well as analysis of baptism and Christian division in the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

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In a private audience held at the Vatican with CEC and COMECE presidents, Pope Francis offered his blessing to both Christian organisations on their respective anniversaries, the 40th anniversary of COMECE and 60th anniversary of CEC. He expressed his appreciation of the ecumenical cooperation between CEC and COMECE and their work in bringing churches’ voices to the EU institutions.

To strengthen Article 17 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU), which allows for an open, transparent and regular dialogue between EU institutions and the churches, CEC and COMECE held a number of meetings with EU Council Presidencies addressing issues of common concern.

The CEC-COMECE delegation met with Mr. Andrej Plenkovic, Prime Minister of Croatia in Zagreb, to speak about the priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the EU Council during the first six months of 2020. The delegation made a joint presentation from European churches on key issues to be addressed by the Croatian Presidency. Churches encouraged the Croatian EU Presidency to work towards a just transition on the basis of the recently proposed European Green Deal.

The CEC-COMECE delegation also met with Michael Roth, Minister of State for Europe at the German Federal Foreign Office, exchanging on the priorities of the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the second half of 2020. The delegation presented reflections, proposals and policy recommendations related to the COVID-19 recovery plan, climate issues, and the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum by the European Commission.

In all Church-EU dialogue encounters, CEC and COMECE stressed the importance of the churches’ role in the upcoming Conference on the Future of Europe in line with Article 17(3) TFEU.

They highlighted how churches are able to provide valuable institutional and practical insights in striving to promote the common good, and to advance positive dialogue and person-centred policies in Europe.

CEC participated in online initiatives such as the International Conference on the Role of the Catholic Church in the Process of European Integration in Krakow, as well as contributing faith-based and theological perspectives to webinars and dialogue seminars organised by the European People’s Party (EPP).

In January, CEC and COMECE held a joint ecumenical prayer at the European Parliament to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The event was hosted by MEP Peter van Dalen and featured prayers by CEC and COMECE highlighting the importance of unity. Addressing the ecumenical prayer service, Mairéad McGuinness, First Vice-President of the European Parliament, stressed the important role played by the churches.

CEC President Rev. Christian Krieger emphasised the importance of ecumenical cooperation in Europe at a high-level colloquium titled ‘Building Europe together - 50 years of the Holy See with the Council of Europe’. The event organised by the Permanent Mission of the Holy See discussed the role of the churches in building Europe from legal, theological and social perspectives.
In 2020, CEC continued to accompany European churches in addressing the most crucial and current issues in the area of human rights, especially in the context of COVID-19.

CEC’s 7th Summer School on Human Rights was held in an online format, offering a series of webinars under the theme “Challenges for Human Rights in the Times of COVID-19.” It was co-organised with the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD).

The event brought together church leaders, academics, and experts from international organisations and the European institutions. It raised awareness on fundamental rights and freedom of religion or belief during the pandemic. Sessions included “Training on Reporting Hate Crime using Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mechanisms,” “OHCHR - #Faith4Rights toolkit by UN Human Rights Commissioners’ Office,” and an EU webinar on “Monitoring the rule of law in times of COVID-19.”


European churches presented country reports on “Challenges for CEC Member Churches during COVID-19 in the area of Freedom of Religion or Belief, and other fundamental rights”. They discussed the limits posed to religious freedom in COVID times, access to places of worship, funerals, wedding ceremonies and communion practices in the Orthodox tradition.

The CEC Thematic Group on Human Rights produced “Reflections on Freedom of Religion or Belief during the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.” The document published online in over 16 European languages addresses a unique point in the history of Christianity in Europe, offering recommendations with concern to limitations in the protection of human rights during the pandemic.

CEC also accompanied churches in addressing the problematic religious freedom law in Montenegro, which later resulted in favor of the protection of religious freedom. CEC engaged with the OSCE Minsk Group and the European External Action Service (EEAS), urging for a sustainable peaceful solution in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Expressing strong condemnation on the conversion of Hagia Sophia to a mosque, CEC engaged with UNESCO and the European Institutions to prevent such actions.

A video documentary from CEC’s 6th Summer School on Human Rights was launched online, featuring responses to hate speech, religious intolerance and discrimination against religious minorities. The 6th Summer School was held in 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal.
Care for creation and the vision of a sustainable future remains at the heart of CEC’s work. In 2020, CEC facilitated dialogues on environmental issues with the EU, highlighting the global dimension to the issue through cooperation with international ecumenical partners, including the WCC. A number of initiatives were supported through the European Christian Environmental Network (ECEN). An important step in addressing ecological concerns in Europe has been the launch of the new EU initiative, the European Green Deal. The initiative aims to substantial steps towards a sustainable future, to reach climate neutrality in the EU by 2050. A number of churches welcomed the initiative, carefully monitoring developments and setting up constructive dialogue on the topic.

A dialogue seminar on “European Green Deal: Preserving our Common Home”, held at the European Parliament in Brussels, was a step in this direction. Organised as part of the Article 17 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU), hosted by Mairead McGuinness, First Vice-President of the European Parliament, the seminar received a number of contributions from CEC. These addressed issues of overconsumption and the growth of our ecological footprint, and called for solutions encouraging the participation and inclusion of all citizens, as well as global cooperation.

CEC supports European churches’ quest for preserving our common home through mutual encouragement and by sharing good examples. Together with other ecumenical partners, ECEN contributed to the “Jubilee for the Earth” Season of Creation Guide, a resource inviting the Christian family to unite in a worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home, and to consider how our ecological, economic, social and political ways of living are integral to our relationship with the earth.

To celebrate the Season for Creation, observed each year from 1 September through 4 October, CEC joined with the Council of European Bishops’ Conferences (CCEE) in inviting churches in Europe to see the protection of our common home as an expression of our Christian faith. “This year, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed how deeply the globe is interconnected. We realised more than ever that we are not isolated from each other and that conditions related to human health and well-being are fragile.”

To mark original date for COP26 - postponed due to the pandemic - and reflect on how to push for more ambitious climate action in the coming year, an online service of prayer, reflection and action on climate justice, was jointly organised by ecumenical organisations, including ECEN. The global ecumenical online prayer service on the Feast of St. Francis marked the closing of the Season of Creation and was led by CEC President Rev. Christian Krieger with other religious leaders from across the globe.

The far-reaching effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic have revealed the need for just and sustainable systems.
During 2020, CEC’s Strasbourg office addressed issues on science, new technologies and Christian ethics, as well as education, democracy and diversity, particularly in the context of COVID-19.

CEC continued to engage with the Council of Europe, where it holds participatory status, and the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Among other areas, this included fostering relationships and cooperation with the Council of Europe’s Steering Committee for Human Rights, the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice, the Steering Committee on Bioethics and the Conference of International NGOs with the Council of Europe.

As part of the engagement with EU institutions, CEC participated in an online meeting of the Steering Committee on Bioethics and the Conference of International NGOs, which brought into focus the legal framework provided by the European Bioethics Convention of Human Rights and Biomedicine.


“Exceptional situations demand exceptional faith in the power and presence of the living God. Physical distance does not mean social distance. In a mysterious manner, we are all connected through the spirit of God,” read the reflections.

The CEC Thematic Group on Education, Democracy and Diversity presented its thoughts on the pandemic at a video conference organised by the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice. Published by the Council of Europe, the reflections sought initial inspiration from the Bible and the Charter of Democracy. “As churches we should actively contribute to shaping the future of Europe. This includes a sincere and open discussion in our churches, in a fraternal spirit, which takes on board the great challenges regarding the making of a socially just and united Europe”.

The group also formulated a response to the European Commission’s “White paper on Artificial Intelligence (AI) - A European approach to excellence and trust”. The response focuses on anthropological issues and human dignity, religious discrimination, freedom of religion and belief, and issues about social and ecological issues related to AI, sharing European church perspectives on ethics and inherent human dignity.

Human dignity is only achieved where mutual solidarity is extended. Thus, in our view, the White Paper rightly points out the need to consider the impact of AI, not only from an individual perspective, but also from the perspective of the society as a whole”, reads the CEC response.

The CEC Thematic Group on Education, Democracy and Diversity organised various online meetings addressing a variety of issues, including populism and cooperating with CEC human rights programme.

CEC was also active in a number of online events, closely monitoring developments concerning intercultural learning, ethics in education, the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis for education worldwide, accessibility of digital learning and opportunities for the socially disadvantaged.
CEC supports and cooperates closely with the Churches’ Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME), addressing issues related to migration and asylum in Europe. In 2020, CCME continued to advocate for access to asylum, as well as decent, dignified and hygienic reception amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tensions at the EU-Turkey border remained of grave concern to CEC and CCME, while they urged the EU and its Member States to extend solidarity to countries and people at the EU external border. The organisations advocated for safe access to protection, respectful reception and relocation.

CCME and CEC, with several other global and regional religious organisations, released an advocacy statement on the situation of migrants and refugees in Europe. Together they urged for an end to the “broken state of European migration”. The statement emphasised that solidarity should be the guiding principle governing migration and particularly refugee reception. “We expect the EU to reject the discourse and politics of fear and deterrence, and to adopt a principled stance and compassionate practice based on the fundamental values on which the EU is founded.”

The statement was a response to the new EU Migrant Pact. It was officially received by the office of the European Commissioner’s Vice President Margaritis Schinas. Another pre-emptive response to the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and the Resettlement Forum was a joint statement “Resettlement Can’t Wait!” issued by CCME together with other organisations, appealing to the EU Institutions and Member States to urgently revive and increase resettlement efforts.

Due to the pandemic, CCME turned the “Uniting in Diversity project” conferences into online events. They concentrated on themes related to youth, faith and migration, featuring contributions from young people with a migrant background in Europe, mapping migration and churches’ responses, racism and inequality in the Church, as well as experiences and action in unity seeking justice. They also featured a progress report on the upcoming third edition of the study “Mapping Migration - Mapping Churches’ responses” involving CCME and CEC Member Churches.

In 2020, the CCME General Assembly was held in written format, with members casting their votes in advance. The new Executive Committee was elected for 2020-2023, with Prof. Dr Goos Minderman voted in as Moderator (chairperson), as nominated by the Dutch Council of Churches.
GOVERNING BOARD

PRESIDENCY:
Rev. Christian Krieger, Reformed Protestant Church of Alsace and Lorraine
President
Rt Rev. Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Church of England
Vice-President
His Eminence Metropolitan Cleopas of Sweden and All Scandinavia
Vice-President

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS:
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Rev. Anne Burghardt, Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church
Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, Church of England
Rev. Jelle Brouwer, United Protestant Church of Belgium
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
Prof Petr Kratochvíl, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren
Rev. Frank Kopena, Evangelical Church in Germany
Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Diocese of the Armenian Church of the United Kingdom and Ireland
Rev. Alison McDonald, Church of Scotland
Archimandrite Neklarios, Church of Cyprus
Dr Alesandra Piotr, Serbian Orthodox Church
Ms Zsuzsanna Répás, Reformed Christian Church in Slovakia
Ms Lea Kathrin Schlenker, Evangelical Church in Germany

GOVERNING BOARD

ELECTORAL RESERVE:
Rev. Alfredo Abad, Spanish Evangelical Church
Archimandrite Lakovos 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 Haryubinyan, Armenian Apostolic Church
Ms Ása Ingårda, Church of Sweden
Ms Remaia Japangis, Protestant Church in the Netherlands
Rev. Klaus van der Kamps, Protestant Church in the Netherlands
OKR Balzer Kießling, Evangelical Church in Germany
MEMBER CHURCHES

ALBANIA
Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania

ARMENIA
Armenian Apostolic Church

AUSTRIA
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria
Evangelical Church H.C. 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

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
MEMBER CHURCHES

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

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 Church in the Principality of Liechtenstein

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

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

PORTUGAL
Evangelical Methodist Church in Portugal
Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Portugal
Lusitanian Catholic Apostolic Evangelical Church
MEMBER CHURCHES

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

RUSSIA
Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia
Russian Orthodox Church (suspended its membership in 2008)
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

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 A.C. 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

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
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<td>Poland</td>
<td>Polish Ecumenical Council</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Portuguese Council of Christian Churches</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
<td>Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania</td>
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<td>Slovak Republic</td>
<td>Ecumenical Council of Churches in Slovakia</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>Spanish Committee on Cooperation between the Churches</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Christian Council of Sweden</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>National Ecumenical Council in Switzerland</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Action of Churches Together in Scotland Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Churches Together in England Churches Together in Wales</td>
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CEC expresses its gratitude to its Member Churches, who year after year secure the work of the Conference through financial backing in the form of their membership contributions. Without this very concrete commitment to common witness, theological dialogue and the work of reconciliation, there would be no Conference of European Churches.

In addition to annual membership funds, CEC received further support from the Union of Protestant Churches of Alsace and Lorraine, and the Conference of Churches on the Rhine through staff secondments and allocations.

Other churches and organisations supported CEC regarding individual projects or infrastructure. These included: the Church of Norway, the Dioceses of Montenegro and Littoral of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Montenegro, the Evangelical Church in District Balingen, the Protestant Church in Switzerland, the Bremgarten-Mustschellen parish of the Reformed Church, the Church of Sweden, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark, the Evangelical Church in Germany, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Northern Germany, the Evangelical Church of Westphalia and the Interfaith Alliance.

Through the combined generous support of Member Churches, individuals, congregations, parishes, church-related organisations and foundations, CEC was able to implement plans and projects in 2020 that would otherwise have been impossible.

In total, CEC’s asset and liability balance in the year 2020 amounted to 1 699 847 €.

CEC appreciates the ongoing and prayerful support of Member Churches and other organisations.
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