The role of European Organisations in the ISG

February 12, 2015

Eurodiaconia

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Structure

- Introduction to Eurodiaconia

European Organisations in the ISG
- Benefits for EOs
- Challenges for EOs
- Contribution(s) from EOs
- Discussion

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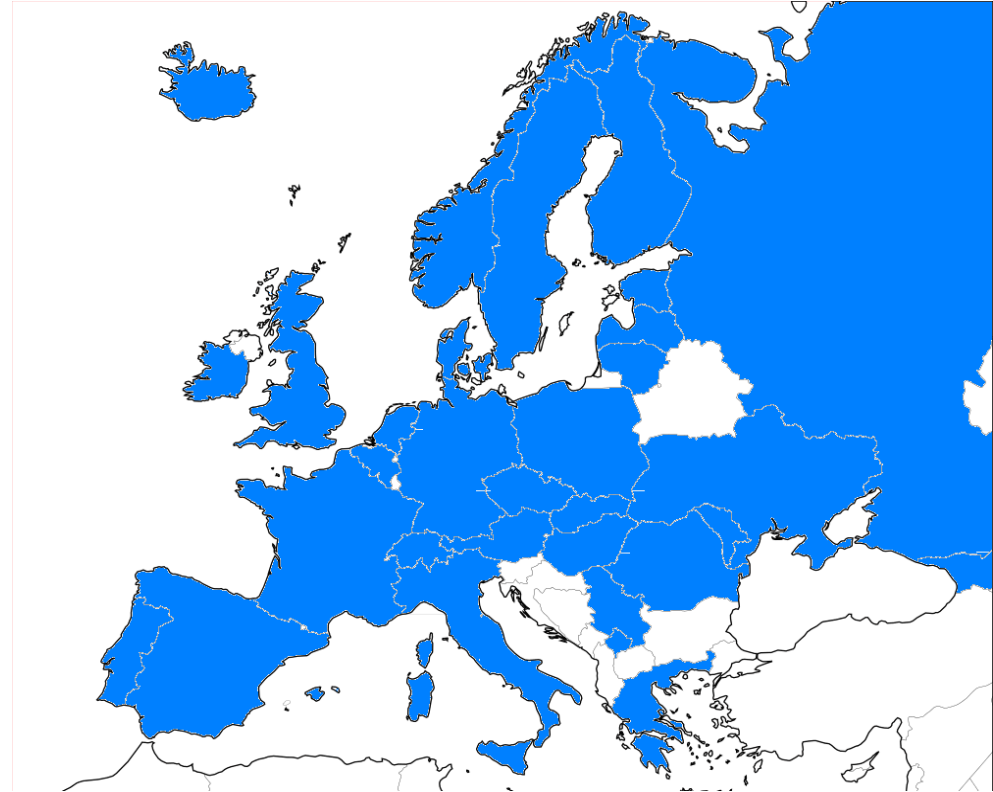www.eurodiaconia.org - office@eurodiaconia.org

EURODIACONIA: WHO ARE WE?

- Platform of Christian value-based providers of social and healthcare services

- Diaconal departments of churches, church-affiliated organisations, independent NGOs

- 44 Members, 33 countries

Benefits for EOs

- # Information exchange

  Get fuller picture of the situation in our own members' countries

- # Partnerships

  Link own members to national networks (if these links are not already existing)

Challenges for EOs

- **Weaker advocacy focus (Eurodiaconia, Salvation Army)**

  General prioritisation of providing services over lobbying and campaigning → limited engagement with European Semester and other policy tools

- **Lack of detailed, country-specific knowledge**

  Ability to provide trans-national overviews already covered by EAPN secretariat?

- **Limited role in preparing EU ISG meetings**

  Proposals for discussion topics, presentations on work done by EOs

Contributions from EOs

● Complement national input

- Particularly for organisations with a strong thematic focus (Eurochild, AGE, FEANTSA)

- Broaden the representativity of EAPN policy positions and recommendations

● Create new partnerships

● Support EU-level action

- Provide additional EU contacts

- Brainstorming about effective EU-level action

- 'External' point of view on EAPN policy and advocacy work

Discussion

- What are the expectations of national networks towards EO's?

- Wherein consists EO's core contribution?

  Complementing national input? Linking national networks to members? Supporting EU-level action?

- Is there anything you miss/would like to change when working with EO's?