



INVITATION

EUROPE 2020 MIDTERM REVIEW: WHAT TRACK RECORD? WHAT OPPORTUNITIES?

Eurodiaconia is pleased to invite its members to a **training seminar on the European semester and the Europe 2020 strategy**, in the context of the Europe 2020 midterm review. It will take place in Brussels from 25th to 26th September 2014.

The Europe 2020 strategy¹ and the European Semester² have been guiding the European Union overarching policies over the past four years. Eurodiaconia and has participated in the process at national and European levels. But four years on, where are we? Where is the strategy going?

The Europe 2020 midterm review is taking place now. It started with the European Commission Communication "[Taking stock of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth](#)" on 5th March 2014, and is continuing with [the public consultation on the Europe 2020 strategy](#) (from 5 May 2014 to 31 October 2014). It is a very special opportunity to:

- 1) reflect on the impact of the strategy and its design for the future,
- 2) share Eurodiaconia's members experience and assessment of the process,
- 3) get up to speed on the existing European governance mechanism and how to use them as policy hooks at national level,
- 4) imagine and propose a model for stakeholders' involvement.

This is the background of Eurodiaconia's training on the Europe 2020 strategy and the European Semester. The meeting will bring together Eurodiaconia members with expertise of the European Semester process at national level, as well as external contributions from institutional actors (European Commission and European Parliament). Together participants will work to develop their understanding of the Europe 2020 strategy and European Semester process in order to increase their capacity for engagement and ownership of the process.

Participants will also work on an assessment of the (forthcoming) June 2014 Country Specific Recommendations and a midterm assessment of the Europe 2020 strategy; as well as looking forward in developing the basis for a model of stakeholders involvement.

¹The Europe 2020 strategy is the European Union's strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for 2010-2020. It aimed to achieve a knowledge-based, competitive European economy while preserving the EU's social market economy model and improving resource efficiency. To do so, it aimed to achieve five quantitative targets in the areas of employment, research and development, climate and energy, education and the fight against poverty and social exclusion. The strategy also relied on seven "flagship initiatives" in the areas of innovation, the digital economy, employment and youth, industrial policy, poverty and resource efficiency.

² The European Semester is a yearly cycle of economic policy coordination, established by the European Commission to facilitate the coordination of Member States national policies and the attainment of the Europe 2020 objectives.



Who can participate?

The meeting is open to all those working in Diaconia who are part of a network or organisation that is a member of Eurodiaconia. People who are likely to find it most interesting would be those working in advocacy at local, national, or European level, as well as directors of institutions or organisations interested to develop their understanding of European policies and their impact at national level.

Financial support is available for this event, in priority for participants coming from either Central or Eastern Europe or from minority church diaconia. Applications for financial support should be made when registering for participation in the meeting. However, no tickets or other reservations should be booked until the staff member responsible for the event has confirmed if financial support will be given.

Please register on our online form before 15th June 2014

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dFhJazZCMk1uWWJOZ3FhUVRWaE9MTEE6MA>

For further information or for any questions please contact Clotilde Clark-Foulquier at the Eurodiaconia secretariat clotilde.clark-foulquier@eurodiaconia.org

DRAFT AGENDA

25 September 2014 - Day 1: Taking stock of the European Semester

9.45am	Registration
10am	Devotion
10.15am	Introduction to the meeting and participants
10.45am	Europe 2020 in context: where are we at? <i>Briefing + Q&A</i>
11.15am	Break
11.30am	Europe 2020 in context: where are we at? <i>Roundtable with EC official and one MEP on midterm review and stocktaking</i>
12.30	Lunch
1.30pm	Looking at the Country Specific Recommendations <i>Briefing, group exercise and discussion</i>
3pm	Break



- 3.30pm Discussion with EC official and/or Permanent Representation delegate, on the CSR and their impact, what is good and what is missing
- 4.30pm Study visit to a perm rep/an EU institution
- 7pm Dinner

September 26 - Day 2: Stakeholders involvement: why and how to move forward?

- 9.30am Exchange of members experience on the European Semester
Presentation and discussion with Italy, Austria, Denmark, CSC CEC representative (tbc)
- 10.15am Break
- 10.30am Stakeholders involvement: what existing models?
DG Sanco and or joint alliance to present their model of stakeholders' involvement (tbc)
- 11.15am Group Exercise on stakeholders' involvement: developing together a model for participation (guidelines): what key elements?
- 11.45 Feedback in plenary
- 12.15 Evaluation of meeting and next steps
- 12.45 End of meeting and lunch