

# EUROPEAN NETWORK - RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN



Association de droit français (loi 1901) Dotée du statut participatif auprès du Conseil de l'Europe  
Association under French law of 1901 Awarded the participatory status of the Council of Europe

*Kirche im Aufbruch*  
*Eglises et Libertés*  
*Church on the Move*  
*Iglesia por la Libertad*

Member of the Conference of INGOs at the  
Council of Europe/  
Membre de la Conférence des INGO du Conseil de  
l'Europe

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20<sup>th</sup> of November 2014

President Martin Schulz  
European Parliament  
Bât. Louise Weiss T15003  
1, avenue du Président Robert Schuman  
CS 91024 F-67070 Strasbourg Cedex

Dear Mr. President,

The imminent visit of Pope Francis to the European Parliament at your invitation will be important because of the personality of the Pope and what he represents, as well as because of the impact it may have on public opinion about social cohesion solidarity, social justice in Europe and its role in the world.

Hence, the European Network Church on the Move, a spontaneous convergence of Christian organizations, predominantly Catholic, coming from about fifteen countries in Europe, would like to express its views on the important issues raised by this visit, as on the status of the Pope and the positions of the magisterium of the Catholic Church on social issues which are disputed in the Catholic Church, as on the relationship between the institutions of the European Union, religious institutions and organized schools of thought.

You will find the point of view of the European Network Church on the Move on these issues in the attached document which also addresses the EU policy guidelines concerning its internal affairs and action in the world. You will also find enclosed a brief presentation of the European Network Church on the Move that would be happy to have a meeting with you on these matters.

Hoping that this will be possible, I remain, on behalf of the European Network Church on the Move,

Sincerely yours

François Becker, Secretary General,  
representing the European Network Church on the Move to the Council of Europe

Pour un Autre Visage d'Eglise et de Société [BELGIUM], Collectiu de Dones en l'Església, Església Plural [CATALONIA], Femmes et Hommes Égalité Droits et Libertés dans les Eglises et la Société, Nous sommes aussi Eglise, Fédération des Réseaux du Parvis, Partenia 2000 [FRANCE], Initiative Kirche von Unten, Initiative Christenrechte in der Kirche, Wir sind Kirche [GERMANY], Bokor [HUNGARY], Noi Siamo Chiesa [ITALY], Kerk Hardop, Mariëburgvereniging, WRK (Study Group on the Culture of Law in the Churches) [NETHERLANDS] We Are Church [PORTUGAL], Catolicas por el Derecho a Decidir de España, Cristianas y Cristianos de Base de Madrid, Corriente Somos Iglesia, Redes Cristianas [SPAIN], Catholics for a Changing Church, Women Word Spirit, St Joan's International Alliance (GB section), Catholic Women's Ordination, The Living Word Trust, We Are Church (UK) [UNITED KINGDOM], and Catholics for Choice Europe – also affiliated with Association for the Rights of Catholics in the Church, Call to Action, Catholic Organisations for Renewal, Catholics for a Choice [USA], The European Federation of Married Catholic Priests and the International Federation for a Renewed Catholic Ministry