



# CONCORD ANNUAL REPORT 2018

15 YEARS  
OF COLLECTIVE  
ACTIONS

**CONCORD**  
European NGO confederation for relief and development



# ABOUT CONCORD

CONCORD is the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development.

Our members are:

# 28

**National Platforms**

# 24

**Networks**

# 03

**Associate Members**

which represent over 2,600 NGOs, supported by millions of citizens all around Europe.

Our confederation brings Development NGOs together to strengthen their political impact at the European and global level. United, we advocate for European policies to promote sustainable economic, environmental and social development based on human rights, justice and gender equality. We also work with regional and global civil society allies to ensure EU policies are coherent in promoting sustainable development in partner countries.

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## CONCORD PERIODIC PUBLICATIONS

### **AIDWATCH:**

Since 2005, Aidwatch has monitored and made recommendations on the quality and quantity of aid provided by EU member states and the European Commission. With these publications, we want to hold EU leaders accountable for their commitments to dedicate 0.7% of their Gross National Income to development assistance and to use this aid in a genuine and effective way.

[www.concordeurope.org/aidwatch-reports](http://www.concordeurope.org/aidwatch-reports)

### **EU DELEGATIONS:**

The EU Delegation reports look at political and policy dialogue and programming processes, including the Civil Society Organisation (CSO) roadmap process. The objectives of these publications are to contribute on improving the working relationship between the EU delegations and CSOs, gather examples of good practice and lessons learned, and make recommendations to the EU, Member states and CSOs.

[www.concordeurope.org/eu-relationships-publications](http://www.concordeurope.org/eu-relationships-publications)

### **SPOTLIGHT REPORTS:**

Every two years since 2009, the Spotlight reports look into the policy coherence of the EU institutions and their impact on the vulnerable communities in countries outside Europe. These reports aim to raise awareness among EU political leaders and citizens on the need to change some domestic and external EU policies to ensure a fairer and more sustainable world.

[www.concordeurope.org/spotlight-publications-policy-coherence-development](http://www.concordeurope.org/spotlight-publications-policy-coherence-development)



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# FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members and Readers,

More than three years ago, the world signed up to an ambitious and transformative Agenda “for global action for the next 15 years. [It] is a charter for people and planet in the twenty-first century. (...) It is an Agenda of the people, by the people and for the people – and this, we believe, will ensure its success.”<sup>1</sup>

In this spirit, CONCORD continued calls to **put people and planet** first in European political and policy processes, of which you will find a lot of evidence in the following pages. These calls not only unite CONCORD across its very diverse membership and constituency; they also link us to civil society initiatives and networks in the environmental, economic and social sector, and are supported by the people in Europe and the world who sense that ensuring a future for all demands **fundamental systemic change**.

Yet, it has been tough to make the case to **politicians and EU officials**. These days, there is not much talk about people in political debates. It’s about modalities and structures, the language is getting increasingly depersonalised: “illegal flows,” “regional disembarkation platforms,” and “closing routes” are just three examples for terms coined to dehumanise the women, men, children, and families our isolationist policies affect.

**Social security and protection**, the backbones of peaceful coexistence and of equal opportunities for all, are currently promoted in the Global South. At the same time we see cuts in our own welfare systems across Europe, often justified by targeting specific groups of people on the basis of negative stereotyping. Rather than working towards global social policies that include development aid as a way of social transfer, clientelism grows stronger.

In addition to growing awareness of citizens regarding such inequalities, the increasing number of (young) people marching the streets across Europe gives **hope**: They demand **real climate action** and demonstrate that there is no **Planet B**. Without wanting to be alarmist, it is as clear to us in Civil Society Organisations as it is to those demonstrators that the promises made and initial steps taken by our governments are far from sufficient and lack a sense of urgency.

CONCORD – together with many others – will continue to speak up on putting People and Planet first. We stay committed to putting our energy into a transformative agenda of the people, by the people and for the people. We will not shy away from speaking out and contradicting official European political positions when they are not coherent with **the principles and objectives of Agenda 2030**. In light of the difficulties many of our members face in exercising their fundamental freedoms, we believe that as a pan-European network we have an important role to play. It is high time to move beyond being primarily viewed as project implementers to becoming stronger political actors.

Of great concern to our pan-European cooperation is **Brexit**. Let’s be clear: the British platform of development non-governmental organisations BOND will stay a key member of CONCORD, with representation in the Board and other working structures. We also plan to enlarge our membership in Europe beyond the European Union to strengthen our impact as a network and to collectively work towards ending poverty and fighting injustice and exclusion.

Everyone can make their voices heard for a Europe We Want. It is of the utmost importance that everyone uses every chance to cast their votes in democratic elections - on local, national and EU level - and to continue organising as civil society to convince our elected governments to work towards a Europe of the people, by the people and for the people. Only through collective action can we continue to bring about the changes our planet and its people deserve!

*Johannes Trimmel,  
CONCORD President*

<sup>1</sup> *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Declaration [51. & 52.]*

# FOREWORD FROM SEAMUS JEFFRESON AND TANYA COX



As Seamus Jefferson handed over his role as CONCORD's Director to Tanya Cox in January 2019, the two exchanged views on the past, present, and future of our Confederation.

## ***What has been / will be your main challenge in your role at CONCORD?***

**Seamus:** CONCORD is a very diverse and at the same time very representative network. We have members from Portugal to Estonia, from Caritas to the International Planned Parenthood Federation, from Save the Children to HelpAge International.

All campaigners know that the best way to bring about change is working through a broad-based coalition. This 'big tent' approach is a challenge - to have ambitious, not lowest common denominator positions - but is a hugely powerful thing. It does not

happen on its own. It has been the daily task of CONCORD members, the President Johannes Trimmel, the Board and the team in the Secretariat, to patiently, skillfully, facilitate and mediate strong positions and actions. It is an exercise in respecting others' positions and finding a solution that works for everyone. This skill is a 'muscle' that our society needs to exercise more in the current climate.

**Tanya:** I very much agree with Seamus on this point. I would like to deepen the engagement of our members - who are extremely committed and have much expertise - on the range of topics that we cover in CONCORD. This ambition is two-fold: it would enable us to have greater impact - both at Brussels and Member State level - and it would bind us together still more as a Confederation, creating a symbiotic win-win for everyone. So we need to marry an enhanced focus on key areas of value added with a sufficiently broad approach in order to represent members' interests. But, if I'm very honest, where we really need to improve is in our ability to follow up on the many initiatives - whether reports, letters, events or meetings - that we launch, in order to ensure we reach our advocacy objectives.

## ***What do you see as opportunities for CONCORD and the members in the future?***

**Seamus:** Collective ways of working like alliances, confederations or unions require work.

Civil society under threat often breaks down and solidarity is lost. The better-off NGOs, those not being attacked, need to stick together with colleagues under attack. **An attack on one is an attack on all.** There are **many examples on our continent**, but the way US NGOs stood up for one of their members being threatened by repressive legislation **illustrates** the point. We will be challenged in the months ahead. Making the case for working collectively, for members 'pooling sovereignty' to achieve common objectives has always been and is more than ever a challenge for our sector.

Pushing for ambitious, people-centered SDGs brought new life into our alliances and relations both with other sectors (in particular environmental NGOs) and civil society partners from other continents. The spirit of universality in the Agenda 2030 has hopefully infiltrated our relations and I hope this will be nourished and nurtured.

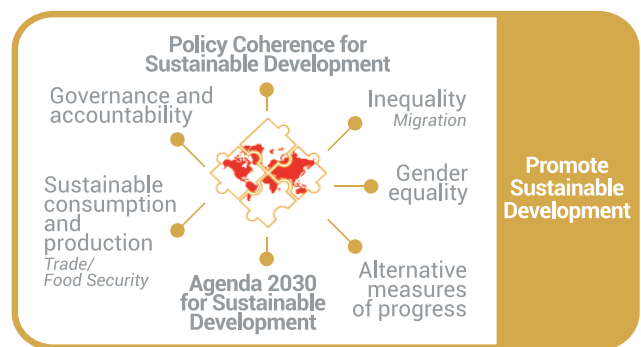
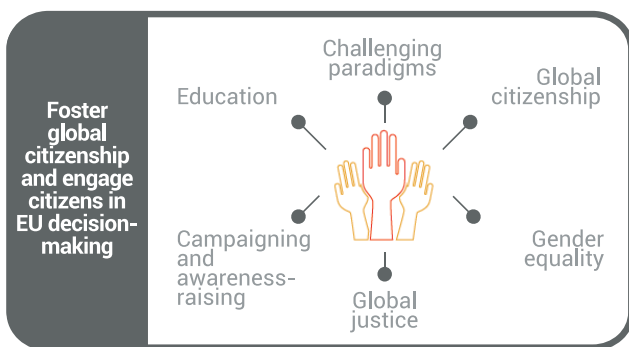
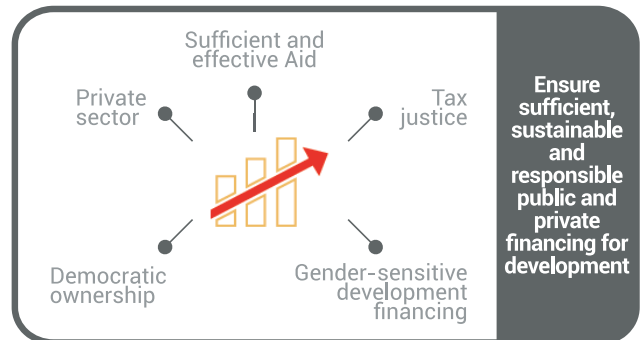
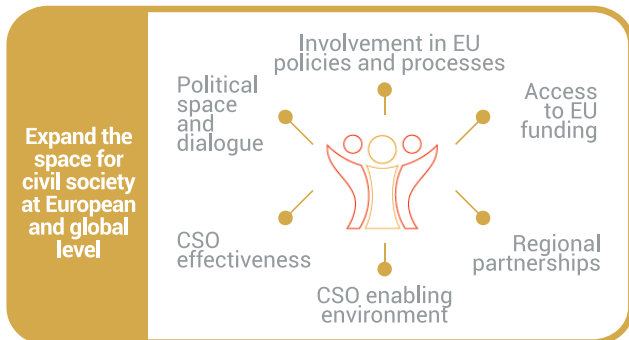
**Tanya:** I would like to view the elections - that many are considering a challenge - as an opportunity. While it cannot be denied that the political context will likely become more fragmented, it is a key moment for us to establish new and deepen other relationships with those people who design and shape EU policy and action. CONCORD is planning to raise key issues up the agenda, with a particular focus on inequality - both on the drivers and the consequences of inequality - and on those who are furthest behind. We will do this with the new MEPs, but we will also ask them to put it on the agenda of the hearings for the new Commissioners. No doubt some will try to push back on our messages about putting people and planet first, reforming systems to improve well-being and respecting everyone's human rights, because it challenges accepted positions of power. But this is a fundamental role of CONCORD, which we will not relinquish.

## ***A call-to-action for the sector?***

**Seamus:** NGOs need to continue investing in policy and advocacy capability and expertise. In my time at CONCORD I have seen a reduction in the number of policy officers working in EU offices of development NGOs. My appeal to NGO leaders is - Brussels is not only about fundraising, it is where we can change policies to improve lives. It will be a challenge encouraging UK NGOs, where historically much of this policy capacity lies, to keep investing in EU policy after the UK leaves the European Union.

**Tanya:** I would urge us all to be willing to challenge ourselves and each other about our messaging and where possible to go beyond those messages which we may have been using for quite a while. How can we be more innovative, think out of the box a bit more? How can we build more on the experience of all our members and especially on the knowledge many have from their programmes in-country in order to offer a different perspective, further evidence and a more convincing narrative? It is critical to stay relevant for policy- and decision-makers across the EU.

# CONCORD STRUCTURE & MISSION



CONCORD structures strategy 2016 – 2022

Back in 2016, CONCORD embarked on a new seven-year strategy. 2018 marks the third year of the implementation of this new strategy. It has been translated into 4 streams of work, internally named 'Hubs', gathering several thematic areas of work:

- Sustainable Development and Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development
- Financing for Development
- Promoting Civil Society Space
- Global Citizenship and People's Engagement

In parallel to these four streams of work, various structures support the work of the Confederation and the implementation of the strategy:

- Three committees, transversal structures overseeing the work of the members: the Inclusive Network Committee, the Policy Direction Committee and the Financial Advisory Committee
- The Gender Reference Group works on mainstreaming gender equality throughout our work
- Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) transversal group
- European Parliament elections transversal group

The work of the Confederation is overseen by a governing Board which provides strategic guidance and direction and is supported by a Secretariat coordinating the implementation of the activities.

In 2019, reaching the mid-term point in the implementation of the strategy, the Confederation will review these first outcomes and assess the strategy's progress.

For an interactive description of the strategy and the structure, we invite you to watch the YouTube video.





# THE BOARD



*President:*  
**Johannes TRIMMEL**  
Globale Verantwortung  
(Austrian National Platform)



*Vice-President:*  
**Céline MIAS**  
CARE International,  
elected in June 2018



*Secretary:*  
**Floris FABER**  
ACT Alliance EU



*Treasurer:*  
**Stefan CIBIAN**  
FOND  
(Romanian National Platform)  
co-opted in September 2018



**Paola BERBEGLIA**  
CONCORD Italy  
(Italian National Platform)  
elected in June 2018



**Lars BOSSELMANN**  
CBM



**Els HERTOGEN**  
CONCORD Belgium  
(Belgian National Platform)  
elected in June 2018



**Claire GODFREY**  
Bond  
(UK National Platform)  
elected in June 2018



**Bruno RIVALAN**  
Coordination SUD  
(French National Platform)



**Sigrid SOLNIK**  
AKU  
(Estonian National Platform)  
- co-opted in October 2017  
elected in June 2018

## MEMBERS WHO STEPPED DOWN:

*Former Vice-President:* **Laura SULLIVAN**, ActionAid - June 2018

*Former treasurer:* **Marina SARLI**, Hellenic Platform for Development (Greek National Platform) - June 2018

*Former board members:*

**Rudy DE MEYER**, CONCORD Belgium (Belgian National Platform) - June 2018

**Farah NAZEER**, Bond (British National Platform) - June 2018

**Maurice CLAASSENS**, SOLIDAR - August 2018



Members at the 2018 General Assembly

## BOARD ACTIVITIES

### Getting ready for a changing environment

With increasing threats to civil society space and important political changes coming in the European Union, CONCORD reinforced the framework for its membership base and made sure the status of current members is unaffected by the EU political context. The Confederation's **statutes** and **internal regulations** were therefore updated at the General Assembly, ensuring CONCORD's broad representativeness and strengthening our current work streams. Members also adopted new **financial principles**, which will guide the work on CONCORD's finances until 2022. The Board discussed the upcoming European elections, calling on all members to get involved in shaping the EU of tomorrow. Another priority for the Board was preparing for the mid-term review of our **multi-annual strategy**, which will take place in 2019. Following the announcement of the departure of Seamus Jeffreson, the Board recruited Tanya Cox as the new CONCORD Director.

### Challenging power imbalances in our sector

2018 was marked by several reports of sexual exploitation and abuse by NGO staff. The CONCORD Board reacted quickly to the news and decided to look beyond crisis communication and safeguarding by recognising that there are still too many power imbalances in our sector. These imbalances need to be challenged in order for our sector to remain relevant and true to itself. An overview of **domination techniques** was presented to members at the General Assembly and the third edition of the **Learning & Exchange Forum** focused on the need for cultural shift in our sector.

“Even in an increasingly challenging political environment we can contribute to a ‘movement of hope’, which breaks trends of passiveness and resignation.”

*Johannes Trimmel,  
President of CONCORD*

# CONCORD SECRETARIAT

## LEADERSHIP



**Seamus Jeffreson**  
Director

## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION



**Kate Carpenter**  
Human Resources  
- from September



**Marion Coat**  
Administration and Events  
Officer



**Adrien Serafin**  
Finance & HR Officer

## ADVOCACY & POLICY



**Kasia Hanula-Bobbitt**  
Head of Policy & Advocacy



**Lonne Poissonnier**  
Policy & Advocacy  
Coordinator



**Francesca Romana Minniti**  
Policy & Advocacy  
Coordinator



**Alexandra Rosén**  
Policy & Advocacy  
Coordinator  
- on maternity leave  
from September



**Zuzana Sladkova**  
Policy & Advocacy Coordinator  
- on maternity leave  
from November



**Riccardo Roba**  
Policy & Advocacy  
Coordinator  
- from May

## COMMUNICATION & MEMBERSHIP



**Soledad Briones**  
Head of Communication  
and Membership



**Helene Debaisieux**  
Communication Coordinator



**Cecilia Rolland**  
Governance Coordinator



**Rebecca Steel-Jasińska**  
Membership Inclusion  
Coordinator  
- on maternity leave  
until September

## OUR IMPACT

### Addressing well-being in the workplace

In 2018, the Secretariat looked at psychosocial risks at work. An external consultancy firm was recruited to conduct an assessment of the levels of psychosocial risks in the CONCORD office, in compliance with Belgian law. The outcomes of the assessments were then used by the Secretariat staff to create an action plan to mitigate potential psychosocial risks at work. This action plan will be implemented in 2019.

When looking at the framework to address psychosocial risks at work, the Secretariat decided to nominate two 'persons of trust' in the office: Marion Coat and Cecilia Rolland. They act as contact points for all CONCORD staff in case of stress or if workers feel they are facing inadequate behaviour in the workplace. Marion and Cecilia underwent the required training during the autumn and are now certified.

### TRAINEES AND INTERIMS:

**Beatrice Audisio** - Administration Intern - September  
**Tarita Baldan** - Membership Trainee - from May to August  
**Rebekka Blomqvist** - Policy & Advocacy Trainee - from September  
**Christin Buchele** - Membership Engagement Officer - until October  
**Elisabeth Harding** - Policy & Advocacy Assistant - from August  
**Alessia Moratto** - Policy & Advocacy Intern - until August  
**Hoai Tram Nguyen** - Policy & Advocacy Assistant - until June  
**Anke Seidler** - Head of Resources - until September  
**Paula Pedrero Tobella** - Communication Intern - from October  
**Konstantine Zhvania** - Finance Intern - until July

# CONCORD 2.0

CONCORD is a safe and collaborative workplace where everyone can feel empowered and respected. CONCORD staff are there to support and learn from each other in an environment built on trust. We are advancing in the same direction purposefully and plan for the future collectively.

### THERE IS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR BULLYING BEHAVIOUR.

There is a clear framework in which we all take responsibility and can unleash our creativity, all the while being accountable for our actions.

### WE ENJOY OUR DIVERSITY AND APPRECIATE OUR DIFFERENCES AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GROW TOGETHER.

We support each other and ask for support from colleagues. We value everyone's work equally and work in an integrated way across teams. There is a shared commitment to everyone's wellbeing, supported by the work environment, the IT and other collaborative tools, as well as the Board and management.

### WE FOSTER A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE WHERE EVERYONE FEELS SAFE AND EMPOWERED.

We value work-life balance and the need to do good work, and not necessarily more work. We want to make an impact on the world, which we can do by walking the talk and by working collectively all the while having fun. We welcome everyone's point of view. Skills and professional development are supported and so is personal growth.

**CONCORD**  
European NGO confederation for relief and development

# WORKPLACE MANIFESTO

June 2018

# POLICY DIRECTION COMMITTEE

The Policy Direction Committee (PDC) oversees CONCORD's policy and advocacy work and ensures that it is coherent, impactful and in line with the objectives and principles set out in the strategy. The Committee provides political and policy direction to CONCORD's work in support of the Confederation's multi-annual strategic plan. The composition of the PDC ensures that the extensive membership is represented with a mix of expertise coming from various national platforms in the Members States, different advocacy expertise from international networks, and representatives from the Board as well as the four policy Hubs.

"The PDC plays a critical role in ensuring that CONCORD's policy objectives and messaging are strategic, consistent, and that we learn from our shared analysis. We aim to ensure that CONCORD's policy output is of the highest quality to maximise the influence and understanding of civil society organisations in public debate and policy-making across the range of issues CONCORD works on."

*Claire Godfrey, Bond  
(British National Platform)*

## MEMBERS

### Co-Chairs

**Tanya Cox** - Plan International, Hub 1 representative

**Sally Nicholson** - WWF - until September 2018

**Jan Van de Poel** - CONCORD Belgium (Belgian National Platform) - from September 2018

### Members

**Eva Bordos** - HAND (Hungarian National Platform) - until September 2018

**Rudy de Meyer** - CONCORD Belgium (Belgian National Platform), representing the Board - until June 2018

**Celine Mias** - CARE International, representing the Gender Reference Group - until June 2018

**Ad Ooms** - EU-CORD, Hub 2 representative - until September 2018

**Francesco Petrelli** - CONCORD Italy (Italian National Platform) - until September 2018

**Peter Sörbom** - CONCORD Sweden (Swedish National Platform) - until September 2018

**Laura Sullivan** - ActionAid International, representing the Board - until June 2018

**Luca de Fraia** - Action Aid, Hub 2 representative - from September 2018

**Ruth Faber** - EU-CORD - from September 2018

**Claire Godfrey** - Bond (UK National Platform), representing the Board from September 2018

**Bruno Rivalan** - Coordination SUD (French National Platform), representing the Board - from September 2018

**Rilli Lappalainen** - Kehys (Finnish National Platform), Hub 4 representative

**Lavinia Liardo** - Terre des Hommes - from September 2018

**Susana Refega** - Plataforma ONGD (Portuguese National Platform) - from September 2018

**Maria Sliacka** - Platforma MVRO (Slovak National Platform) - from September 2018

**Izabella Toth** - CIDSE, Hub 3 representative

**Cécile Vernant** - VENRO (German National Platform), representing the Gender Reference Group - from September 2018

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. Giving policy and political direction to the Confederation

The committee worked on increasing CONCORD's political impact by harmonising political messages through all of CONCORD's letters, briefings, positions and reports produced by the four Hubs (see Annex "List of Publications"). Thus, the PDC also ensured that CONCORD's "red threads" (inequality, promoting civil society space and sustainable development) were incorporated into the messages promoted by the Confederation.

The PDC worked closely with Hub 4 to define common objectives for the European Parliament elections in 2019 with the aim of ensuring CONCORD's vision finds a prominent spot in the agendas of the new Parliament and the new Commission.

### 2. Breaking the silos of the Confederation work streams

In order to break up the silos of the different CONCORD work streams, the PDC recruited a consultant to conduct an assessment of CONCORD's annual planning process. Based on the consultant's recommendations, the annual planning process was re-adapted, putting a stronger focus on prioritisation and giving the PDC a clearer guiding role in the process.

The PDC applied these recommendations when it looked at the prioritisation of the Hubs for 2019, matching them with requirements from donors and available Secretariat resources. Based on that prioritisation, recommendations on the annual plan 2019 were made to the Board and a far smoother planning process was achieved.

The PDC suggested that the consultant's recommendations be fed into the mid-term review of CONCORD's multi-annual strategy, which will be conducted in 2019.

#### Gender

The Policy Direction Committee ensured gender mainstreaming throughout the Confederation's policy and advocacy work.

# HUB 1 ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. Gender: Transforming lives of women and girls

Is the EU Gender Action Plan II actually transforming the lives of women and girls in the world? With its report **'Transforming Lives: EU Gender Action Plan II – From Implementation to Impact'**, CONCORD analyses how the EU Gender Action Plan 2016-2020 is being implemented. Based on in-country research in Rwanda, Vietnam and Ghana, CONCORD's report provides concrete recommendations on how to bring about a more impactful implementation of the Action Plan. CONCORD members promoted these recommendations during a number of key events and advocacy meetings with EU institutions and Member States, which inspired the GAP II Council Conclusions of 26 November 2018 and resulted in an increased understanding of the challenges and opportunities related to implementing this important agenda at partner country level.



Earlier in the year, CONCORD and WIDE+ published a **report to demonstrate the impact of EU trade policy on women's rights worldwide**, calling for a fundamental shift towards an EU trade policy which should give as much importance to human rights and environmental standards as to economic objectives.

"It is exciting to see so many members engaged with their governments on the 2030 Agenda, inequalities and policy coherence for sustainable development. 2019 will be a real test of Member States' commitment: when they come together to discuss the future of Europe, will they put sustainable development truly at the heart of their future strategic priorities?"

Sally Nicholson,  
WWF EU



### 2. Partnership and allies: Working in alliances for a sustainable EU

After many months of tough negotiations, 30 high-level members, including CONCORD, from the EU's Multi-Stakeholder Platform on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) proudly adopted **common proposals** from civil society from the public and private sector to move towards a sustainable EU by 2030. Despite coming from very different backgrounds, all representing very diverse constituencies, we managed to find common ground and pushed strongly in the same direction, providing input for the 2019 European Commission Reflection Paper 'Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030'. Created in 2017 and chaired by First Vice-President Timmermans, the Multi-Stakeholder Platform aims to support and advise the European Commission on the implementation of SDGs at EU level. CONCORD was one of the 5 drafters of this final paper. The proposals built on **CONCORD's elaborate responses to the initial consultation** to collect proposals from all the Multi-Stakeholder Platform members.

More specifically in the area of international cooperation, CONCORD responded to consultations from the European

Commission **to feed into the Joint Synthesis Report on implementing the 2030 Agenda through the European Consensus on Development, on Policy Coherence for Development and on addressing inequalities through development cooperation.**



*The EU Multi-stakeholder platform presents its common Proposals towards a Sustainable EU by 2030.*

To celebrate the 3rd anniversary of the 2030 Agenda, CONCORD published **good practices on the implementation of this agenda.** Members collected examples from across the EU, where Member States and other stakeholders are pursuing SDG implementation in new and interesting ways.



In the paper **'The impact of EU policies in the world. Seeing the bigger picture – one year on'**, CONCORD follows up on its 2017 analysis of how the Commission's impact assessments take developing countries into account. On the basis of a quantitative analysis and a qualitative case-study approach, this paper offers concrete recommendations to feed into the ongoing evaluation of the Better Regulation package and make future EU policies more coherent with sustainable development.

### 3. Migration

In the spring, the report **"EU Trust Fund for Africa: Partnership or Conditionality?"** (launched online in January 2018) was presented in the Czech Republic, France and Spain and is now available in 5 languages: English, Czech, French, Spanish and Italian.

The migration group's well-established cooperation with the European Parliament and the DEVE Committee continued within the framework of the official working group on migration chaired by MEP Elly Schlein. CONCORD provided inputs to the working group meetings throughout the year, with positive feedback received from MEPs. At the end of 2018, the European Court of Auditors published a report on the EU Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa with a number of their recommendations echoing those of CONCORD's

monitoring report. CONCORD migration experts elaborated recommendations for the European Commission's **Road Map of the mid-term evaluation of the EUTF** to set up the comprehensive evaluation of the EUTF starting in 2019.

As a reaction to an **article** published in Politico which portrayed migration as a problem, CONCORD reacted with an outspoken **counter-argument.** It proposed a different view, pointing out that reducing global inequalities rather than investing in border security should be our priority.

The group contributed to CONCORD's work on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027 with the paper, "What the EU should be financing when migration is an overarching priority of external action". It focused on how migration should be addressed in the next EU budget (MFF).

**"Day by day, we are still resisting the drift of Member States and EU institutions towards the idea of a "Fortress Europe", which externalises the control of migration to third countries. Instead, we fight for the protection of all people's human rights and regular pathways for migration combined with real sustainable development both in Europe and abroad."**

*Andrea Stocchiero,  
Focsiv, CONCORD Italia*

#### LIST OF STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

##### Co-Chairs

Evert-Jan Brouwer, EU-CORD  
Jussi Kanner, Fingo (Finnish National Platform)

##### Members

Andrea Stocchiero, CONCORD Italy  
(Italian National Platform)  
Bjarke Vestergaard, Globalt Fokus  
(Danish National Platform)  
Gyorgy Sumeghy, Habitat for Humanity  
Isabelle Brachet, ActionAid International  
Sally Nicholson, WWF European Policy Office  
Sofia Svarfvar, CONCORD Sweden  
(Swedish National Platform)  
Tanya Cox, Plan International



Inputs were prepared for the drafting of the 2018 AidWatch report, including parts on migration and the diversion of Official Development Assistance (ODA) towards migration management.

#### 4. Agroecology and the EU's Common Agricultural Policy reform

In 2018, CONCORD continued to promote agroecology vis-à-vis the EU institutions. In March, CONCORD invited Mr. Million Belay - founder of MELCA-Ethiopia and the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) and an expert and advocate for forestry conservation, indigenous livelihoods and food and seed sovereignty - to attend the agroecology event "Opportunities and challenges for European development policy" at the European Parliament. He provided first-hand experience of the positive impact of agroecology on the life and work of smallholder farmers in Africa. After the event, CONCORD did a short **video interview with Mr. Belay** and continued advocating on the basis of its **2017 agroecology paper**.



The EU is the biggest exporter and importer of agricultural food products and through its Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) it has considerable impact on the sustainable development of partner countries. CONCORD therefore focused on the ongoing reform of the EU CAP for the period 2020-2027. Together with partners from Local Dairy Campaign, West Africa, CONCORD gathered recommendations on how the EU should make its agricultural policy more coherent with sustainable development.

### EU CRYSTAL BALL CAMPAIGN

In the run-up to the May 2019 European Parliamentary elections, CONCORD partnered with the European Environmental Bureau, Transparency International, Global Health Advocates and SDG Watch Europe to launch the innovative 'EU Crystal Ball campaign'. The campaign illustrates how it is always important to look at the bigger picture, with a long-term perspective in mind. The campaign calls on all political leaders to put sustainable development front and centre of the next EU political priorities.



# HUB 2 ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. The 2018 AidWatch Report pointed at inflated, decreasing and diverted EU Aid.

Since 2005, the CONCORD AidWatch Report has monitored the quantity and quality of aid provided by EU Member States and the European Commission. The 2018 report revealed that for the first time since 2012, the EU's aid spending decreased in 2017. This means, at the current rate of growth, the EU would need another 40 years to meet the 0.7% of Official Development Assistance (ODA) per Gross National Income (GNI) target. This trend is contradicting the EU's pledge to leave no one behind. In particular, the decreasing trend in 2017 has put EU donors' efforts well below their collective commitment of providing 0.15-0.2% of GNI to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) by 2030.

The 2018 AidWatch Report looked at European ODA data in the last year and examined how recent trends and shifts in political priorities would impact the future of European aid. This year's AidWatch Report put greater attention on the quality and quantity of ODA, arguing that it is vital to ensure that aid is effective and that no one is left behind, with LDCs and fragile states holding the biggest concentration of poverty worldwide. Current developments around the upcoming Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and its external instrument were discussed during the launch event of the 2018 Aidwatch that took place on 17 October 2018 with the participation of high level speakers from the institutions.

### 2. OECD DAC Peer Review for EU

In 2018, the EU was reviewed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members Japan and Canada based on the 7 dimensions included in the DAC's review methodology. The review process included a visit to the headquarters of the reviewed member (in this case Brussels) followed by two field visits to two countries where the reviewed donor has development cooperation programmes in place (in this case Mali and Nicaragua). The review process concluded with a report and recommendations on how the EU can improve the quality and effectiveness of its development co-operation policies and systems.

On 17 May, the European Commission organised a consultation with civil society to feed into the review process. The CONCORD Secretariat and several CONCORD members participated together with the humanitarian NGO platform VOICE and raised issues related to Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development, the next Multiannual Financial Framework and Official Development Assistance.



## LIST OF STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

### Co-Chairs

**Luca de Fraia**, ActionAid Italy

**Adriana Zaharia**, FOND (Romanian National Platform) until April 2018

### Steering group members

**William Grech**, SKOP (Maltese National Platform)

**Ingrid Coenen**, Partos (Dutch National Platform) until April 2018

**Pedro Morazan**, VENRO (German National Platform)

**Marusa Babnik**, Sloga (Slovenian National Platform)



Launch event for CONCORD AidWatch 2018

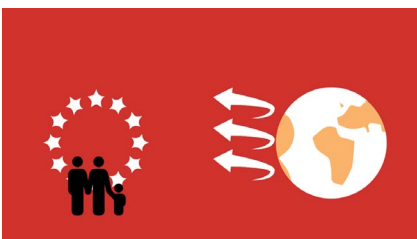
## AID WATCH POLICY PAPERS EXAMINING THE DIVERSION OF ODA TO MEET POLITICAL AGENDA

CONCORD published two policy papers under AidWatch 2018 to demonstrate how the political agenda is influencing and instrumentalising ODA. CONCORD looked into how development aid is progressively used for other purposes than poverty reduction and sustainable development and how the principle of solidarity, on which aid is based, is questioned at EU and national levels.

### AIDWATCH PAPERS:

**SECURITY AID:** The AidWatch paper 2018 "Fostering development, or serving European donors' national interests?" analyses the current trends around the aid agenda with the help of figures and examples. This publication focuses on how aid is progressively instrumentalised and spent in favour of conflict, peace and security (CPS) management, to the detriment of poverty eradication and sustainable development.

**AID & MIGRATION:** AidWatch paper 2018 "The externalisation of Europe's responsibilities": aiming at clarifying how the EU's development cooperation and migration agendas are interlinked in today's EU policies, this report provides a commentary on the impact of these links. It identifies 3 trends outlining how EU aid is used to curb migration in order to serve domestic EU priorities: inflation, diversion and conditionality.



*Inflating Aid - Spending Aid in Donor Countries to host refugees*



*Diverting Aid - Investing Aid in poor countries for the purpose of stopping migration to the EU*



*The Conditionality of Aid - Agreements pushing control and return policies*

# HUB 3 ON CIVIL SOCIETY SPACE

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. Analysis and recommendations on the promotion of civic space and enabling environment in the EU external action.

Civil society space provides the cornerstone for any democratic society and for CONCORD members' efforts to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development in line with the SDGs and Agenda 2030. However, in recent years the space for civil society has come under pressure world-wide and in the EU. This is why in March 2018, CONCORD published an analysis on the promotion of **civic space and enabling environment in EU external action**. The paper examines civil society at the heart of democracy and sustainable development and looks at the key components of civic space which are necessary to enable an environment where civil society can pursue and express basic rights. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) can play an important role as facilitators to make the voices of people heard. CONCORD's recommendations to EU institutions and EU Member States are built on 5 pillars: to develop an overarching EU strategy for civic space; to promote an enabling environment and civic space in the EU's partner countries; to strengthen partnerships, capacity-building and alliances; to provide adaptive, institutional and predictable funding; to practice what we preach.

#### LIST OF STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

##### Co-Chairs

**Asa Thomasson**, CONCORD Sweden (Swedish National Platform) - until March 2018

**Izabella Toth**, Partos (Dutch National Platform)

##### Steering Group members

**Karine Sohet**, ACT Alliance EU

**Katarina Macejakova**, ActionAid EU

**Machteld Bierens de Haan**, Save the Children EU - until January 2018

**Daniel Svoboda**, FoRs (Czech National Platform)

**Robert Krizanic**, Sloga (Slovenian National Platform)

**Alexandra Makaroff**, Plan International EU Office - until August 2017

**Madeleine Winqvist**, CONCORD Sweden (Swedish National Platform) - from April 2018

"In recent years, space for civil society has come under pressure world-wide and in the EU. These infringements are marked by violence against people who stand up for positive change, but also more subtle mechanisms such as bureaucratic harassment, changes in legal frameworks, denial of participation in social dialogue, abuse of the terror threat to curb civil liberties and limiting resources to civil society. Therefore, CONCORD must consistently raise its voice on the fundamental freedoms and rights to participation, assembly and association, including on the existence of spaces for dialogue and participation and the programmatic tools available, including financial and implementation, so that civil society can play and develop its role."

*Izabella Toth, CordAid, Partos  
(Dutch National Platform)*

## freedom of opinion:

basic right of any human being



### 2. Improved processes and increased capacity for engagement between EU Delegations and Civil Society at country level: Training of Trainers.

In recent years, the EU has tried to develop a more strategic engagement and structured dialogue with CSOs in partner countries.

In this context, CONCORD has been assessing the quality of the relationship between CSOs and EU Delegations through its EU Delegations Report.

CONCORD also finalised two toolkits (one on how EUDs function and one on EU GAP) and held a Training of Trainers,



aimed at internal capacity-building of members and partners on how to structure a political dialogue with the EU Delegation at country level and to shed light on the programmes and opportunities that the EU offers for local CSOs. The Training of Trainers was organised in order to train those people who would be delivering workshops and initiatives in their constituencies. The participants (around 30) were partners mainly from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Balkans/Black Sea region.

**3. Influencing the direction of the programming and implementation of EU funding instruments and providing access to funding for a more diverse range of civil society actors and initiatives.**

Since the beginning of the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), Civil Society organisations (CSOs) have felt that fewer EU funds were being made available to them by EU external action instruments. Numbers published meanwhile show that the European Commission (EC) is spending more money than ever through CSOs.

In this context, CONCORD's CSOs funding study was an attempt to explain the perception that CSO access to EU funding has undergone an important change since 2010, by examining EU spending data and planning documents. Its main purpose was to equip CONCORD members with messages and argumentation for advocacy work towards more fruitful operational partnerships with the EC. The study is comprised of three sections: geographical distribution of CSOs' access to funding; observations on thematic instruments; grant sizes and modalities.

The document also contained some recommendations for very specific targets in the EU institutions and Member States.

In relation to the work on EU funding, in the second part of the year, CONCORD started to track and analyse the key changes for the period 2018-2020 against the previous Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP)/the Multi-Annual Action Plan (MAP) and the Multi-Annual Action Programme (MAAP). This paper will include a section on the overall trends influencing the current programmes which will likely be continuing over to the next MFF.

**“It is high time for the EU and its African, Caribbean and Pacific partners to build a joint long-term vision that responds to the aspirations and the needs of their youth and addresses common future challenges, ensuring no one is left behind. People and planet should be at the core of the future agreement – putting people at the centre does not mean that we should focus on specific sectors or priorities at the expense of others; on the contrary, all sectors of cooperation proposed for the future framework are about enhancing the well-being of people and planet.”**

*Karine Sohet, ACT Alliance EU*

**CSO ACCESS TO EU FUNDING**

**EXTERNAL INSTRUMENTS**

**CONCORD**  
European NGO confederation for relief and development

#### 4. Guidance on the key conditions of the new Financial Regulation in the 2018 Procedures and Practical Guide (PRAG): CONCORD Informative note on the key changes in 2018 PRAG.

The 2018 Practical Guide (PRAG) – the guide on basic rules and procedures for contracts for EU External Actions – was published in August 2018 and was substantially revised compared to the previous version.

Following its publication, CONCORD worked on an information note for its members, which represents an attempt by CONCORD's Funding Community to trace the main changes introduced since the 2016 version with a focus on grants. The note analyses the following key changes: the simplified cost option; co-financing; the not-for-profit rule; code of conduct and ethical standards; the application templates and evaluation grid; reporting templates; and other relevant changes.

### CONCORD ENGAGEMENT WITH DEFINING FUTURE EU-AFRICA RELATIONS AND MONITORING THE ONGOING POST-COTONOU NEGOTIATIONS



FEBRUARY

Recommendations to put people and planet in the centre



APRIL

Recommendations for CS participation in future EU-ACP relations



AUGUST

Google Group of ACP and European CSOs launched by CONCORD



SEPTEMBER

Reaction to the launch of post-Cotonou negotiation



OCTOBER

Exchange of views on future of EU-Africa relations with Mr. Doens, Head of EC post-Cotonou task force



DECEMBER

CONCORD panel discussion with relevant EU-ACP stakeholders

#### GENDER

Gender has been mainstreamed across the areas of work and the communities covered by Hub 3. Together with the Gender Reference Group, Hub 3 developed the EU GAP toolkit, which was tested at the Training of Trainers with CONCORD's partners.

#### PARTNERSHIPS AND ALLIES

For different communities within Hub 3, alliances and partnerships are of crucial importance. For instance, the EU-CELAC working group is a joint platform of CONCORD's members, EU-LAT Network and HRDN (Human Rights and Democracy Network), as well as other CSOs with a long experience with Latin America and Caribbean (Pax Christi Internacional, Fundación Heinrich Böll y ODHACO); and they actively coordinate with Mesa de Articulacion. Moreover, the EU-ACP/Africa working group has monitored the post-Cotonou negotiations together with other European CSOs (for instance, EPLO, UNICEF, ITUC, FES Europe and others) along with CONCORD's African, Caribbean and Pacific partners, together with whom a Google Group was established over summer 2018.

For the Training of Trainers, CONCORD directly involved Reality of Aid (ROA) Africa and its members, plus FOND's partners from the Balkans and Black Sea region – both in the preparatory stages as well as in the participation in the event.

As for the EU funding, CONCORD also partnered with KU Leuven university, where scholars carried out research on the current situation of CSOs' access to funding in some country cases. The main findings of this analysis were presented at the Hub 3 meeting in October 2018.

CONCORD, as a member of Civil Society Europe (CSE), also coordinated with other CSE members the reaction to the publication of the European Court of Auditors report on NGO transparency.

# HUB 4 ON GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND PEOPLE'S ENGAGEMENT



## OUR IMPACT

### 1. Launch of Global Citizenship Education (GCE) Study and advocacy in Member States



On 8 March 2018, CONCORD launched the report [Global Citizenship Education in Europe: How much do we care?](#) The report unpacks the complexity and diversity of GCE policies and investments at Member States' level by raising three questions:

*Why should we care about Global Citizenship Education?  
How much funding goes to Global Citizenship Education in Europe?  
How much should we invest in Global Citizenship Education?*

Based on comprehensive research conducted across all EU Member States plus Norway by a consultant, Hub 4 members and the Secretariat, the publication reveals the level of funding dedicated to GCE in Europe between 2011 and 2015 (until the adoption of the SDGs). It analyses why the level of investment by European national governments remains limited despite the broad recognition of Global Citizenship Education as a powerful tool to resolve the current challenges our world is facing.

The report was officially launched in Brussels, at an open event chaired by **Marina Sarli**, Board member of CONCORD with the panelists **Joseph Schermesser**, Head of Sector, EC DEVCO Unit B1 and **Paolo Fontani**, Director of UNESCO Liaison Office in Brussels. During the event, both DEVCO and UNESCO suggested to look at CONCORD work's on GCE as a point of reference for the policies and needs of the sector.

Mr. Fontani shared the UNESCO definition of GCE as a *"sense of belonging to a broader community and common humanity. It emphasises political, economic, social and cultural interdependence and interconnectedness between the local, the national and the global"*, underlying how civil society and NGOs have a crucial role to play in GCE advocacy. ([Link to UNESCO article here](#))

"All the work civil society carries out relies on the cornerstone of Global Citizenship Education (GCE). Its values are at the core of our efforts, for the world we envision is not only fairer, more sustainable and peaceful, but also critically questions itself, over and over, to overcome prejudice and bring about positive attitudes and change."

*Federica di Giulio, SKOP  
(Maltese National Platform)*

"With the rise of populism, isolationism and radical forces in Europe and the world, we must commit and invest in Global Citizenship Education more than ever. Through GCE, we understand the complexity of the world and why we should care about what is going on around us. If we do not advocate for this issue now, we will face less and less support for development in the future. We must ensure it is high on the agenda in Europe and we need to start this process by making it a priority within CONCORD. "

*Veronika Golianova,  
Habitat for Humanity*

"Global Citizenship Education is key to building consensus for the policies our sector is demanding. It provides citizens with an asset of knowledge, values and critical thinking processes that can unlock the societal potential for a world of justice. Investing in GCE is the first step towards policy change."

*Marina Sarli - Hellenic Platform  
(Greek National Platform)*

During the course of 2018 the report was presented to the public and to relevant institutions and stakeholders in different Member States thanks to the National Platforms, in particular in Belgium, Finland, Malta, Slovenia, France, Hungary, Italy, Spain and Denmark.

### 2. Preparation for the European Parliament Elections

Hub 4 officially launched the EU elections preparation process at the 2018 General Assembly with an inspiring session and an inclusive workshop. The hub hosts the transversal working group on EP elections 2019 (the group mobilised more than 30 of CONCORD's 53 members). In 2018, the work

of the group focused on defining common objectives for the Confederation for the upcoming EP elections and proposing a tailored approach instead of a pre-packaged and top-down campaign. The exchanges took place on several levels, both internally and in coordination with other NGOs and coalitions of other sectors via the “Europe We Want” group. In 2018, CONCORD became part of the innovative project led by Friends of The Earth Europe “How to talk about the societies we want in Europe”, which organised a thorough analysis of existing frames, and created a **guide to ensure pro-European messaging**.

### GENDER: International Women’s day action on 8th of March

“International Women’s Day” took place at the same time as the first Hub 4 meeting of the year. Thanks to the support of the Spanish National Platform “Coordinadora”, Hub 4 decided to highlight the Women’s strike organised and promoted in Spain and other European countries by civil society. The moment of reflection was also shared via social media and the CONCORD Secretariat joined Hub 4 for the action.

### STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

#### Co-Chairs

**Paola Berbeglia**, CONCORD Italia (Italian National Platform) - until June 2018

**Mari-Helene Kaber**, AKÜ (Estonian National Platform) - from July 2018

**Stefan Grasgruber**, Globale Verantwortung (Austrian National Platform)

#### Steering group members

**Veronica Castaneda**, Coordinadora ONGD (Spanish National Platform) - maternity replacement of Freest Saralegui

**Mathieu Chaveneau**, Coordination Sud (French National Platform) - until June 2018

**Monika Duelle**, VENRO (German National Platform)

**Veronika Golianova**, Habitat for Humanity

**Mari-Helene Kaber**, AKÜ (Estonian National Platform)

**Raffaella Kihrer**, EAEA - until November 2018

**Rilli Lappalainen**, FINGO (Finnish National Platform)

### PARTNERSHIPS AND ALLIES

#### Bridge 47 project



Together with **Bridge47**, CONCORD aligns common GCE narratives in Europe and beyond. CONCORD and Bridge 47 share 6 member organisations and 5 members of members.

#### Global Education Network Europe (GENE)



CONCORD was part of **Selection Committee of the “Global Education Innovation Award”** and took part in a panel discussion introducing Gene’s “State of Global Education in Europe” report.

#### Council of Europe -North-South-Centre



CONCORD is part of this body’s Steering Group, especially working on the **Global Education Week**. This is an annual awareness raising event that aims to introduce global themes, provide information and holds educational activities in formal as well as in non-formal settings.

#### EC Multi-Stakeholder -Platform DEAR



CONCORD took active part in the official European Commission Multi-stakeholder group on Development Education and Awareness Raising.

#### Life Long Learning Platform (LLL)



LLL is a key partner for CONCORD in advocating for education, education for global citizenship and the pivotal role of NGOs in this field. CONCORD took part in a panel discussion of the **Lifelong Learning Week 2018**

### CONSTRUCTIVE ADVOCACY ON THE DEAR CALL 2018

After months of exchange with the European Commission, the **DEAR call 2018** finally saw the light. Thanks to the advocacy done by Hub 4 members (with inputs from Hub 3 funding experts), the key points CONCORD raised were taken into account by DG DEVCO. CONCORD shared lessons learned from previous DEAR calls and experiences from project-implementers. One of the key results of this advocacy was the guarantee for the separated lot in the call 2018 for EU13 countries’ lead-applicants. Until 2018, DEAR calls had been a key public funding resource for our members and members of members. In 2018, Hub 4 started an important internal reflection on the future of the DEAR component and DEAR funding programmes into the next EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027, calling for a new inclusive approach to Global Citizenship Education.



# TRANSVERSAL TOOLS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK 2021-2027

2018 saw the negotiations of the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) get underway. CONCORD has concentrated its work on Heading VI 'Neighbourhood and the World' with a further focus on the proposed single instrument, the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI).

The establishment of the MFF leading group, which meets weekly in Brussels, has been integral to CONCORD providing quick and detailed reactions to this important process. Their work includes detailed **amendments** to the NDICI Regulation released in June 2018, and it provides positions on the processes that are happening within the Council (including Presidency Drafts) and the European Parliament (such as the AFET and DEVE Joint Report).

Moreover, the bi-monthly meetings with national focal points (made up of CONCORD's national platforms) is a means of sharing information as well as establishing an advocacy strategy at both EU and national levels. CONCORD has also organised joint actions with ally organisations, including letters ahead of the November Foreign Affairs Council and the December European Council.

2019 is going to be an essential year for CONCORD's work on the MFF. The European Parliament aims to have the first reading of its position on the NDICI completed before the European elections. The Council hopes to come to an agreement by October 2019. CONCORD will continue its advocacy on ensuring that sustainable development, poverty eradication, gender equality, and addressing climate change are integral to the external instrument of the next MFF, and that the EU continues its commitment to the European Consensus on Development, Agenda 2030, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



**MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK  
MAKE IT WORK FOR DEVELOPMENT!**

# INCLUSIVE NETWORK COMMITTEE

The Inclusive Network Committee advises CONCORD governance structures on specific topics regarding the organisational development of the Confederation. It fosters ownership of the CONCORD identity to improve inclusion and to build a peer learning culture in the Confederation. It also works to ensure the effective participation of all members, in their diversity, in CONCORD's activities.

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. Supporting a learning culture in the Confederation

Together with **FoRs** (Czech National Platform) and the Inclusive Network Committee, CONCORD organised the third edition of the **Learning and Exchange Forum** between the 26th and 28th November 2018 in Prague, where CONCORD members came together to look at whether we, as organisations which are hoping to bring about change around the world, are consistent and legitimate in our work, living our values within our organisations.

In the light of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), a **webinar** was organised in order to share CONCORD's experience on the process to become GDPR compliant. It was also a great opportunity for participants to exchange about their own situation and practices.



### 2. Transparent and accessible information

With the purpose of continuously improving one of our main working tools, the Secretariat together with the Inclusive Network Committee conducted an **assessment of CONCORDnet**. The assessment consisted of a series of interviews with our

“Inequalities are on the rise globally due to our leaders’ lack of action in tackling major global challenges such as gender injustice, marginalisation, climate change, etc. We will face the consequences of this lack of action. A radical change for a fairer world is needed and we need to re-discuss development – just how radical can it be? We in the Inclusive Network Committee are working to ensure that our Confederation is as inclusive and as transparent as necessary to discuss, share and collaborate to find solutions to this very pertinent question.”

*Mousumi Saikia,  
Islamic Relief Worldwide*

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Co-chairs

**Alba Gonzalez**, CBM  
**Robert Krizanic**, SLOGA  
(Slovenian National Platform)

### Committee members

**Luciana Almeida**, Plataforma ONGD  
(Portuguese National Platform)  
**Paola Berbeglia**, CONCORD Italia  
(Italian National Platform)  
**Stefan Cibian**, FOND  
(Romanian National Platform) - until June  
**Ruth Faber**, EU CORD - until September 2018  
**Clarisa Giamello**, Coordinadora ONGD  
(Spanish National Platform) -from September 2018  
**Benedicte Hermelin**, Coordination Sud  
(French National Platform) - until September 2018  
**Els Hertogen**, CONCORD Belgium  
(Belgium National Platform) - from September 2018  
**Farah Nazeer**, Bond  
(British National Platform) - until June 2018  
**Mousumi Saika**, Islamic Relief  
**Marina Sarli**, Hellenic Platform for Development  
(Greek National Platform)  
**Daniel Svoboda**, FoRs (Czech National Platform)

colleagues in the Secretariat and an online survey to some members. Based on the results, CONCORDnet was readapted and a [CONCORDnet basic guide](#) disseminated.

A [free database of images on development](#) was created together with CONCORD's communication community.

## GENDER

The Inclusive Network Committee monitored the gender of the participants in CONCORD activities as part of the annual activity monitoring/participation insights (see Annexes). This year, in the frame of the Learning and Exchange Forum, a workshop on gender and diversity was organised and run by Board member Céline Mias. During the workshop, participants followed exercises that allowed them to think critically about different elements of diversity and to discuss their own privilege and its impact on how they see the world.

“The Inclusive Network Committee is a space for exploration, questioning and learning, where members share their knowledge, experience and creativity for the collective, seeking to face the challenges that are currently posed in international development, and particularly the challenges CONCORD is experiencing in terms of relevance and influence. At a time when international development is undergoing a credibility and pertinence crisis, and in the long run risks to give way to other types of cooperation and economic interests where solidarity and social justice are devalued, it is fundamental to be strong and fearless as a Confederation. We believe that these difficulties can only be overcome with perseverance and resilience and active involvement of all members in the search for solutions. To foster this involvement, we will continue to focus on dialogue, interaction and learning spaces such as the Learning and Exchange Forum.”

*Luciana Almeida, Plataforma ONGD  
(Portuguese National Platform)*



*Spaces such as the LEF, which enable exchange and peer learning, are increasingly important. The Inclusive Network Committee remains committed to strengthening and increasing these spaces.*

## PARTICIPATION INSIGHTS REPORT

CONCORD is a leading policy and advocacy player, and the Inclusive Network Committee is proud that the internal support for members is also now being addressed and has established itself as a central feature of CONCORD membership. This internal participation of members in CONCORD activities was revisited in order to include information not only on quantitative but also on qualitative data. As it does every year, the CONCORD Secretariat with the support and guidance of the Inclusive Network Committee measured the participation of the members in CONCORD events and meetings (physical and webinars). This year's report ([Participation Insights 2018](#)) includes information on both quantitative and qualitative members' participation. You can find out more about this new methodology in the [Participation Insights Methodology](#).

Providing spaces in which exchange and peer learning is increasingly important and the Inclusive Network Committee remains committed to strengthening and increasing these spaces.

# FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) was created in 2013 to advise the CONCORD Board and CONCORD Director on all matters relating to our finance and resources and to ensure that these issues are communicated transparently to the members, in particular at the General Assembly and at Board Meetings.

## OUR IMPACT

### 1. CONCORD's Financial Principles

Since 2017, the FAC has been committed to building a financial strategy to underpin the Confederation's long-term mission and to ensure that CONCORD has the necessary resources to deliver on its strategic change objectives.

In the first half of 2018, the Committee, at the request of the Board, worked with an external consultant who gathered input from members to develop a sustainable financial framework for 2018-2022. This work resulted in 5 financial principles for the Confederation which were adopted by the General Assembly in June 2018.

### 2. CONCORD's long-term financial sustainability

As agreed in the Financial Principles, CONCORD needs to ensure its financial sustainability and independence by achieving a balance of income from members, the European Commission and other grantees that share CONCORD's vision and values.

As we see civil society space shrinking globally and development budgets across Europe under threat, it is crucial that the question of how we finance ourselves today and how we will finance ourselves tomorrow is brought to the heart of what we do and how we do it.

As a result, at the end of 2018, the FAC decided, with the guidance of the Board, to begin work on **Ethical Guidelines for Fundraising** to safeguard and reinforce our financial independence and ensure we reflect carefully as to whom we may work with going forward.

Likewise, the membership has been committed to developing fundraising initiatives and partnerships for project-based activities with clear governance and management rules. In 2018, the Board therefore actively promoted our *Europe We Want Project*, financed by supplementary member contributions and, later in the year, agreed to partner with six of our National Platforms within the framework of the EC-funded Presidency Project over the next six EU presidencies.

### 3. Maintaining a Core Budget

Since its establishment, the CONCORD General Assembly has agreed that the Confederation ought to maintain a core budget financed primarily by membership contributions and predictable operational grants from the European Commission within the framework of the Framework Partnership Agreement signed with DEVCO at the beginning of 2016 and secured until the end of 2020.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The composition of this committee should represent a balance between national platforms and networks and reflect the Confederation's diversity. In September 2018, the Financial Advisory Committee welcomed Stefan Cibian to the committee as its new Treasurer, as well as two new members. Until December 2018 it comprised the following members:

### Treasurer

**Marina Sarli**, Hellenic Platform for Development (Greek National Platform) - until June 2018  
**Stefan Cibian**, FOND (Romanian National Platform) - from September 2018

### Committee members

**Branka Juran**, CROSOL (Croatia National Platform)  
**João Martins**, ADRA - from March 2018  
**Magnus Falklöf**, CONCORD Sweden (Swedish National Platform) - from September 2018  
**Sigrid Solnik**, AKU (Estonian National Platform) - representing the Board - until December 2018  
**Michael Steeb**, VENRO (German National Platform) - until June 2018  
**Roderick Agius**, SKOP Malta (Maltese National Platform) - until June 2018

### Secretariat members

**Seamus Jeffreson**, Director  
**Anke Seidler**, Head of Resources - until September 2018  
**Kate Carpenter**, Head of Resources - from September 2018

### Advisors to the committee

**Stefan Cibian**, FOND (Romanian National Platform) - until June 2018  
**Graham Mckay**, Bond (UK National Platform) - until June 2018

Since 2016 we have also been the recipients of a three-year grant from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** amounting to \$698,019 which has been extended until 31 July 2019. The overarching objective of this project has been to improve the quantity and quality of European Official Development Assistance by orchestrating effective EU-level awareness-raising advocacy on key processes supported by strengthened partnerships in Europe and partner countries. More specifically, this complementary funding has given CONCORD the opportunity to deepen and broaden the work foreseen within its long-term strategy (2016-2022) such as the European Consensus, the EU Budget, Cotonou and the Gender Action Plan.

#### 4. Ensuring the commitment of members and CONCORD's financial independence

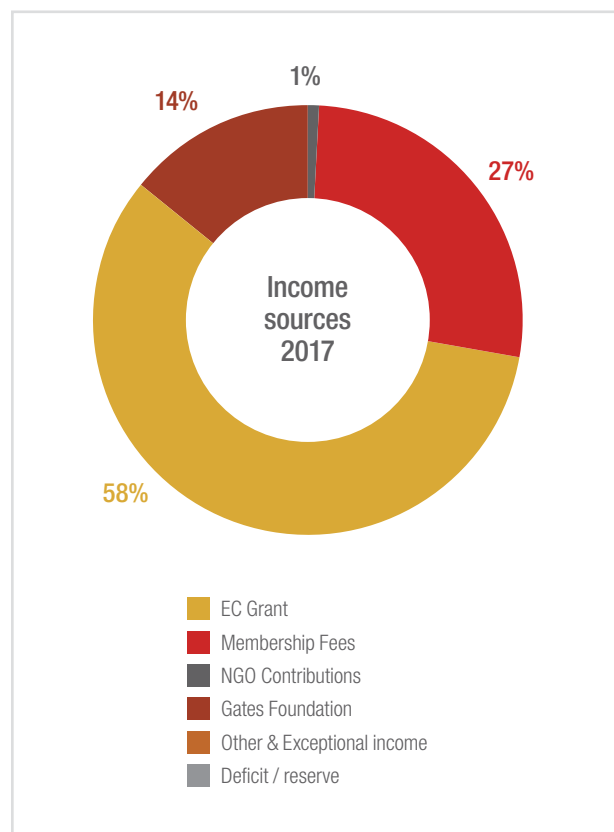
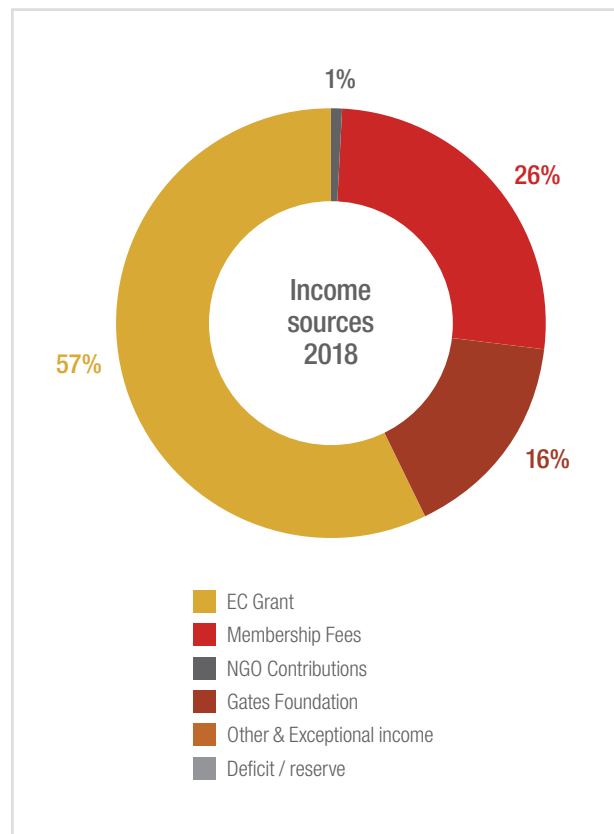
To fulfil its long-term strategic mission, CONCORD depends on the commitment of members and their members to provide both financial resources and thematic expertise. In return, CONCORD must be accountable to its members and be able to demonstrate that all our resources are being used effectively. Mandated by the Board, the Financial Advisory Committee acts as a financial advisor to the Board and Secretariat in overseeing and monitoring the finances of CONCORD.

In 2012, CONCORD set up a self-selecting fees system so that every three years the members commit to a level of fees according to their capacity. Now that the second three-year period covering 2016-2018 has come to a successful close, members were invited to select their fee levels once again for the upcoming period 2019-2021. Although our overall fee level will still falls short of the ambitious target level of 40% of our total income by 2022, as agreed in our Financial Perspectives 2018-2022, the Committee wishes to acknowledge the effort that members continue to make towards this goal as a means of securing our independence.

#### 5. Improved Budget Monitoring and Risk Management

There is a clear commitment on the part of the Finance Committee to renew its work on improving and expanding the financial information so that the Confederation has a more strategic overview of our resources and a better understanding of how we invest in our strategic priorities in relation to our different funding streams.

In the last quarter of 2018, the FAC, therefore, began to reexamine how CONCORD monitors and manages the budget across all Hubs and Committees while the Secretariat began to make further updates to our budget tracking tool so that we can review the budget more efficiently, integrate new funding streams (i.e. the EC-funded Presidency Project) and make strategic reallocations within the analytical framework required by our different donors.



# FINANCE & ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

## ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

- CONCORD's financial records are expressed in Euros and are maintained on a historical cost basis in compliance with international accounting standards and legislation applicable to non-profit associations in Belgium.
- CONCORD's core operational budget covers the running costs of the Secretariat and the activity costs of the member-led working bodies (Hubs, Committees, Board, General Assembly). Activities include reports, meetings, advocacy tools, studies, training activities, and internal and external communication.
- Subject to CONCORD's travel reimbursement rules, the budget enables at least one representative per member

to participate in meetings, reimbursing travel and accommodation on request if the member organisation cannot cover these costs.

- The core budget in 2018 is funded by members and co-financed with an operating grant from the European Commission and a 3-year grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

## BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2018

The balance sheet shows CONCORD's financial situation on 31 December 2018. The intangible and tangible fixed assets are written off over several years (2 to 5 years). The long-term financial assets include a guarantee deposit of one month's rent.

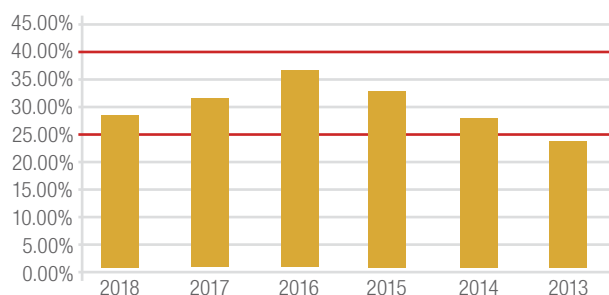
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Intangible assets	€ 2.733	€ 9.956	€ 17.178	€ 14.371	€ 6.876	€ 28.684	€ 13.751
Tangible assets	€ 5.708	€ 1.918	€ 3.279	€ 7.357	€ 6.853	€ 5.435	€ 5.969
Financial assets	€ 10.838	€ 10.838	€ 10.798	€ 10.778	€ 10.658	€ 21.089	€ 20.941
<b>Long term assets</b>	<b>€ 19.279</b>	<b>€ 22.712</b>	<b>€ 31.256</b>	<b>€ 32.506</b>	<b>€ 24.387</b>	<b>€ 55.208</b>	<b>€ 40.661</b>
Debtors	€ 181.089	€ 188.811	€ 192.283	€ 409.365	€ 316.899	€ 286.123	€ 410.803
Cash	€ 579.659	€ 640.871	€ 846.680	€ 315.313	€ 1.354.254	€ 893.040	€ 1.073.257
Accrued income/deferred expenses	€ 14.301	€ 10.555	€ 9.997	€ 10.089	€ 7.637	€ 12.517	€ 8.585
<b>Short term assets</b>	<b>€ 775.049</b>	<b>€ 840.237</b>	<b>€ 1.048.960</b>	<b>€ 734.766</b>	<b>€ 1.678.790</b>	<b>€ 1.191.681</b>	<b>€ 1.492.645</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>€ 794.328</b>	<b>€ 862.949</b>	<b>€ 1.080.216</b>	<b>€ 767.272</b>	<b>€ 1.703.177</b>	<b>€ 1.246.889</b>	<b>€ 1.533.305</b>
Short term creditors	€ 204.103	€ 182.308	€ 175.299	€ 239.245	€ 293.625	€ 291.761	€ 343.368
Accrued expenses / deferred revenues	€ 141.815	€ 230.189	€ 453.288	€ 17.000	€ 941.484	€ 562.196	€ 711.489
<b>Short term liabilities</b>	<b>€ 345.918</b>	<b>€ 412.497</b>	<b>€ 628.587</b>	<b>€ 256.245</b>	<b>€ 1.235.109</b>	<b>€ 853.957</b>	<b>€ 1.054.858</b>
<b>Provision for liabilities and charges</b>	<b>€ 2.217</b>	<b>€ 6.146</b>	<b>€ 11.480</b>	<b>€ 19.328</b>	<b>€ 7.779</b>	<b>€ 13.451</b>	<b>€ 49.720</b>
Reserves	€ 444.306	€ 440.150	€ 491.699	€ 462.138	€ 379.481	€ 428.728	€ 255.451
Special Reserve for Directors' transition						€ (45.000)	
Surplus/Deficit	€ 1.886	€ 4.157	€ (51.549)	€ 29.561	€ 80.808	€ (4.247)	€ 173.277
<b>Members' Equity</b>	<b>€ 446.192</b>	<b>€ 444.307</b>	<b>€ 440.150</b>	<b>€ 491.699</b>	<b>€ 460.289</b>	<b>€ 379.481</b>	<b>€ 428.728</b>
<b>Total financing</b>	<b>€ 794.328</b>	<b>€ 862.950</b>	<b>€ 1.080.216</b>	<b>€ 767.272</b>	<b>€ 1.703.177</b>	<b>€ 1.246.889</b>	<b>€ 1.533.306</b>

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Reserve/expenditure	28.09%	30.98%	35.58%	33.29%	26.94%	23.66%	34.32%

The reserves at 28% of annual expenditure remain within the targeted percentage bracket of 25% to 50%.

## RESERVE / EXPENDITURE



## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In 2018, CONCORD's total core income amounted to 1.588.199 € (2017: 1.546.881€) and our core expenditure amounted to 1.586.313 € (2017: 1.542.724 €) resulting in a small surplus of 1.886 €. (The surplus in 2017 was €4.157).

CONCORD's income was 2.8% more than budgeted whereas our expenditure was 2.3% more than forecast.

# INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2018

## INCOME

Overall income was 43.199 € higher than projected in the strategic budget approved at last year's General Assembly. This was largely due to the increase in income from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (48.661€), which more than compensated for the slight decrease in membership fees (2.562€) and decrease in the project-specific contributions from members (2.900 €).

## EXPENDITURE

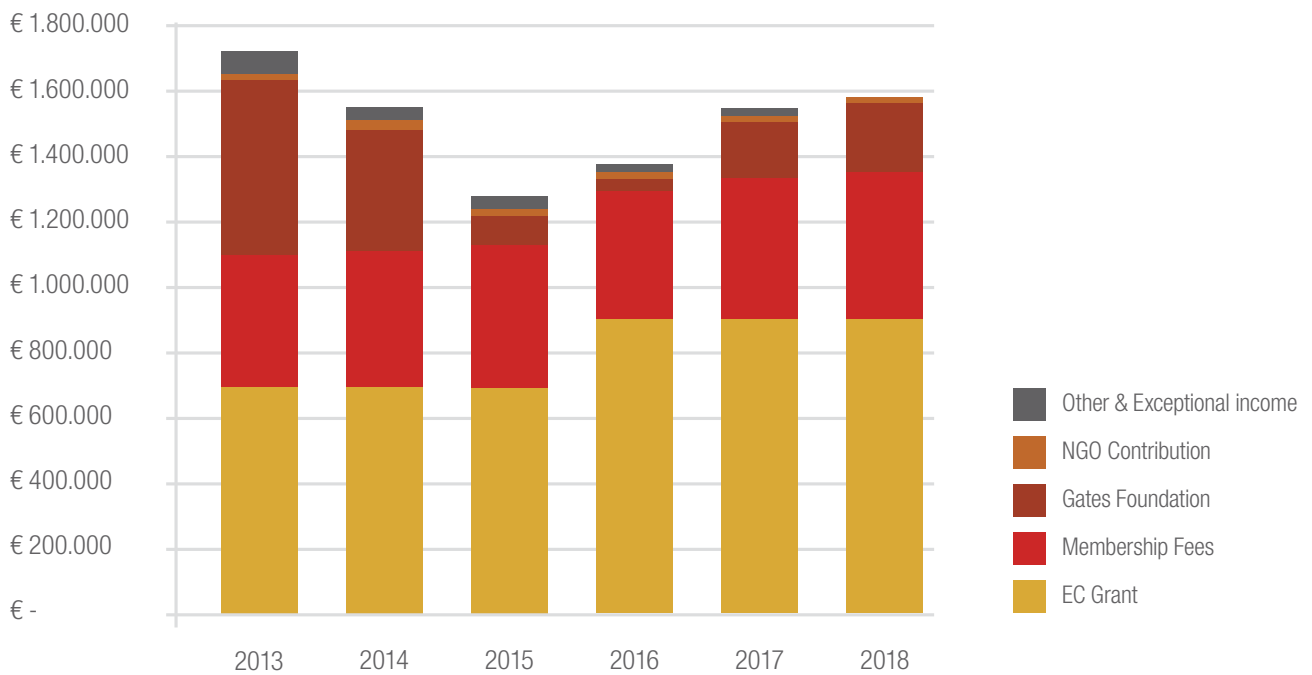
In 2018, CONCORD's total expenditure amounted to 1.586.313 € which was 36.313 € higher than forecast in the strategic budget having spent 46.510 € more on staff and the Secretariat's running costs and 10.196 € less on activities.

Compared to the strategic budget, the year-end results also show some variances with initial projections in the following areas of expenditure:

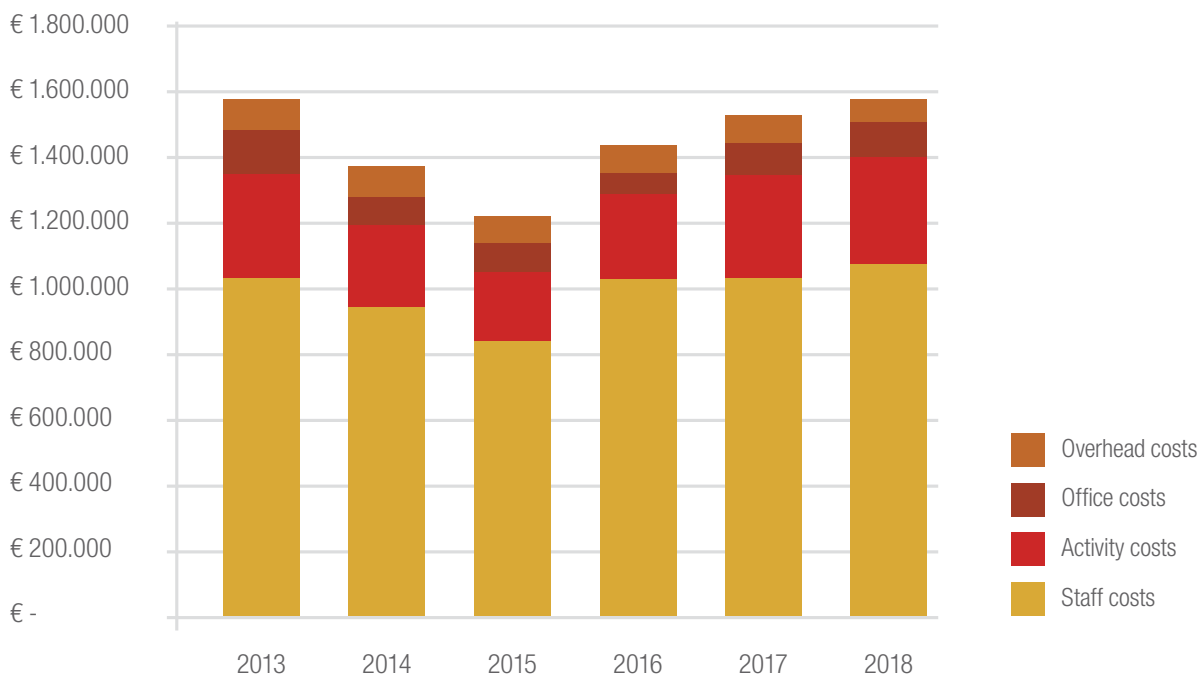
- Expenditure on travel and meetings was lower than expected because two regional workshops, scheduled to take place in Kenya and Romania to present our EU Delegations and Gender Action Plan toolkits, were cancelled. This also resulted in reduced spending on communication and logistics.
- External service costs were significantly higher than originally foreseen due primarily to the unplanned for departure of the Director which incurred additional consultancy costs when, in July 2018, CONCORD's Board requested the services of a head-hunting company to fill the open position. We also required the services of a finance consultant to help us with the unexpected European Year for Development-2015 audit and to further develop our financial systems and controls in the latter part of the year.
- Staff costs were 2.74 % higher due to an increasingly senior staff body and because of the additional policy officer hired in May.

	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals	2017 Actuals	2016 Actuals	2015 Actuals	2014 Actuals	2013 Actuals
<b>Income</b>							
Membership Fees	€ 425.000	€ 422.438	€ 415.988	€ 420.488	€ 429.720	€ 420.470	€ 425.540
NGO Contributions	€ 20.000	€ 17.100	€ 6.954	€ 19.949	€ 31.917	€ 30.800	€ 13.777
Other contributions							
	<b>€ 445.000</b>	<b>€ 439.538</b>	<b>€ 422.942</b>	<b>€ 440.437</b>	<b>€ 461.637</b>	<b>€ 451.270</b>	<b>€ 439.317</b>
EC Grant	€ 900.000	€ 900.000	€ 900.000	€ 900.000	€ 700.000	€ 700.000	€ 700.000
Public Subsidy							
	<b>€ 900.000</b>	<b>€ 900.000</b>	<b>€ 900.000</b>	<b>€ 900.000</b>	<b>€ 700.000</b>	<b>€ 700.000</b>	<b>€ 700.000</b>
Gates Foundation	€ 200.000	€ 248.661	€ 221.099	€ 39.370	€ 92.655	€ 388.407	€ 492.058
Other Income				€ 3.213	€ 12.136	€ 15.141	€ 22.533
Exceptional Income			€ 2.840		€ 99	€ 4.731	€ 50.499
	<b>€ 200.000</b>	<b>€ 248.661</b>	<b>€ 223.939</b>	<b>€ 42.583</b>	<b>€ 104.890</b>	<b>€ 408.279</b>	<b>€ 565.090</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€ 1.545.000</b>	<b>€ 1.588.199</b>	<b>€ 1.546.881</b>	<b>€ 1.383.020</b>	<b>€ 1.266.527</b>	<b>€ 1.559.549</b>	<b>€ 1.704.407</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Travel and meeting costs	€ 150.000	€ 110.811	€ 120.367	€ 102.968	€ 68.036	€ 84.904	€ 150.072
Communication & logistics	€ 45.000	€ 39.403	€ 51.276	€ 51.914	€ 60.478	€ 55.630	€ 49.556
External services	€ 125.000	€ 159.590	€ 120.003	€ 88.602	€ 78.174	€ 90.064	€ 147.281
	<b>€ 320.000</b>	<b>€ 309.804</b>	<b>€ 291.646</b>	<b>€ 243.484</b>	<b>€ 206.688</b>	<b>€ 230.598</b>	<b>€ 346.910</b>
Staff	€ 1.065.000	€ 1.094.162	€ 1.069.964	€ 1.018.430	€ 859.985	€ 959.720	€ 1.037.139
Overheads	€ 60.000	€ 63.944	€ 60.964	€ 68.913	€ 66.829	€ 77.951	€ 90.022
Offices	€ 105.000	€ 106.748	€ 109.880	€ 102.647	€ 83.438	€ 105.601	€ 116.116
Other external services					€ 20.000	€ 99.378	€ 111.123
Others		€ 11.655	€ 10.270	€ 1.096	€ 25	€ 3.645	€ 7.344
	<b>€ 1.230.000</b>	<b>€ 1.276.510</b>	<b>€ 1.251.078</b>	<b>€ 1.191.086</b>	<b>€ 1.030.278</b>	<b>€ 1.246.294</b>	<b>€ 1.361.744</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€ 1.555.000</b>	<b>€ 1.586.313</b>	<b>€ 1.542.724</b>	<b>€ 1.434.570</b>	<b>€ 1.236.966</b>	<b>€ 1.476.892</b>	<b>€ 1.708.654</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>€ (5.000)</b>	<b>€ 1.886</b>	<b>€ 4.157</b>	<b>€ (51.550)</b>	<b>€ 29.561</b>	<b>€ 82.656</b>	<b>€ (4.247)</b>

## INCOME SOURCES FROM 2013 TO 2018

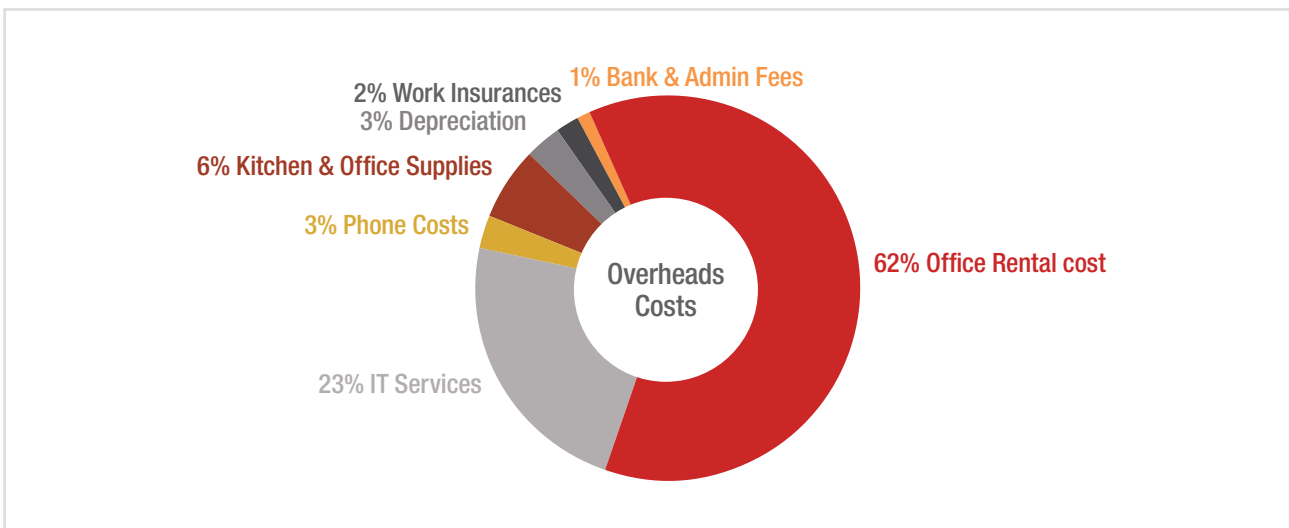
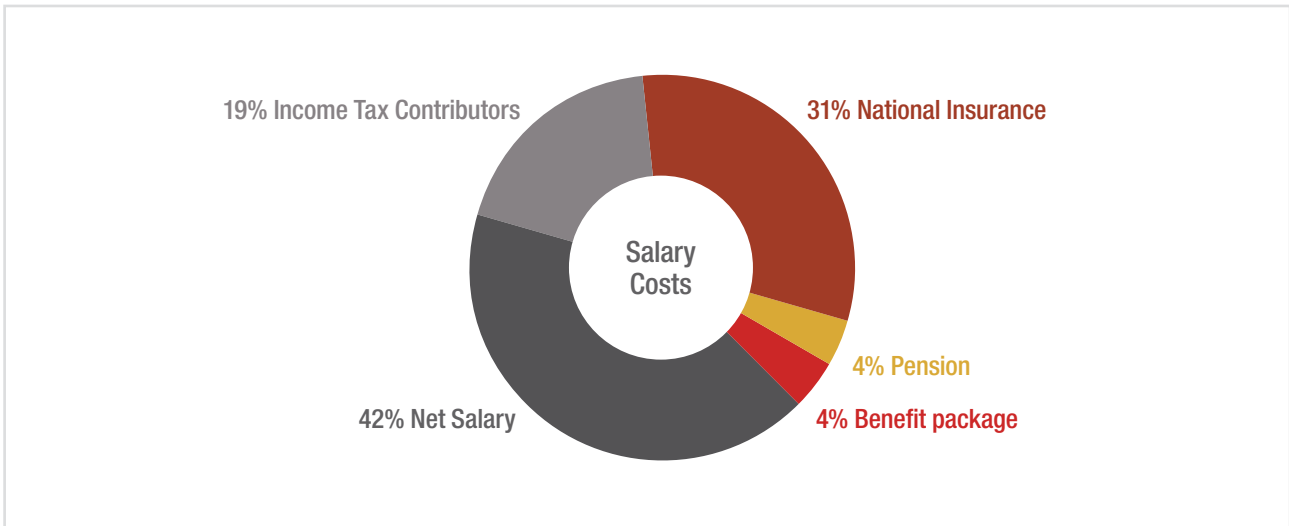
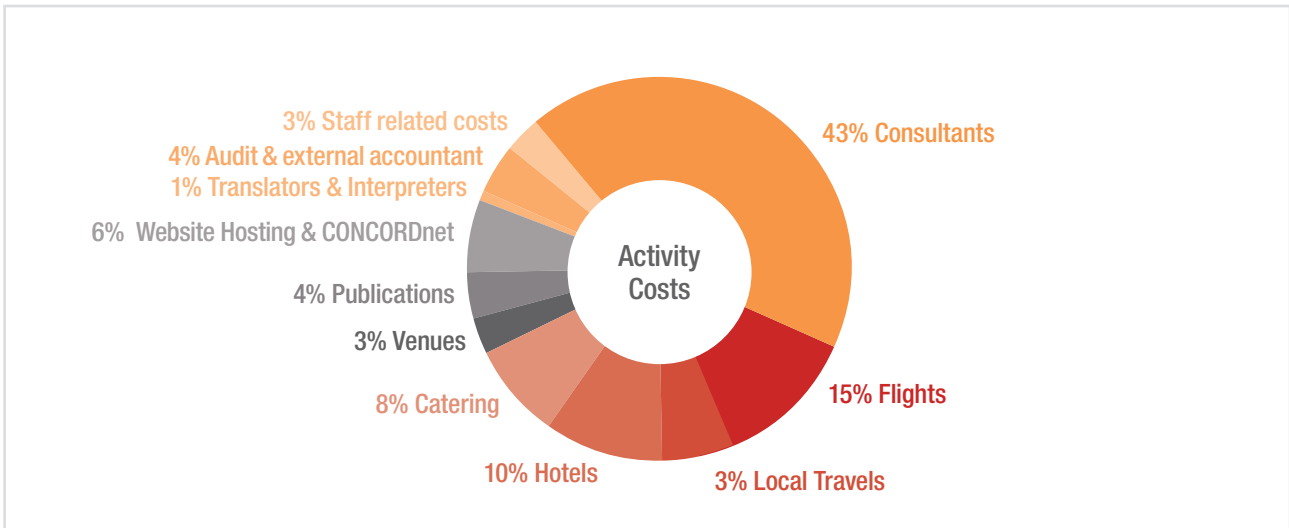


## BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES FROM 2013 TO 2018





## DETAILS OF 2018 EXPENDITURE ON ACTIVITIES, STAFFING AND OVERHEADS



## RESOURCE ALLOCATION 2018



# PARTICIPATION INSIGHTS 2018 (FORMER ACTIVITY MONITORING)

It is the third year that it has been possible to measure the participation of CONCORD members in the structures that were created to reach the goals of the current strategy. 2016 was a trial year to establish the new hubs and committees, 2017 started to demonstrate some trends in the participation of

members, and 2018 allows us to confirm or refute those trends, as well as adding a qualitative element to the assessment of CONCORD members' participation in working structures. In total the number of people involved in all these groups in 2018 is 741 (up from 630 in 2017).

TYPE	NAME	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERS REPRESENTED	FEMALE	MALE
HUBS	Hub 1: Sustainable Development & Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development	179 (151 in 2017, 126 in 2016)	117 from NPs (National Platforms) 59 from NWs (Networks) 3 from AS (Associate Members)	103	41
	Hub 2: Financing for Development	90 (87 in 2017, 79 in 2016)	66 from NPs 23 from NWs 1 from AS	56	31
	Hub 3: Promoting Civil Society Space	249 <sup>1</sup> (190 in 2017, 130 in 2016)	139 from NPs 106 from NWs 4 from AS	167	41
	Hub 4: Global Citizenship Education & People Engagement	75 (64 in 2017, 54 in 2016)	60 from NPs 10 from NWs 5 from AS	63	8
TRANSVERSAL GROUP	Gender Reference Group	24 (24 in 2017, 50 in 2016)	10 from NPs 13 from NWs 1 from AS	23	1
COMMITTEES	Financial Advisory Committee	5 (6 in 2017, 3 in 2016)	3 from NPs 2 from NWs	2	3
	Inclusive Network Committee	9 (11 in 2017, 9 in 2016)	7 from NPs 2 from NWs	7	2
	Policy Direction Committee	12 (12 in 2017, 13 in 2016)	8 from NPs 4 from NWs	9	3
GOVERNANCE	General Assembly (Delegates)	88 (75 in 2017, 82 in 2016)	48 from NPs 35 from NWs 5 from AS	n/a	n/a
	Board	10	7 from NPs 3 from NWs	5	5

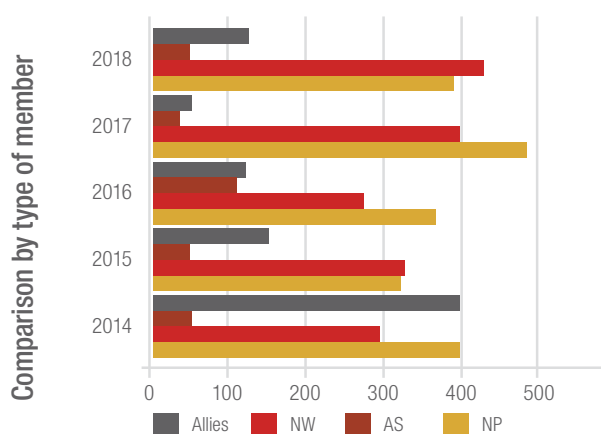
<sup>1</sup> The number of people involved in Hub 3 also includes those who meet regularly to follow the Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF) process, which has augmented the figures.

## PHYSICAL MEETINGS

### Internal meetings

We registered 73 **internal meetings** in 2018, with a total number of participants of 1013 people. In 2018 the participation can be divided between National Platforms 38 %, Networks 43 %, Associated Members 5 % and Allies 14 %.

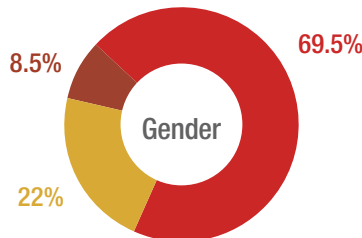
If we compare the data with that of 2016 and 2017, we can see that the number of meetings continued to increase (from 26 in 2016 and 61 in 2017 to 73) and the total participation increased as well (from 703 to 961 to 1013). There are a couple of potential explanations for this. The new structures were still being put in place in 2016, so activity was able to increase during 2017 and 2018. It could also be simply that members of the team coordinating the meetings are more involved in the collection and verification of data.



This comparison shows that the share of national platform participation decreased significantly in 2018. The share of participation has gone from 52% to 50% to 38% with an increase of network participation from 34% to 41% to 43%.

Associated members participation remains at a similar level but after a big drop in 2017, when the hubs discussed how they want to work with them, allies are participating more in CONCORD meetings than in the last two years.

Regarding gender balance women are more highly represented than men in CONCORD meetings, as has always been the case.



**Transversal events** are not linked with any particular structure. In 2018 those events were the Learning and Exchange Forum members' event and a workshop on EU Presidencies that was held for national platforms in countries holding those presidencies in the coming months. The total participation in transversal events was 45 people, 65% National Platforms, 22% Networks, 2% Associate members and 11% allies. Gender balance was 53% women, 40% men and 7% did not specify.

**External events** are organised by CONCORD and open to non-members, such as publication launches, breakfasts with stakeholders, etc. There were 4 external events: 3 organised under hub 3; and 1 under hub 4. The total participation in these external events was 187 people from 53 national platforms (28%); 34 networks (18%); 5 associated members (3%); 45 allies (24%) and 50 EU staff (27%). 64% were women, 33% men and 3% did not say.

## WEBINARS

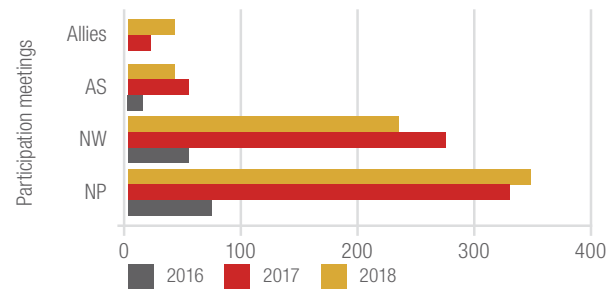
The CONCORD Secretariat staff organised 102 webinars in 2018 with a total of 637 participants. 53% of the participants were from national platforms, 37% from networks, 5% associated members and 5% allies. 64% of participants were women and 35% were men. The rest did not specify.

If we compare overall physical meeting numbers and webinar numbers, we can see that more networks (often with members in Brussels) are attending meetings, and more national platforms are involved in webinars. Sometimes network representatives are also involved in webinars when they come into the CONCORD office to take part, this is however not included in this report's statistics.

From these 102 webinars, 43 were organised by Hub 1 with 249 participants, 14 by Hub 2 with 70 participants, 28 by Hub 3 with 228 participants, 11 by Hub 4 with 66 participants, 1 by the inclusive network committee with 6 participants, 2 by the policy direction committee with 5 participants, 2 by the financial advisory committee with 10 participants, 1 by the board with 3 participants, and 6 other webinars with 42 participants.

The figures for 2016 are particularly low because data is only available for September-December when the Secretariat changed service provider from Arkadin to Webex and therefore

## Webinar comparison by participant



had no access to data for participation to Arkadin webinars from January to August 2016. This can partly explain the exponential increase of the amount of webinars and participation in 2017, but even if we multiply the numbers of 2016 by three we are still well below the numbers of 2017 and 2018. It seems that since the structures are well in place they have developed their ways of working, including the regular use of webinars.

## QUALITATIVE DATA

A total of 192<sup>1</sup> assessment forms were collected following ten meetings (two hub meetings for each hub, the Learning and Exchange Forum and the General Assembly), which had a total of 413 participants. These evaluations allow us to make the following broad observations:

### Before the Meeting

The majority of participants prepare for these major meetings, at least partially. More members prepare alone than prepare with colleagues. There is some variation across hubs and other types of meeting about the preferred ways of preparing. This might be reading background documents, preparing with other peers or joining webinars. Nearly all participants find the agenda useful for their preparation.

### During the Meeting

Participants overwhelmingly thought that the methodology chosen in the meetings was the tool that best facilitated active participation. It was also felt strongly that time spent on community building helps. The CONCORD Guide for newcomers/hubs was seen as a useful tool and although no meetings used a buddying system, interest was shown in this tool. In general, participants saw the hub meetings and the other major meetings as good places to connect with other members, Secretariat staff and allies but less so with decision-makers.

### After the Meeting

When asked, participants say they will share and discuss the outcomes of the meetings with peers in their organisations, and consider the outcomes useful for their own targets and constituencies. For follow up work, groups are not in line about their preferred method - some prefer webinars, others email, others group discussions with peers, but it is clear that the meetings are part of longer term processes that continue after the events themselves.

<sup>1</sup> This number does not take into account the number of evaluation forms submitted after the Hub 2 autumn meeting since although a summary was available, it did not specify the number of evaluation forms on which it was based.

# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

CONCORD launched the following publications in 2018. This list includes reports, letters, papers, media pieces and digital outcomes.

## JANUARY

REPORT: [Partnership or conditionality? - Monitoring the Migration Compacts and EU Trust Fund for Africa](#)  
- available in **Czech**, **French** and **Spanish**.

REPORT: [Une feuille de route en 10 points pour l'Europe. Le rôle du secteur privé dans le développement](#)  
[French translation of the "[10 point roadmap for Europe on the role of the private sector in development](#)"]

## FEBRUARY

REPORT: [AidWatch 2018 Security Aid - Fostering development, or serving European donors' national interests?](#)

POSITION: ["Towards a sustainable Europe by 2030" on the follow-up to the UN SDGs, including on the Paris Agreement on climate change](#)

POSITION: [CONCORD recommendations to put People and Planet first in the future EU-ACP agreement](#)

MEDIA REACTION: [CONCORD reaction to reports of sexual exploitation and abuse by NGO staff](#)

POSITION: [Towards Global Compacts on refugees and on migration - Lessons learnt from the externalisation of migration and asylum policies implemented by the EU](#)

## MARCH

REPORT: [Global Citizenship Education in Europe: How much do we care?](#)

REPORT: [AidWatch 2018 Aid and migration - The externalisation of Europe's responsibilities](#)

INFOGRAPHICS: [Infographics on aid and migration](#)

POSITION: [Analysis and recommendations on the promotion of civic space and enabling environment in EU external action](#)

VIDEO: [Interview with Million Belay on agro-ecology](#)

JOINT LETTER: [EU Budget: Ahead of ministerial conference](#)

## APRIL

POSITION: [CONCORD's concern and redlines on the European Commission proposal for a single External Instrument](#)

MEDIA PIECE: [Aid shrinks as refugee costs decrease – System failure exposed](#)

## MAY

PAPER: [Briefing paper on the EU Country Roadmaps for engagement with Civil Society](#)

MEDIA PIECE: [EU budget: Development aid low-ranked in favour of EU's own political interests](#)

REPORT: [CONCORD Annual Report 2017 - Our biggest achievements](#)

PAPER: [CONCORD's responses to the Public Consultation on the Evaluation of the EU's Policy Coherence for Development](#)

POSITION: [Building Bricks for Heading VI: Neighbourhood and the World](#)

POSITION: [Future EU External Action on Migration - What the EU should be financing when migration is a predominant area of external action](#)

## JUNE

REPORT: [Women's Rights and Trade - Time for a radical shift](#)

MEDIA REACTION: [Reaction to Aquarius case: We stand for a Europe of global solidarity with migrants crossing the Mediterranean](#)

MEDIA PIECE: [EU budget: development aid blended with foreign policy objectives](#)

VIDEOS: [EU budget 2021-2027 - #Budget4Solidarity](#)

MEDIA REACTION: [European Council's measures on migration: ineffective, costly and against Human Rights](#)

POSITION: [What European Member States and Commission must remember while committing new funds to the EU Trust Fund for Africa](#)

JOINT LETTER: [EU Budget: Ahead of European Council](#)

## AUGUST

PAPER: [CONCORD Analysis of NDICI](#)

## SEPTEMBER

MEDIA REACTION: [CONCORD's reaction to Juncker's speech "State of the Union" 2018](#)

REPORT: [Transforming lives? EU Gender Action Plan II - From Implementation to Impact](#)

PAPER: [SDGs' implementation: Good practices from across Europe](#)

MEDIA REACTION: [Sustainable development, not EU immediate interests, must guide the successor of the Cotonou Agreement](#)

CAMPAIGN: [The EU Crystal Ball](#)

PAPER: [Thematic programmes in the future EU External Instrument](#)

LETTER: [EU budget: Ahead of the Informal Foreign Affairs Council Meeting](#)

## OCTOBER

REPORT: [Development is going digital - Digital4Development background paper](#)

JOINT PAPER: [Europe moving towards a sustainable future - Contribution of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform on the implementation of the Sustainable Goals in the EU](#)

REPORT: [CONCORD AidWatch 2018 - EU Aid: a broken ladder?](#)

INFOGRAPHIC: [AidWatch 2018 - Key figures](#)

LETTER: [EU Migration policy and cooperation with third countries in the 18th October 2018 - European Council meeting](#)

MEDIA PIECE: [Migration is not a problem to be 'managed' – The real concern is inequality](#)

PAPER: [Addressing inequality through EU development cooperation - CONCORD responses to the stakeholder consultation](#)

## NOVEMBER

PAPER: [The impact of EU policies in the world. Seeing the bigger picture - one year on](#)

JOINT LETTER: [EU budget: Ahead of the Foreign Affairs Council](#)

PAPER (EN): [CONCORD recommendations on CAP and PCD](#)

PAPER (FR): [Recommandations de CONCORD sur la PAC et la cohérence des politiques au service du développement \(PCD\)](#)

JOINT STATEMENT: [Democracy under attack - A call for action](#)

## DECEMBER

LETTER: [MFF letter](#)

MEDIA PIECE: [Future EU Budget delay? Funding gap could put vital development aid at risk](#)

# ANNEXES - MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

MEMBERS	FEES 207	PAID 2017	FEES 2018	PAID 2018
ACT ALLIANCE EU	€ 18,000.00	€ 18,000.00	€ 18,000.00	€ 18,000.00
ACTION AID INTERNATIONAL	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00
ADRA	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00
ALDA	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00
AKU (ESTONIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
CONCORD ITALIA (ITALY)	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00
BOND (UK)	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00
BPID (BULGARIA)	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
CARE INTERNATIONAL	€ 13,000.00	€ 13,000.00	€ 13,000.00	€ 13,000.00
CARITAS EUROPA	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00
CBM	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
CERCLE (LUXEMBOURG)	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
CHILD FUND ALLIANCE	€ 4,500.00	€ 4,500.00	€ 4,500.00	€ 4,500.00
CIDSE	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00
CONCORD BELGIUM (BELGIUM)	€ 16,500.00	€ 16,500.00	€ 16,500.00	€ 16,500.00
CONCORD SWEDEN (SWEDEN)	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00
COORDINADORA (SPAIN)	€ 6,000.00	€ 6,000.00	€ 6,000.00	€ 6,000.00
COORDINATION SUD (FRANCE)	€ 15,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 15,000.00
CROSOL (CROATIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
DOCHAS (IRELAND)	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00
EU-CORD	€ 6,500.00	€ 6,500.00	€ 6,500.00	€ 6,500.00
EAEA	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
FOND (ROMANIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
FORS (CZECH REPUBLIC)	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00
GLOBALE VERANTWORTUNG (AU)	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€ 8,000.00
GLOBALT FOKUS (DENMARK)	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
GNDR	-	-	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00
HELLENIC PLATFORM (GREECE)	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
GRUPA ZAGRANICA (POLAND)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
HAND (HUNGARY)	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
HUMANITY & INCLUSION	€ 4,770.00	€ 4,770.00	€ 4,770.00	€ 4,770.00
IPPF EUROPEAN NETWORK	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00	€ 12,720.00
ISLAMIC RELIEF	€ 7,500.00	€ 7,500.00	€ 7,500.00	€ 7,500.00
FINGO (FINLAND)	€ 10,000.00	€ 10,000.00	€ 10,000.00	€ 10,000.00
LAPAS (LATVIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
LU (LITHUANIA)	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
MVRO (SLOVAKIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
OXFAM INTERNATIONAL	€ 14,000.00	€ 14,000.00	€ 14,000.00	€ 14,000.00
PARTOS (NETHERLANDS)	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00
PLAN INTERNATIONAL EUROPE	€ 12,700.00	€ 12,700.00	€ 12,700.00	€ 12,700.00
PLATAFORMA ONGD (PORTUGAL)	€ 3,880.00	€ 3,880.00	€ 3,880.00	€ 3,880.00
SAVE THE CHILDREN EU	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
SKOP (MALTA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
SLOGA (SLOVENIA)	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
SOLIDAR	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE	€ 12,500.00	€ 12,500.00	€ 12,500.00	€ 12,500.00
TERRE DES HOMMES	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00
VENRO (GERMANY)	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00	€ 20,000.00
WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€ 16,000.00
WWF	€ 9,198.00	€ 9,198.00	€ 9,198.00	€ 9,198.00
	<b>€ 415,988.00</b>	<b>€ 415,988.00</b>	<b>€ 418,488.00</b>	<b>€ 418,488.00</b>

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<p><b>GLOBAL FOCUS</b> Danish CSOs for Development Cooperation</p>		<p><b>KEHYS</b> </p>	<p><b>Coordination SUD</b> Solidarité Urgence Développement</p>	<p><b>VENRO</b> ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AID NGOs</p>	<p> Hellenic Platform for Development</p>	
<p><b>Dochas</b> The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations</p>	<p>Network of the CNCD in Europe for the sviluppo e progresso <b>CONCORD ITALIA</b></p>	<p><b>LAPAS</b> WWW.LAPAS.LV</p>	<p>Lithuanian National Non-Governmental Development Cooperation Organisations Platform <b>LITDEA</b></p>	<p><b>Cercle de coopération</b> des ONGS DU LUXEMBOURG</p>	<p> <b>SKOP</b> Solidarjeta u Koperazzjoni</p>	
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<p> <b>bond</b></p>	<p><b>NETWORKS</b></p>	<p><b>actalliance eu</b> Formally AMCODEV</p>	<p><b>act:onaid</b></p>	<p> <b>ADRA</b></p>	<p> <b>care</b></p>	<p> <b>caritas europa</b></p>
<p> <b>cbm</b> together we can do more</p>	<p><b>ChildFund Alliance</b></p>	<p><b>CIDSE</b> together for global justice</p>	<p><b>eu:cord</b> European Citizen Organisations for Better and Development</p>	<p> <b>GNDR</b> Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction</p>	<p> <b>Habitat for Humanity</b> Europe, Middle East and Africa</p>	<p> <b>HelpAge</b> global network</p>
<p> <b>humanity &amp; inclusion</b></p>	<p> <b>GIPPF</b> International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network</p>	<p> <b>ISLAMIC RELIEF</b></p>	<p> <b>LIGHT FOR THE WORLD</b></p>	<p> <b>OXFAM International</b></p>	<p> <b>PLAN INTERNATIONAL</b></p>	<p> <b>Save the Children</b></p>
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