European Movement International

Work Plan 2020

Table of Contents

1 Introduction

2 Statutory Activities and other internal meetings
   2.1 Federal Assembly
   2.2 Members' Council
   2.3 Board Meetings
   2.4 National Councils meeting and International Associations meeting

3 Networking and Capacity-Building Activities

4 Content-based activities: Communications, Events and Policy
   4.1 Democracy, citizen participation and fundamental values
   4.2 A social, sustainable and prosperous Europe
   4.3 Europe in the World

5 Project-oriented activities
   5.1 Democracy Alive
   5.2 Listen to Europe
   5.3 Europe Day 2020
   5.4 European Democracy Group
   5.5 On Our Watch
   5.6 The Women of Europe Awards 2020
   5.7 Investing in the Future of Europe
1 Introduction

The European Movement International is a non-profit association aiming to contribute to the establishment of a united Europe founded on the principles of peace, democracy, liberty, solidarity, and respect for basic human rights. The European Movement brings together a large spectrum of organisations, including National Councils (33), International Associations (34) and Supporting Members (7).

The members of the European Movement International are united through a network that allows the European Movement to fulfil its role as a promoter of active participation of citizens, organised civil society, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties and local authorities in the debates that affect Europe's challenges and the future of the European project.

In 2020 the European Movement International will continue to strengthen and broaden its network through an active strategy of new members’ recruitment and the establishment of National Councils in countries where the European Movement currently no presence or activities. This plan focuses on increasing the support base of the European Movement International and its ability to reach out to more citizens across Europe through organised civil society, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties, and local authorities.

In order to fulfil its objectives, the European Movement International will seek to find the right balance between promoting the active involvement of civil society organisations, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties and local authorities through the promotion of dialogue among all stakeholders at the European level, and the active participation of European citizens through activities oriented towards the general public, with the involvement of the European Movement's National Councils. As in past years, the main goal will be to narrow the gap between citizens and the European Institutions through an enhanced communication strategy that involves building a platform upon which civil society, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties and local authorities and the different levels of government come together to debate and shape the direction of the European project.

In 2020, the European Movement’s activities will lead by the priorities and annual work programme of the new European Commission, the Croatian and German presidencies of the Council of the EU and the work areas of the European Parliament. Through a triangle composed of communications, events and policy, the European Movement International will continue to offer thought leadership and inform the debates on the issues that confront Europe, involve citizens and stakeholders in the decisions that affect them, influence policy-makers in favour of an open, inclusive, sustainable and transparent Europe. In this context, we will continue to address the empowerment and participation of all citizens, will work to improve the democratic governance and legitimacy of the EU by improved civil dialogue, enhanced transparency and quality of the consultation processes.
2 Statutory Activities and other internal meetings

In 2020, the European Movement International will convene one meeting of its Federal Assembly, one meeting of its Members' Council and four meetings of its Board.

2.1 Federal Assembly

The 2020 meeting of the Federal Assembly (FA) is planned to take place in November 2020 in Berlin (exact date to be confirmed). It will gather around 100 delegates from all over Europe, representing the European Movement International's Members, its Board, staff and external guests. In addition to the statutory procedures, which will include the election of the Board and President, the Federal Assembly will be an opportunity to

2.2 Members' Council

The 2020 meeting of the Members' Council (MC) will take place in May 2020 during the Croatian EU Presidency. It will gather delegates from all over Europe, representing the European Movement International's Members, its Board, staff and external guests.

2.3 Board Meetings

The Board will meet four times in 2020 and the meetings' dates will be agreed by the Board at its final 2019 meeting. The Board meetings are to be attended by the Board members and supported by staff members.

2.4 National Councils meeting and International Associations meeting

As initiated in the last four years, the European Movement International Secretariat will organise its annual Heads of Office meeting in two separate gatherings:
- The International Associations meeting will gather representatives of our associative members;
- The National Councils meeting will bring together representatives of our national sections from all over Europe.
3 Networking and Capacity-Building Activities

The European Movement International Network is currently composed by **74 Member Organisations**, which includes **33 National Councils, 34 International Associations** and **7 Supporting Members**. Looking at the network as a whole, we still need to take into consideration important disparities regarding the size and capacities of respective members. While some are at a very advanced stage concerning the structure, resources and capacities, others are still in a developing phase, trying to grow and consolidate their activities, as well as organisational structures. The European Movement International will maintain its efforts to **attract new Members** by developing target group-oriented actions. At the same time, we will continue to work on **strengthening the capacities** of the already existing ones. We shall do so by organising opportunities for exchange among the European associations, regional cooperation projects and other capacity-building opportunities aimed at the National Councils. The European Movement International dedicates its work-power equally to all Members and, likewise, focuses both on political communication and political representation.

In 2020, the European Movement International will keep constant contact with its partners in civil society, trade unions, employer organisations, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties, local authorities and the media, in order to further develop cooperation. Moreover, we will strive to establish new partnerships to strengthen the network. The aim of the European Movement International is to further develop itself as an essential aggregating pole of European-minded civil society and the aforementioned stakeholders, both at national and pan-European level. In order to fulfil this objective, our organisation builds upon its reputation while improving its image and efficiency as a space for dialogue, exchange and co-operation.

With that in mind, the we will continue to develop our **communication tools**, which are crucial for both visibility and capacity-building. Members are encouraged to share their news and events to be featured on the European Movement International website. The information posted on the EMI website will also be regularly disseminated via the European Movement International's social media channels and members newsletter to allow for greater sharing of different member organisation's activities from across the network. Additional communication channels will be used to facilitate the effective exchange of information within the network.

In 2020, the European Movement International will continue to develop its newsletters and communication platforms in order to highlight relevant EU policy areas and events, as well as to increase our communication outreach and engagement with our audiences. Moreover, we will offer members various platforms and templates that facilitate information sharing, notably through policy updates, weekly network updates, weekly institutional calendars, bi-annual semester calendars and social media.

In 2020 the European Movement International also plans to organise **briefing events, roundtables, conferences and workshops** on diverse European topics in line with the current European agenda and the European Movement International's policy priorities. These events will not only take place in Brussels, but also Europe-wide, in cooperation with its National Councils and International Associations as well as organisation outside our network. These types of events have proven to be successful, both in terms of content and attendance. While bringing together representatives of the European Institutions and civil society organisations, trade unions, businesses, sectoral interests, academia, political parties and local authorities, the briefings allow for debates around new ideas for Europe and discussing the role of the aforementioned stakeholders in the context of participatory democracy in different areas of policy making.
These activities are also a powerful instrument for attracting new members. The visibility they offer to the European Movement International shows the importance of such events in the current European context.

Last but not least, in order to promote an effective and fluid communication between the Members, the European Movement International's Board and International Office, regular contacts with the European Associations will be further exercised and visits to the National Councils will be planned and conducted by Board and/or International Office Members.

4 Content-based activities: Communications, Events and Policy

The content-based activities will be developed on the basis of the European Movement International's Strategic Priorities for 2018-2020 as well as key events and policy developments in EU. While the European Movement International will continue to organise its work around a triangle composed by communications, events and policy, the International Office will ensure that the network's priorities are echoed throughout our activities in 2020.

Coordinated by the International Office, the three Political Committees, which operate in line with the Strategic Priorities, will be closely involved in the development of policy positions, briefing papers and relevant output and activities of the European Movement International. These Political Committees will meet in the fringes of the Statutory Meetings and whenever deemed necessary and are open to all Members.

In 2020, the political agenda of Europe will be guided by the Croatian and German presidencies of the Council of the EU, in line with the European Council's EU Strategic Agenda for 2019-2024 and alongside the longterm priorities and 2020 work programme of the European Commission and the work areas of the European Parliament. While taking into account the key debates and events that will shape 2020, the European Movement International will prioritise several topics headed under each strategic priority group. The EMI Policy Summary, produced in 2019, will be used throughout 2020 and beyond, to communicate the networks political priorities with external stakeholders.

4.1 Democracy, citizen participation and fundamental values

- **Citizen participation and transparency**
  The European Movement International will update its thinking on citizen participation and the future of European democracy as well as transparency at institutional level, responding to developments at the European Parliament and European Commission and citizen outreach. This will be accompanied by communication activities and events where appropriate. With a view towards the European elections in 2024, we will start influencing the debate around the reforms of the EU electoral system, while advocating for the introduction of transnational lists and the strengthening of the “Spitzenkandidaten” system. Moreover, we will dedicate part of our policy and advocacy work to enhance EU legitimacy through increased accountability and transparency in the European Parliament, the Commission, the Council of the European Union and its representations.

- **European values and the rule of law**
  In the context of developments in Member States and at EU level, the European Movement International will continue its work around the Rule of Law, democracy and fundamental values, through its policy and advocacy work, communications and events. For this, we will
also continue to bring together stakeholders from different backgrounds, working specifically in these areas, demonstrating the European Movement International as the platform to discuss European values and citizens' rights. In times when civic space in Europe is shrinking, the European Movement International will use the negotiations and debate around the next multiannual financial framework in 2020 as an opportunity to advocate for the protection of European values, the rule of law, civic rights and the promotion of civil society organisations.

- **Conference on the Future of Europe**
  We will continue to monitor and influence developments in particular around the ‘Conference on the Future of Europe’ (CoFoE), initiated by the von der Leyen Commission and expected to launch in 2020. By contributing with our network's expertise and outreach, we aim to help improve and shape the conference to make it a tool for participatory democracy.

- **Migration, integration, and freedom of movement**
  Following the previous communication- and policy work in the field of migration and integration, the European Movement International will continue to express its viewpoints on the matter. The preservation of freedom of movement, the Schengen area and labour mobility will be one of the focus points in policy-, communication- and events work.

### 4.2 A social, sustainable and prosperous Europe

- **Sustainability and the European Green Deal**
  In 2020, the European Movement International will prioritise sustainability as one of its working areas, as we have previously done so, by using a holistic approach to address the topic from an environmental, economic and social perspective. We intend to use the opportunity of the expected Commission's proposal of a European Green Deal, to respond with thinking and proposals on how environmental protection, economic development and social rights and inclusion can be harmonised. Our communications and events will reflect this thinking, while we continue to push for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals by involving stakeholders at all levels.

- **EU Single Market**
  The Single market is one of the key achievements of the European Union, it brings with it many benefits for citizens that we tend to take for granted, including the freedom of movement as well as the boost it gives to competition and trade in Europe. In order to create greater awareness and understanding for the EU's internal market and the advantages it brings to citizens, we plan to bring together our network's expertise and produce new thinking that will be supported by communications, events and further activities.

- **EMU and Own Resources**
  In 2020, the European Movement International will continue its efforts to influence the debate and decision-making on the deepening of the EMU and the introduction of own resources in the next multiannual financial framework, using our policy positions, advocacy and communication tools, and actively involve all relevant stakeholders.
• **European Pillar of Social Rights**
  The European Movement International will continue its activities and communications to advocate for a stronger European social dimension and the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, in close cooperation with its members and other relevant stakeholders.

• **Youth, Education and Skills**
  With youth rights, education and skills remaining a big priority for the European Movement International will dedicate part of its work in 2020 to this policy area, including its members and further stakeholders to actively support the various initiatives regarding the empowerment of youth, through more investment in education, digital skills, lifelong learning, quality internships and jobs.

### 4.3 Europe in the World

• **Foreign affairs, security and defence cooperation**
  EU foreign and security policy remains a work in progress, but there is a clear momentum to strengthen the EU’s global position and allow citizens worldwide to benefit. The European Movement International will continue to engage with these debates on a European scale and implement concerted action in the field of policy, events and communication in the context of these debates.

• **Globalisation and trade**
  In the light of shifting powers on the world stage, the European Movement International aims to increase its presence in the debates on globalisation and international trade by organising public debates and developing its policies and communication on key issues.

• **Withdrawal of the UK from the EU**
  Building on the thinking and communication materials produced around the UK’s withdrawal from the EU, the European Movement International will continue to emphasise the need to respect citizens’ rights in the ongoing negotiations and will highlight the importance of maintaining a close and strategic partnership between the EU and the UK after the transition period.

• **Enlargement**
  The European Movement International will continue to follow the developments around enlargement and produce policy output and activities that advocate in favour of enlargement. The role of civil society organisations in enlargement will remain a particular focus as well as the emphasis of the enlargement process as a way to strengthen democratic societies, increase regional stability, promote peace and enhance citizens’ rights and freedoms.

• **Contributing to a better world**
  When working on the above issues, the European Movement International will take the following ‘horizontal’ issues into account: strengthening Europe's role in conflict prevention and resolution, peace-building and peace-keeping; promoting human rights, the rule of law and democracy all over the world; and supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Developments Goals globally. Specific policy-, advocacy- and communication activities will be developed in these areas in response to developments throughout 2020.
5. Project-oriented Activities

Next to its broader policy, events and communications work, the European Movement International also works on a variety of projects and project-oriented activities together with its members and other relevant stakeholders. In addition to the project activities described below, the European Movement International will continue to support its National Councils and International Associations in establishing transnational cooperation, e.g. by suggesting initiatives, providing support in the application for grants or the implementation of projects, also as co- or leading applicants for calls. Projects that illustrate and emphasize the aspects of pan-European cooperation and best practices’ exchange will therefore continue to be developed, whenever possible. While in 2020 we plan to strengthen the below-mentioned ongoing projects, we are also in the process of establishing new projects and partnerships. The implementation of these projects will depend on the funding that can be obtained.

5.1 Democracy Alive

Following a successful celebration of European Democracy ahead of the European Elections this year, 2020 will see Democracy Alive further develop and expand as an on-line community where activists from across Europe can come together and take action to defend, strengthen and promote European democracy. Our ‘Action Centre’ will provide a platform for users to take part in weekly campaigns and promote the issues they feel passionately about.

5.2 Listen to Europe

Building on the polling that the European Movement International commissioned in 2019, looking at the drivers of behaviours and attitudes of citizens in 13 European Union member states towards democracy and authoritarianism, 2020 will offer a chance to further develop the website (www.listentoeurope.info), reach out to more pro-European organisations and activists and help them develop capacity-building activities as well as communication and campaigning strategies for civil society.

5.3 Europe Day 2020

As every year, we will commemorate the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration on 9 May 2020. In close cooperation with its Members, and with the support of the European Commission, the European Movement International will develop a wide range of activities involving citizens across Europe. In order to reach out to even more citizens, the European Movement International will seek the support of many local, national and European partners with the objective of bridging the gap between citizens and the European institutions. The use of a common visual identity and materials will help the EMI to increase the European dimension of the events and to give more visibility to the celebrations. Moreover, to strengthen the network, several meetings (physical and/or via Skype) will be organised prior to the celebrations to build up a common strategy of action and exchange material and good practices.
5.4 European Democracy Group
Building on its work in the area of European democracy, the European Movement International and Carnegie Europe will continue to regularly convene a selected group of European civil society representatives, EU policymakers and representatives from academia, think tanks and the media, dedicated to improving the quality and future of democracy in the European Union. In January 2020, the group plans to organise an event around the launch of a join report that discusses ways to improve European democracy. Further activities to broaden the scope and outreach of the project will be organised in 2020.

5.5 On Our Watch
In 2020, the On Our Watch project will continue to serve as a platform to strengthen civil society cooperation on specific policy areas and issues, informing citizens about civil society's actions and create awareness for these activities vis-à-vis the European Parliament and the European Commission. The first stage of the On Our Watch project, developed in 2016-2017, was to reflect on what the Parliament had achieved in the past years, and to check up on the progress made against politicians' promises and citizens' demands. Ahead of the European Elections 2019, civil society organisations could use the project as a platform to publish and promote their pledges and demands towards candidates for the European Parliament. In 2020 will see the core partners and an expanding group of contributors further develop the online and offline activities, adapt the content to the new European Parliament and Commission and create further awareness for civil society's priorities.

5.6 The Women of Europe Awards 2020
The 2019 awards will be the 4th edition of the Women of Europe Awards, which was relaunched in 2015 and builds on the original Woman of Europe Award as well as the national awards of several of its National Councils. The Awards, organised in cooperation with the European Women's Lobby, focus on highlighting and enhancing the role of women in European integration. Building on the work and winners of the past years, the possibility for an internal network of former Award winners and other interested members will be explored.

5.7 Investing in the Future of Europe
In partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Movement International will continue to organise events across Europe in the context of the series 'Investing in the Future of Europe'. Featuring debates in different EU Member States and accession countries and involving members of civil society, EU institutions, national governments, and further stakeholders such as businesses and employer organisations, the events offers a much-needed opportunity to highlight the benefits of European integration and to discuss how to invest in the European Union and the well-being of its citizens. The events are organised with the support of the respective European Movement's national offices and are supported by a communication campaign in line with the project's core messages. Since its launch in 2017, the series has already seen events in numerous European countries, including Poland, France, Serbia, Ireland, Denmark, Estonia, Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Finland. 2020 will be an opportunity to bring the debates to even more European countries and to further develop the communications strategy supporting the events and their core messages.