

European Movement International

Work Plan 2024

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 Europe Day 2024
- 5.2. Together for Europe (re-granting to National Councils)
- 5.3 Listen to People: Effectively and Positively Persuading Audiences Beyond Our Echo Chambers
- 5.4 The Women of Europe Awards 2024
- 5.5 Just EU & ME
- 5.6 Stronger Together
- 5.7 Investing in the Future of Europe
- 5.8 Reshaping European Advances towards green Leadership Through Deliberative Approaches and Learning (REAL _DEAL project)
- 5.9 The Social Partners as shapers and makers of Social Europe: discovering foundations and futures (SHAPE)
- 5.10 Express 2 Specify and Protect the EU Social Contract (EXPRESS2)
- 5.11 Road to European Elections
- 5.12 Stronger Connected

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 (34), International Associations (38) and Supporting Members (5).

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 2024 the European Movement International will continue to strengthen and broaden its network through an active strategy of recruiting new members and establishing and rebuilding National Councils in countries where the European Movement currently has no presence or activities. We will also work to reach out to citizens. This plan focuses on increasing the support base of the European Movement International and its ability to reach more citizens across Europe to advocate in favour of European values and European integration.

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 and citizen engagement. We will do this by promoting a dialogue among all stakeholders at the European level, and by encouraging the participation of citizens through activities oriented towards the general public, directly through our communications activities and with the involvement of the European Movement's National Councils. As in past years, a key goal will be to narrow the gap between citizens and the European institutions through an enhanced communication strategy that engages with citizens directly and which provides a platform where civil society can come together to debate and shape the direction of the European project.

In 2024, the European Movement's activities will focus on the European elections 2024, both the campaign and the consequent results, as well as the composition of the European Parliament and European Commission. We will also continue our work on the debate on the future of Europe, as well as the priorities of the European Union for the years 2024-2029, the [annual work programme of the European Commission](#), the Belgian and Hungarian Presidencies of the Council of the EU and the work areas of the European Parliament. In the first half of 2024, the EMI communication and campaigning will be dedicated to awareness raising and GOTV campaigns across EU. In that context, our financial support for National Councils will foster civil society engagement with national stakeholders around the elections and increasing informed citizens participation. At the same time, the EMI policy and advocacy work will seek to inform different political groups and candidates about the EMI manifesto and policy priorities, while at the same time providing a pro-European checklist for the European political parties. Via our communications, events, policy and advocacy work, we will continue to involve citizens and stakeholders in the decisions that affect them, engage with and influence policy-makers in favour of an open, inclusive, sustainable and transparent Europe. Alongside our work addressing the various opportunities and challenges of

European integration and cooperation, we will continue to encourage the participation of all citizens and will work to reinvigorate the democratic governance and legitimacy of the EU through enhanced civil dialogue and participatory democracy, increased transparency and better consultation processes.

2 Statutory Activities and Other Internal Meetings

In 2024, the European Movement International will convene one meeting of its Federal Assembly, one meeting of its Members' Council and four meetings of its Board. The activities and meetings will take place both in person and online.

2.1 Federal Assembly

The 2024 meeting of the Federal Assembly is planned to take place in **November 2024**. It will gather around 100 delegates from all over Europe, representing the European Movement International's Members, its Board, staff and possible guests. The Federal Assembly will provide an opportunity to take stock of the European Movement's work, to discuss upcoming activities and priorities and to exchange ideas across the network on the key debates shaping the European project at the time.

2.2 Members' Council

The 2024 meeting of the Members' Council will take place in **May 2024**. It will gather delegates from all over Europe, representing the European Movement International's Members, its Board, staff and external guests. Similar to the Federal Assembly 2024, the Members' Council will feature debates on key policy priorities of the network and developments at the European level. At the margins of the Members Council, an extraordinary Federal Assembly may be held.

2.3 Board Meetings

The Board will meet four times in 2024 and the meetings' dates will ideally be agreed by the Board by the end of 2023. The Board meetings are to be attended by the Board members and supported by staff members. Ahead of each Board meeting, the European Movement International will organise meetings of the three Political Committees.

2.4 National Councils Meeting and International Associations Meeting

As initiated in the previous years, the European Movement International Office 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 of **74 Member Organisations**, which includes **34 National Councils**, **38 International Associations** and **5 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 2024, 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 deepen our exchange and 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 in support of European values and to promote European integration.

With that in mind, 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 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 2024, the European Movement International will continue to use its various newsletter formats and communication platforms to highlight relevant EU policy areas and events, as well as to increase our outreach and engagement with our audiences. Moreover, we will continue to offer members access to communication material, templates and platforms that can facilitate information sharing, notably through policy updates, weekly network updates, weekly institutional calendars, bi-annual semester calendars and social media.

In 2024 the European Movement International plans to organise **briefing events, roundtables, conferences and workshops** on a range of topics in line with the current EU agenda and the European Movement International's policy priorities. These events will be in person in Brussels and across Europe, and online. The events will at times be organised in cooperation with and in support of its National Councils and International Associations as well as external stakeholders and organisations that support our network's values. 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.

In order to promote an effective and fluid communication between the Members, the European Movement International's Board and International Office, a regular exchange with the European Associations will be facilitated by Board members representing them and/or the EMI team.

4 Content-Based Activities: Communications, Events, Policy and Advocacy

The content-based activities of 2024 will be developed on the basis of the European Movement International's Strategic Priorities for 2024-2026 as well as key events and policy developments in the EU. The European Movement International will continue to organise its work around a triangle composed by **communications**, **events** and **policy**, and the International Office will ensure that the network's priorities are echoed throughout our activities in 2024.

Coordinated by the International Office, the three Political Committees, which operate in line with the Policy Priorities, will be closely involved in the development of policy positions, briefing papers, statements and relevant output and activities of the European Movement International. The Political Committees, consisting of one representative per member organisation, will meet as regularly as possible, on the fringes of the Statutory Meetings and whenever deemed necessary.

In 2024, the EU's agenda will be guided by the Belgian and Hungarian presidencies of the Council of the EU, the European Council's EU Strategic Agenda for 2024-2024 and alongside the long-term priorities and 2024 work programme of the European Commission and the work areas of the European Parliament. Taking into account the key debates and events that will shape Europe in 2024, and the issues that matter most to Europeans, the European Movement International will prioritise a number of different topics headed under each strategic priority group.

Moreover, against the backdrop of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas war in the context of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a large part of our policy work will directly and indirectly address the challenges of the energy, economic and security crises resulting from the geopolitical instability, not only in Europe but also in its neighbourhood, as well as the EU's and Ukraine's long-term recovery. Our policy and advocacy work around these issues will particularly focus on promoting coordinated responses underpinned by collective action and solidarity that involve various actors at the European, national and local level. To this end, we aim to offer our network's diverse perspectives and insights to help find ways for Europe's society and economy to support and express solidarity with people affected by the war, and to support treaty reform in an effort to rethink and redesign the EU's competences in the areas of security and defence.

At the same time, our advocacy and communications will focus on the European elections to ensure participation and wide representation. Also, our activities around the follow-up to the Conference on the Future of Europe will continue to highlight the need to implement citizens' recommendations, even those that require treaty change, to achieve a more effective and

democratic Europe and uphold European values and democratic freedoms at all times. Finally, we will continue to underline that citizens need to actively participate in Europe's debate on the future of Europe and their perspectives and concerns must be incorporated in policy-making.

4.1 Democracy, citizen participation and fundamental values

- **European values, civil liberties and the rule of law**

In response to the developments in Member States and the EU's neighbourhood, the European Movement International will continue advocating for the protection of the rule of law, democracy, civil liberties and fundamental values through its policy and advocacy work, communications and events. For this, we will bring together stakeholders and experts from different backgrounds and countries, demonstrating the ability of the European Movement International to serve as a platform for constructive discussions and action in order to protect European values and citizens' rights. In order to further connect and amplify the voices of the EM network, the International Office will make use of its latest policy position on the rule of law. Moreover, we will prioritise the defence of gender rights and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives in all policy reforms and ensuring that gender equality is a central component of the European project. For this reason, the International Office will produce a new policy position on gender issues in collaboration with representatives from all Political Committees. Finally, the International Office will monitor the Council of Europe reform plans and explore ways to further strengthen our relationship with the CoE, especially on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its creation.

- **Protecting civic space and free media**

In times that civic space in Europe is under threat, the European Movement International will continue to advocate the protection of civic space, organised civil society and independent media. Europe needs a healthy civil society and diverse media landscape to protect our common values and improve European democracy. Moreover, pro-democracy civil society organisations in Europe, activists and media organisations should be able to operate without fearing that their work or existence are under threat. We will encourage leaders to acknowledge the importance of a strong civil society and vibrant free media. To this end, we will produce a new policy position on media freedom, while we will keep using our latest policy position on disinformation in our advocacy efforts. Additionally, we will highlight the need for the EU to translate the crucial role of civil society into effective protection and support mechanisms and programmes. Meanwhile, we will work to assist the European Movement's National Councils who are under undue pressure and that struggle to receive national support and funding.

- **Digital democracy**

Online platforms and digital tools have become essential parts of European democracy, facilitating the exchange of views and participation of citizens across Europe. To ensure that online platforms, social media and digital participation tools are safe, empowering and transparent, we will keep promoting the debate around digital solutions and highlight civil society's perspectives on the regulation, transparency and accountability of digital platforms and online media. Our priorities in this context will be the creation and protection of a diverse and secure online space in Europe, the strengthening of online

media, countering disinformation, promoting safe and fair elections and strengthening civil society's voice online. Moreover, the International Office will make use of its latest policy position on disinformation in Europe.

- **Citizen participation and transparency**

The European Movement International will further develop its thinking on citizen participation and deliberation, and the future of European democracy, as well as transparency at the institutional level, responding to developments at the European Parliament and European Commission with regards to citizen engagement. With respect to the outcome of the Conference on the Future of Europe, we will closely monitor and engage with the new citizens' panels. This will be accompanied by communication activities and events where appropriate. In preparation for the European elections in 2024, we will keep influencing the debate around the reforms of the EU electoral system by making use of our latest policy position on EU electoral reform, while advocating for the introduction of transnational lists and the strengthening of the Lead Candidate system for the election of the European Commission President. Moreover, we will dedicate part of our work to enhancing EU legitimacy through increased accountability and transparency in the European Parliament, the Commission, the Council of the European Union and Member State Permanent Representations.

- **Conference on the Future of Europe and deliberative democracy**

We will continue to monitor and influence developments around the follow-up to the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). Building on our work carried out in the Conference Plenary and Working Groups, as well as our network expertise and outreach, we aim to help improve and shape the follow-up to the CoFoE to make it a tool for true citizen participation and amplify the voice of citizens and organised civil society from all over Europe, including countries which are not members of the EU. Together with our network, we intend to keep the momentum going for the Conference and to help ensure that the outcome of this initiative is relevant for citizens and that it has an impact. The European Movement will therefore continue the open dialogue on this issue with the EU institutions and like-minded civil society organisations to make sure that EU leaders seek the consensus necessary to make bold decisions that will make the European Union stronger, more democratic, more transparent, and more effective. To do so, we will make use of our latest policy position on the CoFoE calling for constitutional reform to improve democracy in our Union and to equip it with the proper tools to effectively address current and future challenges.

- **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 feed into the policy debate on migration, integration and freedom of movement in the EU. 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. Moreover, our activities in this area will support our work on the EU's external approach and overall framework managing migration and asylum. For this reason, we will keep advocating for a comprehensive and harmonised approach to migration and asylum in the EU by making use of our latest policy

position on EU migration and asylum policy. Within the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine, we will advocate for stronger protection and support for conflict-affected residents in Ukraine and grant asylum to all refugees arriving in Europe from Ukraine, irrespective of their nationality or ethnic background.

4.2 A social, sustainable and prosperous Europe

- **European Green Deal and sustainable development**

The European Movement International remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing sustainability across environmental, economic, and social dimensions, firmly grounded in the principles of the European Green Deal (EGD) and the EU's international obligations. We are dedicated to prioritising the reform of EU policies to ensure the full realisation of the European Green Deal, in tandem with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As the 2024 European Elections will bring about a new composition of the European Parliament and the European Commission, EMI will ensure climate and energy targets remain a priority for the new leadership. Our approach encompasses collaboration with stakeholders at every level and across diverse sectors, while simultaneously aligning the EU's post-pandemic economic development with these overarching frameworks, setting an exemplary global precedent. In this pursuit, we will unite the voices of our diverse network and engage with external stakeholders at the local, national, and European levels, amplifying the messages of our unified mission. To this end, the EMI will engage with the European Commission series of green dialogues with citizens, as well as clean transition dialogues with industry and social partners. Moreover, we will produce and circulate a new policy position on the European Green Deal and how it should be enforced and developed in the coming years.

- **Energy**

We aim to consolidate the EU's energy policy towards a low-carbon economy, emphasising efficiency and the diversification of renewable energy sources. By reducing the EU's reliance on external energy suppliers and promoting the usage of domestic renewable resources, the Union's energy independence will be enhanced, reducing reliance on external suppliers. Furthermore, we will persist in the development of the circular economy, championing a sustainable approach to resource management.

- **Inclusive labour market and workers' rights**

Our vision for the future is one of empowerment and inclusion, where the younger generation takes centre stage. To achieve this, we prioritise investing in quality education, creating opportunities through high-quality paid internships, and generating secure, fulfilling jobs. Furthermore, we are committed to promoting sustainable growth and tackling long-term unemployment, fostering an environment where every individual has the chance to contribute to a thriving Europe. This endeavour goes hand in hand with enhancing labour rights, introducing transformative measures like a European unemployment insurance system and a standardised European employment contract. These reforms are designed to harmonise labour standards across our continent, ensuring that every worker enjoys equitable protection. Lastly, as we strive to enhance European competitiveness and innovation, we are dedicated to investments in skills, lifelong

learning, and cutting-edge digital solutions, catalysing a more forward-looking and prosperous Europe for all. The EMI is planning the organisation of an event in collaboration with the European Nurse Federation (ENF) aiming to put forward a retention and recruitment strategy to remedy to labour shortages, while also addressing the skills gap and the digital and environmental transitions impact on the sector.

- **Single Market**

The Single Market, a significant EU achievement for the past 30 years, has greatly enhanced economic, political, and social integration, fostering prosperity among EU citizens. However, recent attempts to further develop the Single Market have stalled, leaving it less integrated, hindering the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital while impeding fair competition among EU companies. To unleash potential private investments and economies of scale, particularly in the areas of energy, digital, and capital, and to increase incomes for workers, a new wave of policy harmonisation is essential. The EU must strengthen its international competitiveness if it is not to lose ground to the world's growth regions. The EU has a crucial role to play by strengthening and deepening the Single Market, investing in innovation, improving access to finance and skilling up Europe's workforce. EMI will develop events, advocacy and communications activities with its network and partners on the topic. In partnership with the European Round Table for Industry (ERT), EMI will organise an event to discuss the future of the EU Single Market. The event will gather representatives from industry, trade unions, SMEs, civil society and policymakers, to exchange views on how to further deepen and strengthen the Single Market and make it more resilient, fairer and more effective, ahead of the unveiling of the Enrico Letta report on the Single Market.

- **Europe's digital agenda**

Our work in 2024 will focus on Europe's digital transformation and digital democracy, with an emphasis on empowering citizens in a way that leaves no one behind. Our activities will revolve around developing effective policy solutions to protect citizens' digital rights, contributing to discussions on the EU's digital strategy. Central to our mission is advocating for technology democratisation through policy reforms. This entails safeguarding citizens' online rights and environmental standards while promoting innovation in digital platform management. Our approach strives to balance regulation and innovation to support businesses and protect citizens, fostering an inclusive and protective digital landscape, which harnesses the potential of emerging technologies for the benefit of all.

- **Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and Own Resources**

In light of the EU mid-term budget review, we call on leaders to honour their commitment of aligning the EU's long-term budget with the priorities of citizens and civil society. This involves placing paramount importance on upholding key values and principles that define the European project, including fundamental rights, democracy, the rule of law, equality, social rights, and environmental protection. Furthermore, we emphasise the necessity of advancing the EU's system of own resources and bolstering the Union's capacity to issue common debt. These actions will not only enable a more robust and resilient financial framework but also ensure that the MFF effectively serves the collective interests of a united and forward-looking Europe.



- **European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)**

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 (EPSR), in close cooperation with its members and other relevant stakeholders. EMI will prioritise the defence of gender rights and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives in all policy reforms, ensuring that gender equality stands as a central tenet of the European project. Additionally, we are determined to reform our policies to actively support and include historically underrepresented groups, guaranteeing their equal participation and representation across all facets of European life.
- **Youth, Education and Skills**

In 2024, EMI continues to prioritise youth rights, education, and skills as fundamental components of our policy agenda. We remain committed to engaging with our members and external partners to promote inclusive learning, youth empowerment, and increased investment in education and digital skills. Central to our mission is the implementation of transformative reforms that empower young people, recognising their unique needs and aspirations as we jointly build a more resilient and forward-looking Europe. Our focus on empowering and involving young people remains unwavering, with the goal of making them essential partners in shaping the future of Europe. By amplifying the voices and potential of the youth, we aim to equip Europe to face the challenges and seize the opportunities of tomorrow with confidence and innovation.

4.3 Europe in the World

- **Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine**

Providing the consistent and sustained military, financial, humanitarian, and technical support for Ukraine remains of key strategic importance to secure peace and security in the region. To this end, the European Movement International will continue to produce policy output and activities that advocate for keeping up the sanctions active as long as the invasion continues and provide support for the post-war reconstruction and social rehabilitation in view of the country's accession to the EU. Moreover, we will promote an enhanced dialogue between key partners of the EU, including the United States and Asia, to advance relationships, in particular through civil society cooperation and promote Ukraine's Peace Formula.
- **Enlargement and neighbourhood policy**

The European Movement International will continue to follow the developments around enlargement and produce policy output and activities that advocate in favour of a credible enlargement process, highlight the reform and acquis adoption progress, and promote peace, stability, investment and cooperation in the EU's neighbourhood, in particular the Eastern Partnership countries and the Western Balkans. Fostering an interinstitutional and EU-wide debate involving citizens and organised civil society in the EU Member States on the institutional reform and future functioning of the key policy areas will remain of particular importance to the efficient, democratic, and participatory functioning of the



Union. Moreover, to further connect and amplify the voices of the EM network, the International Office, with the support of Political Committee 3, will produce and disseminate a new policy position on EU enlargement.

- **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. Regarding the further development of the common European defence and the fact that the necessary instruments such as PESCO, CARD and EDF are now available, we will closely monitor and promote further developments in this area. In doing so, we will pay due attention to the various aspects such as the structures, budgets, equipment and training, as well as personnel and their social and working conditions. To strengthen the EU's capability to safeguard security and stability in the continent, the European Movement International will focus on pushing forward the reform of the decision-making in the areas of CFSP and CSDP to shift from unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV). We will closely monitor and promote the full implementation of the Strategic Compass and establishing the fully-fledged European Defence Union (EDU) with a long-term view to achieve strategic autonomy. 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, especially with respect to the initiatives around enhancing and strategically defining EU-NATO relationship.

- **Future EU-UK relations**

The UK's withdrawal from the European Union brings about profound changes for citizens in both the UK and the European Union. In 2024, our work in this area will focus on further deepening the EU-UK relations, based on common values, and with a view to ensuring that the future relationship does not in any way prevent the continued strengthening of the EU's environmental, social, labour, consumer and other standards. We will thus promote a level playing field to protect the rights of workers and citizens in the EU and the UK. Moreover, our activities will encourage thinking and debates on how the EU and the UK can foster cooperation in the areas of trade, migration, sustainable development, climate action, foreign policy, security and defence, and the protection of citizens' rights and the rule of law. To this end, our work will highlight the need to respect the integrity of the Single Market and the Customs Union and the indivisibility of the four freedoms.

- **International cooperation**

As Europe faces shifting political and economic leadership on the world stage, the European Movement International aims to increase its presence in the debates on globalisation, international cooperation and trade, by continuing to organise public debates and develop its policies and communication on key issues in this field. To this end, we will promote an enhanced dialogue between key partners of the EU, including the US, Latin America, and Africa, to advance the relationships, in particular through civil society cooperation. Moreover, we will promote a coherent and robust policy on the EU's

cooperation with China that takes into account economic, geopolitical as well as human rights aspects.

- **Migration and Asylum**

Migration and asylum in Europe shall continue to be a focal point of our activities in 2024, as we focus our attention on key policies, including the adoption of EU's new Migration and Asylum Pact before the end of the current legislative mandate, the new Integration and Inclusion Action Plan and other international partnerships addressing migration. As such, we will promote the implementation of a truly common European immigration and asylum policy built on the principle of solidarity and the fair sharing of responsibility and that offers protection for those in need, fosters legal migration and supports peace and sustainable developments in migrants' countries of origin.

- **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; fostering cross-border civil society cooperation; supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the European Green Deal, and achieving gender equality globally via its partnership and trade policies. To this end, our work will address how the EU can promote the fight against climate change and the green and just transition through its international partnership and trade agreements. More concretely, we will support the implementation of the carbon border adjustment mechanism and advocate for more liability in the global supply chains of companies to sustainability and social rights.

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 emphasise the aspects of pan-European cooperation and best practises' exchange will therefore continue to be developed, whenever possible. While in 2024 we plan to strengthen the below-mentioned ongoing projects, we will also work towards establishing new projects and partnerships. The implementation of these projects will depend on the funding that can be obtained.

5.1 Europe Day 2024

As every year, we will commemorate the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration on 9 May 2024. In close cooperation with our members, and with the support of the European Commission, we will develop a wide range of activities involving citizens across Europe, both online and offline. 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. We will apply accumulated knowledge and tools in developing visual identity and materials, including videos, in order to expand our respective base audiences and reach a higher number of European citizens and persuadable audiences with pro-European and pro-democratic messages, as well as increase the overall visibility of our network. Moreover, to strengthen the network, meetings, either in person or online, will be organised prior to the celebrations to build up a common strategy of action and exchange material and good practises, as well as to optimise campaigns and messages for particular national audiences and target groups.

5.2. Together for Europe (re-granting to National Councils)

Building on a new system of re-granting introduced in 2023 with the support of the EU, the EMI will continue to re-grant National Councils to engage in projects and raise awareness about the European Parliament's elections in 2024. The financial support will aim to foster our network's engagement with national stakeholders around the elections and increase informed citizens participation. Total of 70.000 EUR will be distributed following simplified EU selection procedure and additionally, common elements of the GOTV campaign will be provided by the EMI.

5.3 Listen to People: Effectively and Positively Persuading Audiences Beyond Our Echo Chambers

Building on several phases of Listen to People project running since 2019, the EMI continues to apply data and evidence base strategic communication in engaging with both enthusiast and persuadable audiences across Europe and ahead of the European Parliament elections. At the same time, we continue to equip CSOs with knowledge that will allow them to better communicate with citizens. We continue to reach out to more pro-European organisations working to enhance their messaging and communications, testing citizens' outreach campaigns based on the lessons learnt. In 2024, we intend to help enhance organisations' capacities and support more effective and targeted European narratives, message framing and audience outreach by sharing the data with the like-minded CSOs and implementing digital campaigns in cooperation with National Councils and other civil society partners. Based on recent polling and focus group research, and using cutting-edge analysis, framing, and targeting, the European Movement will develop campaign messages optimised for middle, persuadable audiences in 8 EU countries, with the intention to reach, with positive narratives about democracy, The project is supported by the European Parliament.

5.4 The Women of Europe Awards 2024

The 2024 awards will be the 9th 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 nominees, winners and others will be explored. As part of the Women of Europe Awards, we aim

to organise further activities in 2024, addressing gender equality and diversity. These activities, whether events, communication or policy, will be connected to key events such as International Women's Day in March, and will be developed in cooperation with our network and external stakeholders from various sectors.

5.5 Just EU and Me

The 2-year project aims at providing young people (18-30 yo) and representatives of youth associations with knowledge, skills and opportunities for actively participating in developing recommendations to improve EU and Member States policies implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights and addressing social justice issues such as access to education, gender equality, equal opportunities etc. The project, supported by the EU CERV programme, will be implemented in 7 EU countries including Italy, Spain, Poland, Bulgaria, Sweden, Czech Republic and Belgium but it will reach more countries through online events and dissemination activities. The EMI is one of 7 partners in this project led by ActionAid Italy and in 2024 will be in charge of organising the final event - an online meeting gathering youth participants and EU decision-makers and relevant stakeholders from 16 countries where the youth activists will present and discuss their manifestos.

5.6 Stronger Together

The project implemented jointly by the British Council and the EMI aims to contribute to the building of a close and stable relationship between young people in the UK and the EU for Europe's collective benefit. Specifically, it will build positive and long-lasting dispositions and pathways to connect, cooperate, influence and implement change together on issues of common interest amongst young people from the UK and the EU. The EMI oversees a set of activities related to the creation of positive narratives including evidence-based strategic communications and digital campaigns. The two-year project is funded through the EU Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, and a programme dedicated to building a new relationship with the United Kingdom.

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, online and when possible offline, 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 offer 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 (when in-person events are possible) 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 in Poland, France, Serbia, Ireland, Denmark, Estonia, Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Finland, as well as digital events during the pandemic.

5.8 Reshaping European Advances towards Green Leadership Through Deliberative Approaches and Learning (REAL DEAL project)

Since 2022, EMI participates in a three-year project, entitled “Real Deal”, supported by the Horizon 2020 citizens’ engagement call and jointly implemented by 15 other European partners, including our member organisation the European Environmental Bureau (EEB). The project will stimulate a pan-European debate to reshape citizens’ and stakeholders’ active participation through deliberative processes around the European Green Deal (EGD). In a large co-creation exercise, the “REAL DEAL” project will develop, test and validate innovative tools and formats to propel deliberative democracy to the next level. It will test its innovations at citizens’ assemblies for the transition in at least 13 countries. The project will scrutinise pan European formats ranging from digital deliberation through the online platform www.realdeal.eu to in-person processes such as the Citizens’ Deliberation Forum taking place on 10th February 2024 in Brussels (Belgium). The REAL DEAL project will co-create a comprehensive protocol for meaningful citizen participation and deliberation to work towards the objectives of the EGD. It will validate recommendations on how to design such processes and how they can be applied by European institutions, Member States and civil society alike.

5.9 The Social Partners as shapers and makers of Social Europe: discovering foundations and futures (SHAPE)

EMI is partner in a new 2-year project led by the European University Institute in Florence and engaging a number of partners and associates, including our two members (ETUC and SGI Europe). The overall goal of ShaPE is to create new knowledge aimed at understanding where we have come from in terms of the social partners’ role in making and shaping Social Europe, and thereby to reflect on what role social partners should play to meet current large-scale challenges, most notably green, digital and demographic transitions as well as the objectives of EU’s ‘open strategic autonomy’ and resilience. The EMI oversees dissemination and communication including the final event in Brussels.

5.10 Express 2 Specify and Protect the EU Social Contract (EXPRESS2)

EXPRESS2 is a 3-year Horizon Europe project that addresses from a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and cross-sectional perspective, the growing demand for a new, more democratic, inclusive, and sustainable social contract in the EU. To achieve this, the project will work to create a more appealing and legitimate EU social contract draft that will be submitted to inhabitants, Member States and EU institutions that will have the possibility to participate and decide upon the conditions, rights, and obligations to be binding. The goal is to strengthen the EU agreement of association by promoting social dialogue, civic engagement, and integration. EMI leads the work of the Work Package on Citizens’ engagement and deliberation and has a role in dissemination and communication.

5.11 Road to European Elections

EMI will organise, jointly with The Parliament Magazine, a series of events entitled “Road to European Elections” in the capitals of three Member States to discuss key topics that will influence and be impacted by European Elections with citizens. The main topics that will be assessed will be the Green Deal, security and defence policy, and the economic policy. These events will be the chance to gather citizens’ feedback, that will then be covered by The Parliament Magazine to inform policymakers.

5.12 Stronger Connected

The European Movement International, in partnership with and with the support of Vodafone, will feature a series of discussions in key capitals around the EU ahead of the 2024 European elections, which will gather relevant stakeholders from the private sector, social partners, civil society, local government, academia, policymakers from the EU and at national level, to discuss how an open, interconnected, borderless, innovative and forward-looking EU can advance its strategic interests and be a better place to live and do business in. The outcome of the roundtable discussions will be compiled in a short report. The report's conclusions will be presented publicly (possibly during an official closing event in Brussels) and shared through communication and advocacy activities aimed at relevant audiences and policymakers. This report will also feed into Vodafone’s white paper ahead of the 2024 European Elections.