



european union of christian democratic workers

Annual Review 2019



Who we are

The European Union of Christian Democratic Workers (EUCDW) is the **voice and official association of Christian Democratic workers in the EPP.**

Our main objective is to strengthen the European Social Market Economy through close cooperation with the European People's Party (EPP) family and in the European Parliament, to support the work carried out by our member organisations, and to provide ground for training, discussion and cooperation in order to prepare Christian Democratic workers' organisations to build tomorrow's Social Market Economy.

Get social with us



facebook.com/eucdw.eu



twitter.com/eucdw



www.eucdw.org



+32 2 285 41 64

Contents

The purpose of this activity report is to provide a brief overview of the timing and content of the various EUCDW meetings and to summarise the areas of action in which EUCDW has been working with the European People's Party and the European Parliament. EUCDW aspires to advocate Christian-social political ideas within these institutions, driven by the impetus given to the association on the XII. Congress in 2018.

04

Welcome to the EUCDW

05

Presidium and Board Meetings

07

Political Work

08

Member Organisations

Welcome to the EUCDW

The European Union of Christian Democratic Workers (EUCDW) is the family of Christian Democratic workers' organisations, organisations whose roots run deep in the history of the European continent and which have pioneered the European project from its inception.

Tracing back its roots to the Encyclical *Rerum Novarum* by Pope Leo XIII 125 years ago, which guided Europe's Founding Fathers – Robert Schuman, Alcide De Gasperi, and Konrad Adenauer – EUCDW is committed to strengthening the **Social Market Economy which lies at the heart of the European Union**, successfully combining sustainable economic competitiveness with social justice.

Founded as part of the EPP Family in 1977, the Christian workers movement is among its oldest member associations.



Presidium and Board Meetings

01

Presidium

Conference Call

04 June 2019

The EUCDW Presidium convened for the first meeting of 2019 via conference call to take stock of the results of the 2019 elections for the European Parliament and to set out the political priorities for 2019-2024, the composition of the EPP Workers' Group 2019-2024 and election of the next President of the European Commission.

02

Board

Sevilla, Spain

20 September 2019

The EUCDW Board convened for the first meeting of 2019 in Sevilla, Spain, to discuss the appointment of the new President of the European Commission, the draft EUCDW Manifesto with the political priorities for 2020-2024 and the re-establishment of the EPP Workers' Group in the new legislature.

The Board also set out the priorities for the EPP Congress on 20-21 November 2019 in Zagreb, Croatia and started preparations on the election of the EPP President and Vice-Presidents, the composition of the EUCDW Delegation and the congress documents.

The Board furthermore discussed the European Commission's proposal on *More efficient decision-making in social policy* based on a presentation of the Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee.

03

Board and EPP Congress

Zagreb, Croatia

20-21 November 2019

On 20 November 2019 the EUCDW delegates and board members convened in Zagreb to determine its support for the candidates for the

position of EPP President and EPP Vice-Presidents. Moreover, the Board decided on the replacement of a member of the EUCDW Presidium (in accordance with art. 6(4) of the Statutes). Following the resignation of Stefaan Vercaemer as Vice-President, the Board unanimously decided to appoint Cindy Franssen as Vice-President until the next EUCDW Congress.

On 20 and 21 November 2019, the **Congress of the European People's Party** (EPP) convened in Zagreb, Croatia.

On day 1, the European People's Party Congress overwhelmingly **elected Donald Tusk as the EPP President**. His Presidency will start on 1 December 2019. The plenary session featured addresses of European Commission President Ursula Von der Leyen, the EPP's EU heads of State and government, Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament Manfred Weber, as well as party and opposition leaders.



On day 2, the EPP Congress delegates debated how the party can take the lead in the fight against climate change by implementing sustainable policies. After the debate, the ambitious **congress document on climate action** was adopted with quasi unanimity:

- [EPP Vision for a Sustainable Climate](#)

The EPP Congress also elected the 10 EPP Vice-Presidents, Secretary General and the Treasurer.

Political Work

01

European People's Party

The EUCDW actively campaigned with the EPP Party for the **European elections of 23-26 May 2019**, based on the EUCDW Congress Document adopted at the Congress in December 2018 and the EPP Election Manifesto.

The EUCDW actively contributed to the drafting process in the **EPP Working Group 1 on European Policy for** the preparation of the EPP Congress document on the **EPP Vision for a Sustainable Climate**. This document was adopted at the EPP Congress on 20 November 2019.

In his capacity as responsible for international relations of the EPP, EUCDW president Elmar Brok took part in all **Summits of EPP Heads of State and Government**, as well as in the **EPP Political Assemblies**.

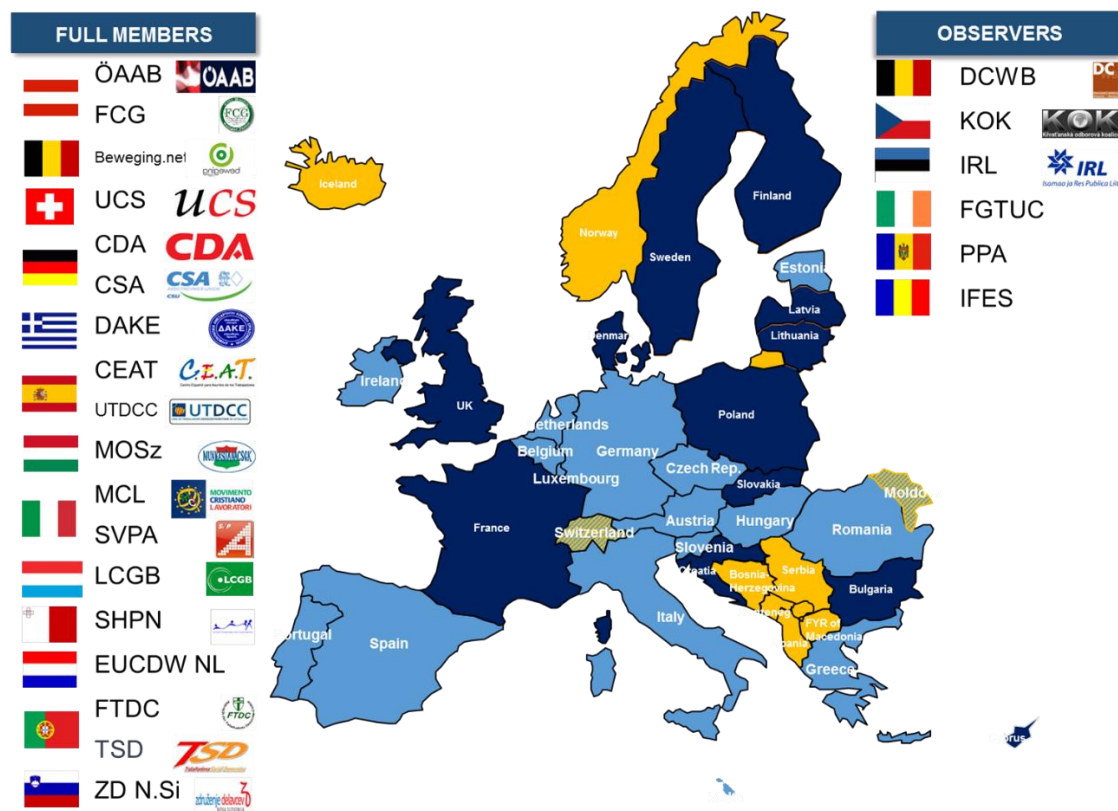
02

European Parliament

The EUCDW took the lead in re-establishing the **EPP Workers' Group in the European Parliament**, a group of like-minded Members of European Parliament in the European People's Party (EPP). At its first meeting, the members appointed Dennis RADTKE as chairman to the meeting and decided to organise a monthly meeting during the plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. This cooperation allows EUCDW to drive the implementation of the Christian-social principles and the European Pillar of Social Rights in the European Parliament, in synergy with the EPP Group and the European Commission.

Member Organisations

Our association brings together **24 member organisations** from 18 European countries, including Christian Democratic trade unions, Christian Social movements and workers' associations in political parties.



European Union of Christian Democratic Workers

Rue du Commerce 10

B-1000 Brussels

Belgium

Get social with us



facebook.com/eucdw.eu



twitter.com/eucdw



www.eucdw.org



+32 2 285 41 64