



EEA Cities Network

God loves people, and most people live in cities. Urbanization is a mega trend. Cities are cultural, political and spiritual focal points. We believe that God has a special passion for our urban world. Out of this conviction, many Christian organizations, churches, networks and individuals are already active in Europe's cities in the name of Jesus. Each of them makes a unique contribution to the common mission. And as in the story of Nehemiah, when God's people work together in service to his kingdom, a city will reap great benefits.

**EEA CITIES
NETWORK
PLACE.**

Seeking God's Shalom for the Cities of Europe

The EEA CITIES NETWORK is a working group that promotes the relationship and collaboration of Christian churches, organizations, networks and individuals in European cities.

We explore the special needs of city dwellers and search for models of hope addressing such needs. We believe that hearts and living conditions of urban dwellers can be transformed when God's people unite, pray and collaborate. We want to see the Gospel flourish in Europe's urban world.

The EEA CITIES NETWORK aims to motivate through story-telling and reflection, promote collective learning, share relevant resources, encourage joint missional commitment and pray for our cities.

- From 2001 to 2019 pastors, youth leaders, artists, community workers and other gifted people have gathered together to celebrate how they discover 'Jesus in the City'.
- P.L.A.C.E. consultations („People Learning and Acting in Cities of Europe“) have been held in Paris, Marseille, Barcelona, Manchester, Birmingham, Rotterdam, Brussels, Budapest, Bucharest, Cluj, Iasi, Athens and Berlin.
- The network has organized trails to explore the effects on cities by the ministry of Celtic spirituality, Martin Luther, Focolare and the Orthodox Church.
- In 2021, we developed the format of a quarterly European Urban Conversation. This online round table is specifically focused on leaders of Christian organizations, networks, and movements to provide a peer-level dialog. The purpose of this conversation is to listen to one another, learn from one another and empower each other. And as the Lord leads: discover potential synergies for action.
- A new project in planning is a podcast about urban mission and transformation in Europe.



We would like to invite and encourage the national Evangelical Alliances to take a conscious and strategic look at cities. How can the missionary commitment and cooperation of Christians in cities be strengthened in their respective countries?

Cities are powerhouses and catalysts for innovations, trends and social developments in society. But they are also places of many social problems, increasing segregation and polarization, places of loneliness and spiritual lostness. Cities in Ukraine are being targeted and destroyed by the Russian aggressors. Refugees from different countries around the world are seeking refuge and prospects in European cities. The Covid pandemic has posed enormous challenges to urban communities. The number of confessing Christians in Europe's cities is still small compared to the increasing total urban population. And besides innovative church plants, inspiring missional models and stories of hope, a number of urban churches are struggling. This makes it all the more important for Christians to emerge as the body of Christ, to seek unity in Jesus and seek the best for their cities.

A pressing question is: How can we promote more and sustainable collaboration for God's shalom among Christians in our cities of Europe? How can we promote unity with a purpose among urban churches, organizations and networks?

God is working in cities all over the world and a number of urban Christian networks and unity movements have emerged in the past decades. There are also encouraging examples in Europe.

Leaders of different churches and denominations are beginning to notice and listen to each other. They pray together and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to reach their cities with the Gospel. They network and discover the beauty and effectiveness of working together for the kingdom of God. They discover their urban contexts, develop a theological vision and formulate strategic goals. So that God's kingdom may come, in heaven as on earth, also in our cities. They pray and work for transformations in the spiritual realm, the social realm and the cultural realm.

However, in our increasingly urban world in Europe there is still much to do. We invite you to pray and work with us for this urban task. We invite you to join our network meetings in Sarajevo at the Hope for Europe 2022 experience and to enter the European urban conversation.

The whole church, the whole gospel, the whole city – it can be done!



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