

Name of EO: EUROPEAN FORUM OF EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN (EFECW)

Author of Report/Position: Marianna Apreysan,
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CC member in EFECW

Year: 2023

1. Present Context/Thrust and new work of EO/Women's Desk:

For the year 2023 of EFECW women's desk is the theme "Let us renew!" that was voiced at the last General Assembly last August in Strasbourg. For a moment in the General Assembly, the EFECW visualised how we wished the Forum to be in the future. Renewal was the essence of visioning. But, why renewal? What does renewal mean? What is the first thing that comes into your mind when thinking of renewal? Which kind of renewal do we think of? How to express this in terms of the structure of the Forum, its content, its activities, etc.? How do we want the Forum to face the present?

The Coordination Committee was discussed this and wants to give space to come into the discussion to find out the overall theme for this work period until 2026.

On 26 June there organized National Coordinators' online meeting ont he topic of the "Renewal".

What else happened:

19-20th March, 2023, Athens, Greece

Workshop organized by EFECW CC member for Greek's Forum Conference on Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women

27th March 2023, Council of Europe, INGOs Conference

The Committee "NGOs as advocates of gender equality and women's rights" seeks to enable NGOs to promote the Council of Europe's ground-breaking conventions and recommendations concerning women's rights and gender equality in their respective NGO and in civil society. The objective is to explore and develop concrete strategies, advocacy activities and tools to make the Council of Europe conventions better known and implemented in the member states and the civil society. The Committee encompasses a broad variety of NGOs with focus on women's rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women. EFECW representation work is inspired by Ruth Epting's vision of a reconciled European cohabitation and a common European identity and EFECW's mission priorities to be a recognised voice of Christian women in Church and public life in Europe.

5th April 2023, Online National Coordinators' Prayer-Meeting, Woman and the Good News, "Go to my brothers and tell them" John 20:17

20-23rd April 2023, Oradea, Romania

The Coordinating Committee (CC) of the Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women (EFECW) met in Oradea, Romania, and Marianna Apresyan joining us online.

26th June 2023 organizned National Coordinators' online meeting ont he topic of the "Renewal".

16th July 2023, EFECW Open Space Discussion for Young Women: The Beginning of a new European Project

21.09.-24.09.2023 – Neighborhood meeting **in Armenia** for Russian speaking countries on the topic of "The role of women in peacemaking: By steps of Abigail"

29.10.-31.10.2023, EPIL conference in Vienna, Austria, Women in Dialogue for Peace, Reinhild Traitler Symposium.

For more detailed information see: Newsletters - EFECW | Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women – especially newsletters spring and autumn 2023.

2. Achievements in the last year relevant to practice of FLC (new organization/group or new country where FLC is started):

After the GA in 2022 Strasbourg two members, Marianna Apreysan, co-president and Judit Vincze CC member of the CC were decided to be EFECW representative in FLC which will impact the relationship of both organizations. The presence of representatives in the FLC helped effectively in project application NGO Asociatia Obsteasca "Soarta" of Moldova,

3. Opportunities to promote or strengthen FLC:

Judit Vincze presented the history and activity of FLC to theologian students on May, 2023 in the Transylvanian city Cluj Napoca. She highlighted the importance of prayer service that these women do and the importance of doing that their own congregations. FLC is a very good and a motivating role model to do so. She also emphasized that donating is the basis of charity.

4. Results of use of FLC Block Grant: Please see item 1.

Conclusion:

We are thankful for this spiritual sisterhood with FLC. We will be involved to keep this collaboration on live in the future.

