

## CONSULTATIVE FORUM 2019 Concept Note and Programme

*“United in Fraternity for more Solidarity in Europe”*

**GHENT, 20-21 MARCH 2019**

The CE Strategic Framework 2020 was adopted at the Regional Conference 2016. Seven action groups and other working structures have been set up to implement it.

The Strategic Framework 2020 states:

- In its mission statement: “Caritas Europa promotes analysis, innovation and mutual learning”.
- In its Strategic Function III Strengthening the Network:
  - o “Caritas Europa, in order to continuously improve the service we offer to the people in need: aims to increase the impact of its common action; is an expression of communion within the Church, of a shared identity and of common values, exchanging people and knowledge;...”
  - o Outcome III.1.2. “Caritas Europa has promoted exchanges and network cooperation involving grassroots people.”

“The Action Groups will meet in 2016, 2018 and 2020 together in a Consultative Forum to ensure the work in communion for the common mission, to know and enrich each other’s work and to establish spaces of coordination, cooperation and synergies.”<sup>1</sup>

Due to organisational reasons, the Consultative Forum 2018 (CF) has been postponed to the beginning of 2019.

This CF will mark the mid-term of the SF2020. It will be a unique opportunity to get the “bigger picture” of achievements and lessons learned from the last 2 years and the challenges for two years to come. It is the opportunity to get to meet friends from different areas of expertise contributing to the same goal: building fairer societies and strengthening Caritas’ capacities to play a decisive role in this process.

### **Outputs:**

- **Sharing and celebrating successes**
- **Community building**
- **Proposing synergies and joint ways of working around themes of common interest**
- **Discussing the WP for the CE Action Groups in 2019 and 2020 and how to integrate – so far as possible – a more synergic way of working**

### **Documents:**

- CE Strategic Framework 2016-2020
- Annual Work Plan 2019
- Progress Outcomes 2019-2020
- CI draft Strategic Framework 2019-2023

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<sup>1</sup> Operational Guidelines 2020 (approved by ExBo in June 2016)

<b>Wednesday, 20 March 2019</b>	
<b>08:30 – 09:00</b>	<b>Arrival of participants – tea and coffee</b>
<b>Morning</b>	<p><b>Opening, ice breaker and interactive introduction of participants</b></p> <p><b>Setting the scene with the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the most important challenges for the strategic priority area?</li> <li>• What are the important accomplishments Caritas has achieved or competencies Caritas has developed in this priority area in recent years?</li> <li>• What are the regrets? What opportunities have been missed in the past two years?</li> <li>• What is giving us hope? Where do we find sources of energy for the work in this priority area?</li> <li>• Caritas identity: What makes Caritas different in these contexts?</li> </ul> <p><b>Sharing and celebrating</b> with the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What has been achieved in the AGs?</li> <li>• What still needs to be achieved regarding these topics until end of 2020?</li> <li>• How does the “bigger picture” look like and how do our efforts contribute to the overall objectives of Caritas?</li> </ul>
<b>13:00 - 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Afternoon</b>	<p><b>Sharing and celebrating continued</b> (as above)</p> <p><b>Meetings around synergic topics in order to define common topic/joint action, agreements on the scope and the timeframe for working together</b></p>
18:00	Community prayer or Holy Mass
<b>19:30</b>	<b>Dinner</b>

<b>Thursday 21 March 2019</b>	
<b>Morning</b>	<p><b>Action Groups individually meet, integrate the results of day one and plan until 2020 and beyond.</b> Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are priority actions for 2019-2020?</li> <li>• What are the actions that need cooperation with other AGs?</li> <li>• How is the cooperation organised? Is everything in place for this cooperation (who is involved, how, when, etc.)?</li> <li>• If time allows: What are the perspectives for after 2020?</li> </ul> <p><b>Concluding in plenary and closure</b></p>
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00	<b>Departure of participants or further AG meetings</b>



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