

Engaging with the European Semester: Eurodiaconia's experience

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Eurodiaconia 

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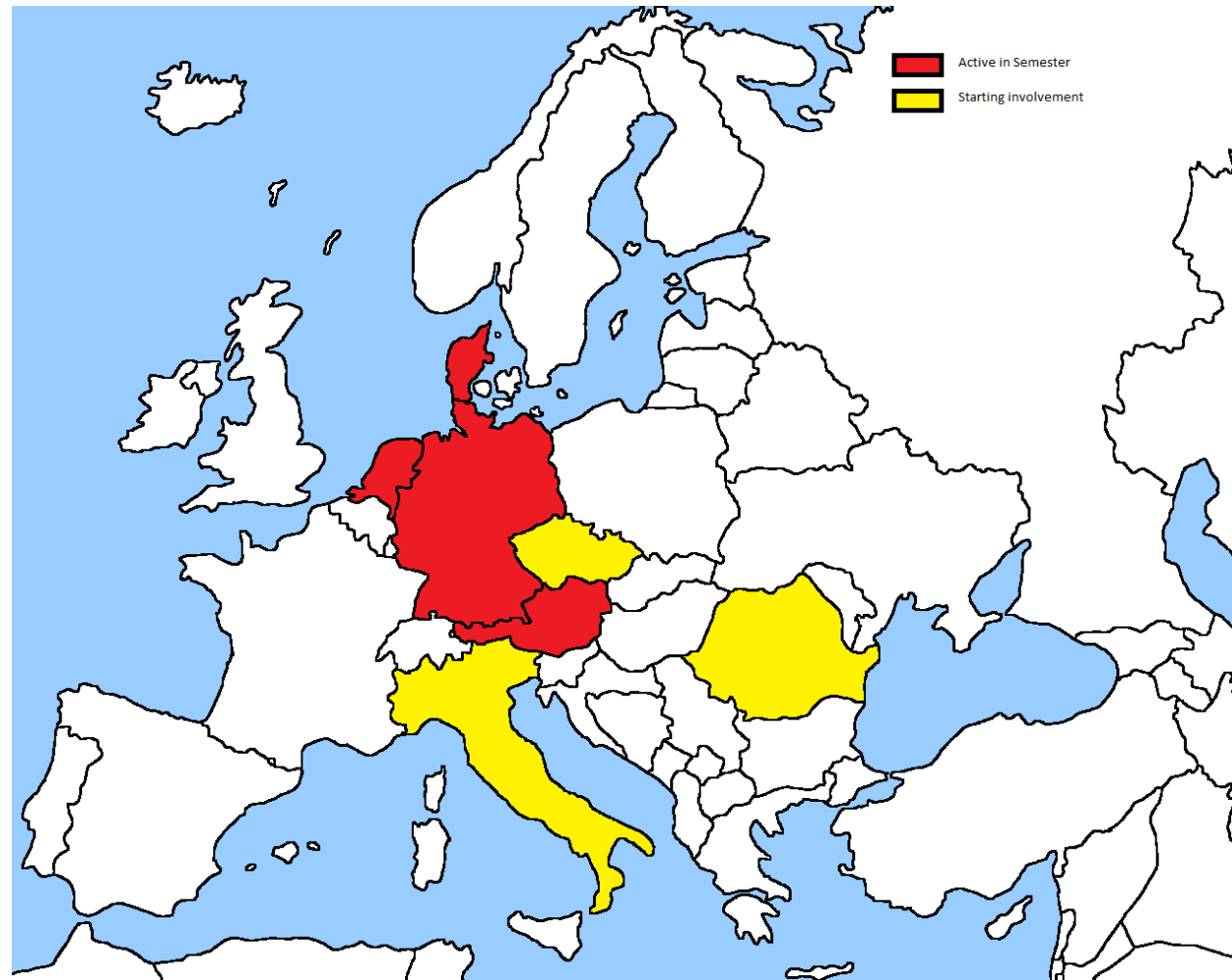


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Eurodiaconia is a federation of organisations, institutions and churches providing social and health services and education on a Christian value base throughout Europe. Eurodiaconia is registered as an AISBL in Belgium.

1) BACKGROUND

- 47 members, 32 countries
- 4 active members (annual involvement in NRP drafting): NL, DE, AT, DK
- 3 members displaying 'active interest': CZ, IT, RO



1) Background

Lack of member involvement:

- Mostly local/regional focus, not national
- Service provision focus, not advocacy
- Lack of relevant political connections



2) Eurodiaconia actions

- Key goal: Expanding & strengthening national engagement
- 2016 Priority Shift: Advocacy → Capacity Building



2) Eurodiaconia actions

Advocacy priorities:

- Input for 2017 AGS
- Involvement in Semester Alliance
- **BUT**: No external evaluation reports



2) Eurodiaconia actions

Capacity building initiatives:

- Online advocacy toolkit (2014)
- **NEW:** European Semester Quarterly
- Presidency Study Visits (connecting members to EC country desk officers)



3) OUTCOMES

- Positive responses to Semester Quarterly, but..
- Unsure if it will translate into stronger member engagement
- 2017 & beyond: Connecting Semester to EPSR, SDGs

