

## **Information about EPLO Membership**

Thank you for your interest in joining the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO). Please find below a description of the application process, the membership criteria and fees, and the application form. More information about EPLO's structure, decision-making processes and activities can be found on the EPLO website ([www.eplo.org](http://www.eplo.org)). Please feel free to contact the EPLO office in Brussels with any queries (E-mail [office@eplo.org](mailto:office@eplo.org)).

EPLO's member organisations (MOs) have agreed that EPLO should seek to strengthen the network. According to EPLO's Strategic Framework 2020-2025, we will 'strengthen our network (...) by accepting new MOs as appropriate in order to increase EPLO's legitimacy, diversity and expertise'. We therefore welcome applications from organisations working on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

### **I Procedure for admission**

Applicant organisations should submit:

- a completed application form (see below)
- their most recent annual accounts.

EPLO's 50+ MOs decide on membership applications during the annual EPLO General Assembly (GA) which usually takes place in March or April. A two-thirds majority is required to approve membership of an applicant. The GA has the right to refuse an application for admission to EPLO without further explanation.

EPLO's Steering Committee (SC), consisting of representatives of five to seven EPLO MOs elected by the GA, reviews all applications and makes its recommendations based on the criteria set out in Section II.

Applications are due two months before the annual GA. All applicants will have met/spoken to the EPLO Executive Director and/or Assistant Director. It will also be useful if applicants have discussed their application with a member of the EPLO SC<sup>1</sup>.

### **II Criteria for Admission**

The criteria for admission to EPLO are as follows:

EPLO is open to non-profit organisations based in Europe that:

- Subscribe to EPLO's objectives and values<sup>2</sup>
- Have a substantial part of their work in peacebuilding
- Are willing and able to pay the membership fee

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<sup>1</sup> Information about current EPLO SC members can be found at <http://eplo.org/about-us/decision-making-structures/>

<sup>2</sup> A description of EPLO's objectives and values can be found at <http://eplo.org/about-us/>

EPLO is not open to organisations:

- That have active EU or EU Member State policy-makers or other individuals in their decision-making structure such as to constitute a conflict of interest to EPLO as an independent platform
- Whose values, working methods or reputation seriously undermine the work of EPLO's MOs.

### III Membership Fees

The EPLO membership fee is paid each calendar year. It is payable in the first three months of each year. Voting rights at the GA are contingent upon the payment of the membership fee. The GA decides on the fee structure which is the same for all MOs. EPLO's MOs are committed to EPLO maintaining a minimum of one staff in the Brussels office independent of outside funding.

Fees for 2026 are set out below:

#### Individual NGOs with a base in Europe

NGOs based in Europe with fewer than 18 staff members pay a basic entry fee of € 500 and then € 300 for every member of staff<sup>3</sup> employed in Europe. Staff members based outside Europe are not included in the calculations. For example, an organisation with 10 FTE staff members employed in Europe will pay € 500 + (10 x € 300) = € 3500.

Organisations located in EU Member States that joined the EU after 2003 (excluding Malta and Cyprus)<sup>4</sup>, EU Candidate Countries<sup>5</sup> and countries participating in the Stability and Association Process<sup>6</sup> benefit from a 50% reduction in membership fees which is based on a comparison of relevant average wage rates compared to Brussels rates.

Fees are subject to a 3% annual increase, including where caps apply.

| Size of organisation (number of FTE staff members) | Membership fee (€) |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0                                                  | 500                |
| 1                                                  | 800                |
| 2                                                  | 1100               |
| 3                                                  | 1400               |
| 4                                                  | 1700               |
| 5                                                  | 2000               |
| 6                                                  | 2300               |
| 7                                                  | 2600               |
| 8                                                  | 2900               |
| 9                                                  | 3200               |

<sup>3</sup> This is calculated on the basis of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff members and excludes interns/volunteers.

<sup>4</sup> Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia (2004), Romania, Bulgaria (2007).

<sup>5</sup> Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine.

<sup>6</sup> Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| 10    | 3500  |
| 11    | 3800  |
| 12    | 4100  |
| 13    | 4400  |
| 14    | 4700  |
| 15    | 5000  |
| 16    | 5300  |
| 17    | 5600  |
|       |       |
| 18-24 | 7200  |
| 25-34 | 7600  |
| 35-44 | 9100  |
| 45+   | 10700 |

**Networks and platforms of NGOs**

- Small networks/platforms: € 2600
- Medium-sized networks/platforms: € 6200

**Organisations** with their headquarters in the global North but outside Europe

- Fewer than 100 staff members in the global North: € 5370
- More than 100 staff members in the global North: € 7000

## EPLO Membership Application Form

**Deadline: 31 January, 2026**

- Name of organisation
- Legal status, including registration number (if relevant)
- Names of members of board of directors<sup>7</sup>
- Number of full-time equivalent staff employed in Europe (*continental sense*)
- Name and position of proposed representative to EPLO
- Mission and objectives (you may attach your agreed mission statement)
- How do your organisation's objectives and values support EPLO's objectives and values?
- What are your organisation's core activities?
- What is your organisation's interest in EU policy in relation to its peacebuilding work? How does your organisation engage with EU institutions and/or Member States?
- How much of your work is focused specifically on peacebuilding in terms of activities, staff and finance? (Please try to indicate this in percentages.)
- How does your organisation work with governments and how does it protect its independence as an NGO?
- What does your organisation expect to gain from membership of EPLO?
- Which of the current EPLO working groups<sup>8</sup> are of particular interest for your organisation?

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<sup>7</sup> EPLO acknowledges that many international NGOs have large supporting boards that include high-level individuals, including government or international institutions. If the decision-making of the organisation is not dependent on approval from these people, EPLO sees no problem in independence. However, some functions might interfere directly with the advocacy targets of EPLO towards EU institutions. EPLO MOs, therefore, wish to gain an understanding about the composition of your management structures.

<sup>8</sup> 1. EU-Africa; 2. Climate Crisis and Peacebuilding; 3. Communications Community of Practice; 4. EU Eastern Neighbourhood and Western Balkans; 6. Funding for Peacebuilding; 7. Gender, Peace and Security; 8 EU-Middle East and North Africa; and 9. EU Policy.

- Which of the other activities that EPLO undertakes and/or benefits that it provides are of particular interest to your organisation?