



MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

How to join our
growing network



socialplatform



Who we are

Social Platform is the largest, leading organisation working on social issues. We have strength in numbers and put power back into people's hands who want a more Social Europe. Collectively, we unite tens of thousands of organisations and hundreds of millions of people in Europe. Our members reflect Europe in all its diversity – children, young and older people, women, LGBTI people, people with disabilities, undocumented migrants, Roma and others from persecuted ethnic or religious backgrounds, carers and the people that provide invaluable services to these people. [Find out more about our members here.](#)

Together, we know that the EU can change people's lives for the better.

Speaking up for social rights

The EU shapes and changes people's lives, but sometimes the decisions taken do not consider their wellbeing, their lives or their families. Social Platform's membership gives a voice to people who often go unheard. We represent millions of people through civil dialogue who otherwise would not have a seat at the table. When we are represented around the table, policy is more democratic and answers to more people's needs.

What do we want?

- A sustainable socioeconomic system that promotes social justice, including a just distribution of wealth, respect for human rights and dignity for all.
- A clear recognition that the founding values (human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights) of the EU must be central to all policies.
- A reinforced democratic system where representative democracy is underpinned by social and civil dialogue.

For our theory of change, you can check out our [Strategy for 2021-2024](#).





Why join the Social Platform family?

We achieve impact

- Building consensus to achieve impact – we build consensus in the social sector and have a clear theory of change and proven track record of achieving the impact we seek.
- Our profile gives us privileged access – as the leading civil society organisation in the social space, we have privileged access to key decision-making spaces that others do not (including the EPSCO council, EU presidencies, Parliamentary groups, European Commissioners etc.).
- Expertise and solutions – through our membership and Secretariat, we gather expertise on social issues from across a variety of perspectives and we focus on real solutions to the problems that keep people excluded and in poverty .

25 years of success!

We put ourselves on the map through years of hard work and now have prime position as the leading social organisation with the EU institutions. We have a marked track record of achieving change. We were the only civil society organisation invited to speak at the Porto Social Summit and co-sign the Porto Social Commitment alongside Heads of State and Government [see image below]. We successfully influenced the European Commission to adopt the European Pillar of Social Rights, and we are recognised as the key voice on Social Europe.





Benefits of membership

Make change through Social Platform

Social Platform has a proven track record of advocacy success. Key examples include the adoption of the European Social Pillar of Rights and its Action Plan, the work-life balance and minimum wage Directives, and getting the relationship with civil society added to the portfolios of both the European Parliament President and a Vice-President. By bringing our members' advocacy goals together and focusing on the big picture, Social Platform makes sure that key EU policy and legislation leave no one behind. By joining with Social Platform on key advocacy campaigns, you can make sure that the entire social movement is behind the change you want to see.

Access to the EU's key influencers

Do you struggle to get meetings with key advocacy targets? As the go-to social rights organisation, Social Platform has a privileged position with EU decision-makers. By becoming a member not only will you have the opportunity to influence our work and strategy, but thanks to our bottom-up approach you will also get access to these influencers. Membership will give you the chance to input to and attend high-profile engagements that only Social Platform is invited to like EPSCO meetings or one-to-ones with EU leaders, Commissioners and MEPs.

Access our pool of expertise to get the latest insights

Whether thanks to our close connections with the EU institutions or the diversity of our membership, Social Platform is renowned for having its finger on the pulse of all things social. We share all the latest intel we get from our connections through meetings – Steering Group, Working Groups, Task Forces – and through our internal communications and encourage exchange and debate.





Benefits of membership

Build your capacity and audience through peer learning and networking

From equalities to service provision to the social economy, our members are the leaders in their field. By joining Social Platform you will have access to a truly unique learning space through our Social Learning Platforms, training sessions and study visits, and can unearth new audiences where your advocacy can have real impact.

Organisations can amplify their messages and build expertise through our Communications Network. We also support our members with their own operations and internal governance structures with sessions on issues like membership development and engagement, finances, administration, safeguarding and fundraising.

Social Platform is a social community within the EU civil society space. We host get togethers where hardworking changemakers can relax, get to know each other, build their network and have fun.





Types of membership

Full membership

Full members set the guidelines and priorities of Social Platform and make an ongoing contribution to the network's activities. They have the right to contribute to and vote on our annual work programmes, budgets, accounts, and Management Committee members.

Full members must:

- Be composed of organisations (not individuals) in at least the absolute majority of EU Member States.
- Be established as a not-for-profit and non-governmental organisation in one of the EU Member States. The majority of the organisation's membership must themselves be legally established, not-for-profit and non-governmental.
- Have separate legal personality.
- Be active in the social sector, working to promote the general interest of society and contribute to social cohesion.
- Demonstrate its representativeness and that it is structured and managed in a democratic way.
- Bring added value to the work of Social Platform.





Types of membership

Associate membership

Associate members take part in and input to the activities of Social Platform, but cannot take part in any formal votes.

Associate members must:

- Be composed of organisations (not individuals) in at least one-quarter of EU Member States.
- Be established as a not-for-profit and non-governmental organisation in one of the EU Member States. The majority of the organisation's membership must themselves be legally established, not-for-profit and non-governmental.
- Be active in the social sector, working to promote the general interest of society and contribute to social cohesion.
- Have separate legal personality, or be in the process of acquiring legal personality.

[Find out more in our official statutes.](#)

Membership fees

For organisations with an annual income of:	Full membership:	Associate membership:
Less than €50,000	€737	€370
€50,000 - €200,000	€1,475	€737
More than €200,000	€2,209	€1,106

How to join

Interested in becoming a member? [Fill in the application form](#) and send it back to Alva Finn, Secretary General of Social Platform (ailbhe.finn@socialplatform.org).

