

Sunday May 5th 2013

Day of Prayer for the EUROPEAN UNION

- Did you know that Europe at this time determines 70-85% of our laws?
- Did you know that there are more than 15.000 lobbyists in Brussels who try to influence the decision-making?



The **Evangelical Alliance Flanders** instigated, since 2004, the first Sunday in May the yearly day of prayer for the EU. When the apostle Paul asks Christians to pray for the authorities (1 Tim. 2: 1-2), it will require us to take an active interest in our European institutions, especially in terms of prayer. If Christians don't exercise their influence, others surely will!

That's why we are asking all the evangelical churches to take a short time during the Sunday service on May 5th to pray for the EU. The subjects below are meant to help you.

PRAY

1. That **biblical values and principles** will all keep or obtain their place in the EU; for strong prophetic voices in this area.
2. For an effective fight against the **financial crisis**; and that the EU will not only focus on the economy ("**mammon**"), but also the spiritual well-being of the people.
3. That **Humanism and secularism** will not be the "dominant ideology"; that churches will be heard as of one voice and will be respected as stakeholders; for religious freedom in a broad sense.
4. For EU **family policy**: that marriage and families will not be undermined but actively supported.
5. For good government, integrity and **transparency** in the often convoluted decision-making; for financial accountability at all levels
6. For discernment considering **Islam** and the possible addition of Turkey to the EU.
7. For a just attitude and a peacemaking role toward the **Middle East** problems (Syria, Israel & Palestine); that the EU will not let down the Jewish people.
8. For **Christians** who work in the European institutions (Parliament, Commission, and civil servants...) that they will have the wisdom to stand up for Christian values.
9. For all **Christian organisations** who do a great job at the European level: European Union of Prayer, EUprayer.com, Europe for Christ, European Prayer Breakfast, European Evangelical Alliance, European Christian Political Movement, European Coalition for Israel, CARE for Europe, Together for Europe (for info see backside).
10. For **spiritual revival** all over the continent; that Christians in Europe will unite, bless each other and strengthen each other.
11. That **God's name** may be glorified, His kingdom come and His will be done in the EU.

Please pass this info sheet to **prayer groups**.

www.pray4belgium.be

Here is my servant! I have given him my Spirit, and he will bring justice to the nations. He won't shout or yell or call out in the streets. He won't break off a bent reed or put out a dying flame, but he will make sure that justice is done. He won't quit or give up until he brings justice everywhere on earth, and people in foreign nations long for his teaching. (Isaiah 42-1-4).

CHRISTIAN ORGANISATIONS IN AND FOR EUROPE

There are several **Christian European organizations and Prayer Movements** carefully watching the developments within the EU.

The "**European Evangelical Alliance**" has since many years an office (led by Christel Ngnambi) nearby the Berlaymont-building, where they painstakingly follow the European developments and lobby on behalf of the 15 million evangelicals of 35 European countries: www.europeanea.org.

The "**European Christian Political Movement**" (ECPM) is a political association of Christian-democratic parties and organisations (from 15 countries already) which are active at all different political levels in Europe. They have been granted an official status at the European level by the European Parliament in February 2010: www.ecpm.info.

"**Together for Europe**" (since 1999) is an initiative of hundreds of Christian (Catholic and Protestant) organizations who have joined forces for reconciliation, peace and brotherhood in Europe. There were already two major events in Stuttgart (in 2004 with 170 organizations, 9000 participants and 100,000 others via satellite in 135 other cities, and in 2007). In May 2012 they were in Brussels!
www.together4europe.org

"**CARE for Europe**" (directed by David Fieldsend) is an NGO that promotes Christian values in the areas of bio-ethics, family life, gambling, human trafficking, religious freedom and human rights: www.careforeurope.org.

"**Europe for Christ**" (Austria) mobilizes prayer for our "old" continent, so far removed from God, works toward a recognition of the Christian heritage as the foundation of our European heritage, and promotes awareness of "christianophobia": www.europe4christ.net.

At "**EUprayer**" (lead by Hugh en Norma Davies-Jenson, US) you can find much current information, material and prayer subjects: www.euprayer.com

The "**European Union of Prayer**" (lead by Ortwin Schweitzer, Germany) organizes each six months a prayer conference in the country that presides the EU.

Since twelve years, an annual "**European Prayer Breakfast**" takes place in the building of the European Parliament, where important guests of many European countries gather to share their common belief in Biblical values.

The "**European Coalition for Israel**" (led by Tomas Sandell) is already since 2004 aiming at a positive cooperation between Europe and Israel and fights anti-Semitism and negative reports in the media: www.ec4i.org.



Let us be encouraged by all these movements, and certainly pray for them!

Reactions? pray4belgium@scarlet.be