

ONE YEAR IN CONCORD

2023

JANUARY

Shifting from consultation to real partnerships

We held a webinar for members based on our guide, '7 Practices for civil society participation in EU decision-making'. The **guide** offers recommendations to the EU institutions for improved engagement with civil society, based on CONCORD's and our partners' experiences.



FEBRUARY

Demystifying the people-centred approach

We took a stride forward in our work on digital equality with the **paper** 'Demystifying the people-centred approach for the digital transformation', in which we highlight the importance of inclusivity, participation, policy coherence and environmental sustainability, human rights and private sector accountability in the digital transition.



DECEMBER

Calling for an EU strategy on civil society

We wrapped up the year with a **paper** addressing shrinking civic space, 'Standing Strong in the Storm: an EU strategy to safeguard civic space worldwide'. The paper calls on the EU to develop a strategy on civic space to bring about an enabling environment for civil society.



What makes the difference for equality?

Voices from South Africa, Paraguay and Bangladesh on what the EU can do

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MARCH

Our first ever Equality Day

After a keynote speech by Commissioner Urpilainen, civil society and EU officials discussed how addressing inequalities can underpin EU engagement with partner countries. We also launched our **report** 'What makes the difference for equality?' The event and the report represent milestones in our ongoing advocacy work on inequalities, which played a major role in the launch of the Commission's I-Marker tool in June.



APRIL

Beginnings of CONCORD's election campaign

After our Learning and Exchange Forum in March, which focused on the 2024 European Parliament elections, we launched our Elections Task Force.



SEPTEMBER

Policy Forum on Development

CONCORD shaped the 10th anniversary of the Policy Forum on Development as part of the Steering Group. We emphasised the importance of collaboration and determination to reduce inequalities and create meaningful civic space; we challenged the EU to put people and planet first during a panel on the Global Gateway.



OCTOBER

AidWatch 2023: Bursting the ODA inflation bubble

Our flagship **AidWatch report** - this time with a brand new methodology - was launched with some fanfare. The report offers recommendations to the EU and Member States to ensure that ODA reaches the people and communities that most need it. This year's event brought together activists, civil society voices and decision-makers.



MAY

Beyond Growth, Beyond Europe

At the European Parliament's Beyond Growth conference we organised a **panel discussion** with CONCORD partners to discuss the part that a Beyond Growth economic model can play in the majority world.



AUGUST

Shaping Global Gateway CSO Platform

CONCORD focused on forging a meaningful engagement mechanism for civil society within Global Gateway governance which resulted in the CSO Dialogue Platform.



JULY

CONCORD at the first EU Voluntary Review of the SDGs

We were represented at the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July by our partner, Brenda Akankunda Uwase. She contributed to the first ever EU Voluntary Review of progress on the SDGs, emphasising the need for inclusive policies that leave no one behind. The success of this and follow-up advocacy was reflected in Council conclusions in November which echoed CONCORD messages on policy coherence for sustainable development.



IMPLEMENTING THE EU GENDER ACTION PLAN III: TURNING AMBITION INTO IMPACT?

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JUNE

Implementing the EU Gender Action Plan III: Turning ambition into impact?

Our report on the EU's Gender Action Plan III was a highlight in our work on gender. The report makes recommendations for further implementation of the GAP III based on case studies from the Philippines, Morocco and Kenya.



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European Confederation of NGOs working on sustainable development and international cooperation