

# Identity Declaration

We, the members of the European Christian Political Movement (ECPM), based on the biblical foundation of our political engagement—*‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind’*. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: *‘Love your neighbour as yourself’* (Matthew 22:37–40 NIV)—, affirm the following:

- ECPM was founded and exists as the only European political party openly and explicitly promoting Christian values<sup>(1)</sup>. We recognize the Christian foundation on which Europe was built and we believe biblical teachings represent a valuable and relevant answer to today’s issues. Christian values are universal and necessary for the progress of the European Union. It is the core feature which unites us.
- We are firmly rooted in the belief that God created the human being according to His image, and that each person has intrinsic value and the right to life from conception to natural death. We also support the natural family and marriage between one man and one woman.
- The ECPM members are united around common Christian values but allow for nuance and diversity in the secondary topics and in their implementation at national level. We stand united on the core principles, are flexible in the approach, and value greatly dialogue and consensus.
- We share knowledge and best practices with each other, and we encourage each other in our common work. We find it essential to stay united when it comes to our core Christian values. Together we are stronger. The vast ECPM network is our greatest asset. ECPM acts as an advocate/ representative for Christians at the European level.
- We are committed to respecting the sovereignty of the EU Member States and abiding by the principle of subsidiarity. We advocate for governments sharing responsibilities and for cooperation at all levels.
- The ECPM works to continuously increase its visibility and involvement at national and local level, including in media, and to attract new members driven by the same values. Growth should be deepened (roots) and widened (more branches).
- The ECPM remains open to strategic collaboration with external actors (individuals, parties, organizations etc.) on certain topics, as long as it does not go against our core Christian beliefs.

<sup>(1)</sup> Christian values (list is not exhaustive and non-hierarchical): Caring for Creation, Common good, Compassion, Family / marriage, Fighting poverty, Freedom of expression, Freedom of religion, Honesty, Justice, Relational thinking, Responsibility, Sanctity of life, Solidarity, Sovereignty, Stewardship, Transparency