

Ökumenische Centrale ° Ludolfusstraße 2-4 ° 60487 Frankfurt am Main

To the Presidents of the Council  
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

**Office**

**Ökumenische Centrale**  
Ludolfusstraße 2-4  
D-60487 Frankfurt am  
Main  
Telefon 069/247027-0  
Telefax 069/247027-30

info@ack-oec.de  
www.oekumene-ack.de

4<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

With the official departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union, we as the members of the board of the Council of Churches in Germany (ACK) feel called to reach out to you to express our solidarity and the continuing friendship between our national councils.

Losing Great Britain and Northern Ireland as a strong and trusted partner was a sad and tragic moment for the whole European Union. As the representatives of 25 member churches in Germany, we want to assure you of our thoughts and prayers in your work of healing the divisions caused by the Brexit referendum and its aftermath. As Christian churches, we have a significant responsibility not only for unity among ourselves, but also in the society we serve.

We pray for your member churches that God may enable them to continue working for a just and caring society, and offering a perspective of hope for the faithful. We pray especially for your Council, that it will be a place to strengthen one another, to face difficulties in a trustful way and to be a prophetic and strong voice for reconciliation and for the Gospel within your society. We also pray that the new relationship to be negotiated between the UK and the EU will still be close, neighbourly, and marked by a spirit of friendship and cooperation.

We assure you of our support whenever necessary, our prayers, our friendship and our solidarity with the Council itself and its members. As political divisions increase, the churches of Europe must strengthen their connections in prayer and work, for “if one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it”. (1 Corinthians 12:26)

In ecumenical friendship

*Archpriest Radu Constantin Miron, chairman*

*Reverend Christopher Easthill, Bishop em. Prof Dr Martin Hein, Bishop Harald Rückert, Bishop Suffragan Dr Nikolaus Schwerdtfeger*