



ecre

European Council
on Refugees and Exiles

Annual General Conference 2026

Thursday 4 June 2026

Le Bouche à Oreille, Rue Félix Hap / Félix Hapstraat 11, 1040 Brussels

Agenda

08.30 – 09.00	Registration and Welcome Coffee
09.00 – 09.05	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sadhia Rafi – Head of Strategic Litigation, Dutch Council for Refugees and Chair, ECRE Board
09.05 – 10.30	Panel Discussion 1: The current state of protection in Europe <p>The aim of this panel is to discuss the current situation and pressing issues regarding protection in Europe on the eve of the entry into application of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.</p> <p>Moderator: Sadhia Rafi</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Esther Pozo Vera – Head of Unit for Asylum and Protection Policies, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission• Angela Moore – Head of Unit for Policy and Legal Support, Representation for EU Affairs, United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)• Ievgeniia Bulgakova – Project Manager, The Tenth of April• Julie Lejeune – Director, ECRE
10.30 – 11.00	Break
11.00 – 13.00	Workshops (See separate agendas) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Preparing for the EU Return Regulation: Implementation challenges, legal avenues and externalisation of returns (Organised by ECRE)2. Independent monitoring mechanisms for screening and border procedure: Roles, activities and accountability (Organised by ECRE)3. Protecting the right to family unity (Organised by Caritas Europa)
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 16.00	Workshops (See separate agendas) <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Access to people in need of protection in detention

	<p>(Organised by ECRE)</p> <p>5. Vulnerability under the EU Pact: From legal concept to operational reality (Organised by ECRE)</p> <p>6. Exploring mobility justice for co-creating a new narrative (Organised by Oxfam and Mosaico – Action for Refugees)</p>
16.00 – 16.30	Break
16.30 – 17.55	<p>Panel Discussion 2: Civil society and asylum in Europe: Resisting, adapting and taking action</p> <p>The aims of this panel are (1) reflect on how European civil society working on asylum in Europe either chooses or is forced to adapt to the new context; (2) learn how civil society actors from other sectors have organised when faced with increasingly difficult circumstances, and how to resist without losing direction or morale; and (3) consider different ways of taking meaningful action in support of the people on the move in Europe.</p> <p>Moderator: Abdulsami Arjumand – Head of Advocacy and Movement Building, VOICIFY – European Forum for Youth with Lived Migration Experiences</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirsten Meijer – Knowledge Manager (International Team), Dutch Council for Refugees • Yonous Muhammadi – Director, Greek Forum of Refugees • Juliana Wahlgren – Director, European Anti-Poverty Network
17.55 – 18.00	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eva Singer – Director for Asylum, Danish Refugee Council and Vice-Chair, ECRE Board

The Annual General Conference will be followed by an **informal social event** 18.00 – 20.00 at Le Bouche à Oreille (NB/ Pre-registration required).