

Who is the Anti-choice Opposition in Europe?



NEIL DATTA, SECRETARY, EPF

STRASBOURG, 16 MAY 2014

EPF Research into Anti-SHRH Opposition



- **490 anti-choice organisations identified in 32 European Countries**
- **Main findings:**
 - 1) 3 types / ‘families’ of anti-choice
 - 2) Not well organised at European level – but increasingly inter-connected
 - 3) Anti-choice movements appear to be a **reactive response** to social/legal changes (ie. they are not pro-active)

European Opposition: 3 families & 9 sub-categories



1. Continental Catholic Mainstream

**Mainstream
centre-right,
Catholic
initiatives**

**Vatican centred,
ecumenical
initiatives**

**Catholic
mainstream
« Hard Right »**

250 out of 490

2. Ecumenical Traditionalists

**North European
Catholics**

**Evangelical
Protestants**

Orthodox

130 out of 490

3. « Ultras »

**Extremists
Political Parties**





**Traditionalist
Catholics
(incl . old Military -
Religious Orders)**

**Tradition, Family
and Property
(TFP)**

110 out of 490

1. Continental Catholics: Key Organisations



ECLJ: European Centre for Law and Justice	Human Dignity Watch	FAFCE: Fédération de Familles Catholiques en Europe	Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians
			
<p>Founded 1998 by US Rev. Pat Robertson</p>	<p>Est. In Brussels 2010</p>	<p>Co-located with COMECE</p>	<p>Fake organisation</p>
<p>Grégor Puppinck</p>	<p>Sophia Kuby (daughter of Gabrielle Kuby)</p>	<p>Maria Hildingsson (wife of Tobias Teuscher)</p>	<p>Gudrun Kugler</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One of Us - Present at Council of Europe, ECHR - LMPT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Advocacy Academy 	<p>Collective Complaint V. Sweden on C.O.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual report on discrimination against Christians

2. ECPM : European Christian Political Movement



- Initiative of 2 Dutch political parties in 2002
- CU obtains funding from Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs for democracy/human rights work in East Europe (MATRA Project)
- ECPM opens offices in Timisoara, Romania – Leo van Doesburg since 2009 – travels around East Europe
- 19 political parties in 15 countries member of ECPM
- ECPYM (Youth) and ECPF (Foundation) created
- 2010 : Gains official recognition by EP as a new political family
- eligible for core funding of €200-400K /year from EP

3. Ultras : ...More Catholic than the Pope



Influential (anonymous) WWW

Extremist Parties



Talpa brusseliensis
christiana

La Taupe bruxelloise qui débusque les initiatives anti-chrétiennes dans le sous-sol des institutions de l'UE

kreuz.net
katholische nachrichten

Le Salon Beige

Blog quotidien d'actualité par des laïcs catholiques.

Tradition, Family & Property



Traditionalist Catholics





4. Who is the Anti choice in European Politics







4. Closer look at EPP – European Peoples' Party

- Largest political family in Europe
 - Most EPP parties indifferent/ uncomfortable with SRHR
 - Many lean negatively towards SRHR (ES, IT, PL, IE, etc...)
 - Some, openly progressive (F, SE, BE, etc....)
- *A minority EPP parties are aggressively anti-choice and seek to leverage the whole of the EPP....*




5. Visible Anti-Choice Infrastructure in Brussels



Continental Catholics	Ecumenical	Ultras
 <p>European Dignity Watch Information. Advocacy. Network.</p> <p>World Youth Alliance</p> <p>New Women For Europe</p> <p>FAFCE Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe</p>	 <p>Care</p> <p>CDH COMITE PROTESTANT EVANGELIQUE POUR LA DIGNITE HUMAINE</p>	
 <p>EC EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE LJ</p> <p>OBSERVATORY ON INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN EUROPE</p>	 <p>DHI Dignitas Humana Institute</p> <p>ADF ALLIANCE DEFENSE FUND Defending Our First Liberty</p>	 <p>FEDERATION PRO-EUROPA CHRISTIANA</p> <p>TRADITION FAMILY PROPERTY</p>
<p>Natural persons as Members:</p> <p>6,550</p>	<p>Natural persons as Members:</p> <p>65,000</p>	<p>Natural persons as Members:</p> <p>4</p>

5. Concealed Anti-Choice Infrastructure in Brussel



Official Links with Vatican	Inside EU Institutions	Anonymous Authors / Blogs
	<p>European Foundation for Human and Family Rights (EFFA)</p>	<p>Anonymous author: “JC von Krempach” on Turtle Bay blog and Beyond</p>
<p>Eglises des Saints Pères, 205 Chaussée de Wavre</p> <p>HQ for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▣ European Bioethics Institute ▣ One of Us 	<p>Founders: MEP C. Casini, Smeaton – SPUC in Luxembourg, 1999 – moved to Paris 2009</p>	<p>Talpa Brusselensis (affiliated with TFP)</p>
<p>FAFCE – co-located with COMECE</p>		<p>Euro-Fam (defunct)</p>

5. Proven US Links of European Anti-Choice



USA	Europe
Human Life International 	Links with 18 European anti-choice organisations - (see CFC pub)
The Phoenix Institute 	Cooperation with Vienna International Theological Institute
C-Fam & Turtle Bay and Beyond 	Web platform for cooperation and exchange between US and European anti-choice
ACLJ, ADF	Present in Europe: ECLJ, ADF-Roger Kiska, and cooperation with Slovak KDH
PNCI : Parliamentary Network on Critical Issues 	Cooperates with MEPs, DHI, EPWGHD and supported setting up APPGs
The Leadership Institute 	Trainings with PNCI, Hazte Oir and European TFP affiliates / TFP Europe are all visiting prof. at LI
Center for Bioethic Reform 	Links with 16 European anti-choice organisation / CBR HQ in Slovakia / poster campaign
Website based in California, USA	

Conclusions



- **Anti-choice communities / organisations:**
 - Share some common objectives but there are deep divisions..
 - Tend to be small organisation with an incestuous leadership
 - But, well connected...
 - And well positioned to leverage influence within mainstream political circles
 - Finally.... Increasingly professional.



Thank You!

Neil Datta, Secretary
European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF)
Rue Montoyer23
B-1000 Brussels
www.epfweb.org, ndatta@epfweb.org