

Dear all,

This November has seen a wonderful surge in European solidarity. We spoke out against the deregulation promoted by the Omnibus Directive, defending the social and environmental rights that we cherish. Our online collectives also provided valuable opportunities for discussions between our groups!

November is also the month when new horizons emerge. The World Assembly being organised by Emmaus International will take place in April 2026 in Someren (the Netherlands). The groups in Europe cannot miss this opportunity as we will also hold our Elective General Assembly there, which we are preparing with great enthusiasm!

Lastly, we urge you to discover the innovative project run by Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney - supporting women who have experienced domestic abuse and/or homelessness to rebuild their lives and their futures.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

The Emmaus Europe team

Table of contents

- [Emmaus Finland is fighting overconsumption!](#)
- [Overcoming trauma: Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney is working innovatively to support women](#)
- [Pursuing our action against social and environmental deregulation](#)
- [Some good news: tax on small parcels to limit textile deliveries from China!](#)
- [Two online collectives in autumn - meeting again in person in spring 2026!](#)
- [Updates on the Green Transition Fund](#)
- [Gelu nominated 'Man of the Year' in Romania!](#)
- [Meeting in Someren in April 2026](#)
- [European Elective Assembly: submit your applications!](#)
- [Emmaus International: expertise and innovation among groups](#)

Top Story

Emmaus Finland is fighting overconsumption!

November is marked by Black Friday, which takes place tomorrow. In response to this global celebration of excessive consumerism, we're once again demonstrating our commitment to a fair and sustainable economy, as can be seen in this video!

As mentioned in our [October article](#) on overproduction, this video highlights an initiative run by Emmaus Finland. Watch the video on [our Instagram account](#) or by clicking on the image below!



Emmaus stories

Overcoming trauma: Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney is working innovatively to support women

According to a study carried out by Fobbed Off, in 2021 60% of homeless adults living in temporary accommodation in England were women.

Women experiencing homelessness often struggle to get access to traditional support services due to a lack of understanding of their specific, gender-related needs, such as female-only spaces in order to feel safe. Recognising this gap, the British group Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney launched an innovative pilot project in January 2025.

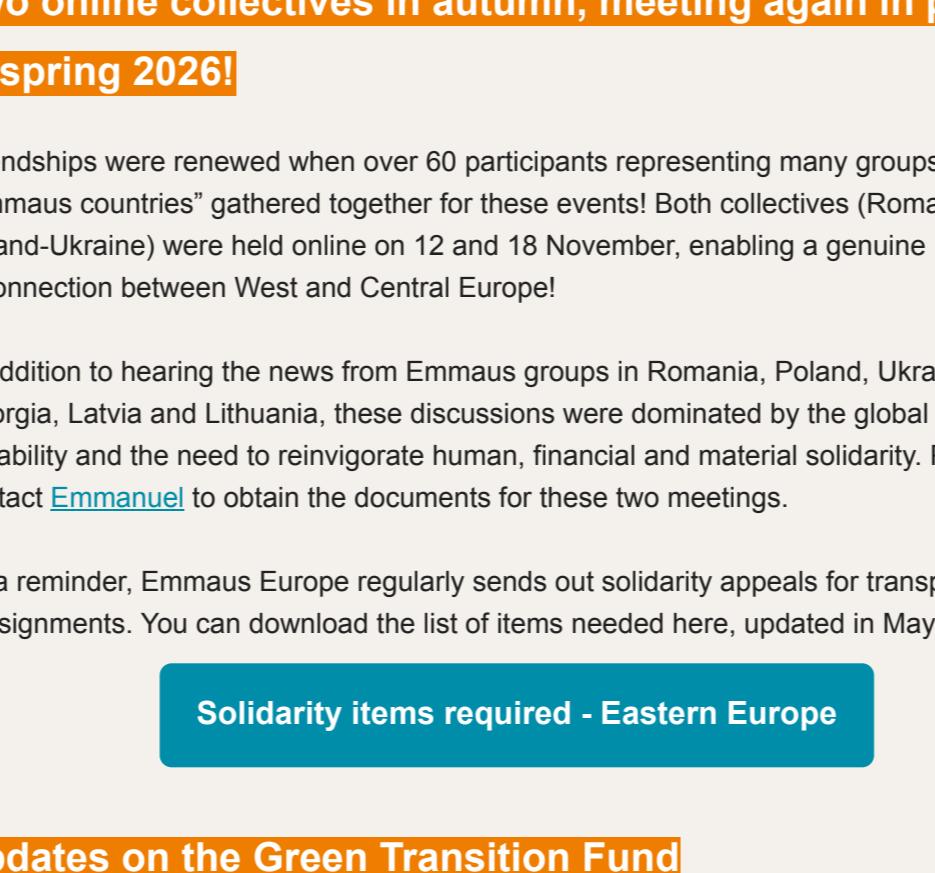
We interviewed Cecile Roberts, CEO of Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney, about this transformative initiative.

What motivated this project?

When I joined Emmaus seven and half years ago, I noticed that there were no women in the community. Many Emmaus communities in the United Kingdom are in the same boat. The findings were clear: many women who have experienced a period of homelessness have also been victims of sexual violence and feel vulnerable around men. In 2020, we opened a wing reserved for women in our main building, consisting of three rooms. In only three months, it was already completely full.

Trends started to emerge very quickly: four out of five women had been victims of rape, all had been victims of domestic violence, with recurring patterns of coercive control. Emmaus UK asked me to design a project to specifically address these issues. With support from Emmaus UK, we developed a therapeutic programme, aimed at supporting women to make healthy choices in life and take steps towards a life that is authentic, secure and fulfilling.

[Read more...](#)



Caption: A companion practising metalwork in a silversmith's workshop | © Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney

European action

Pursuing our action against social and environmental deregulation

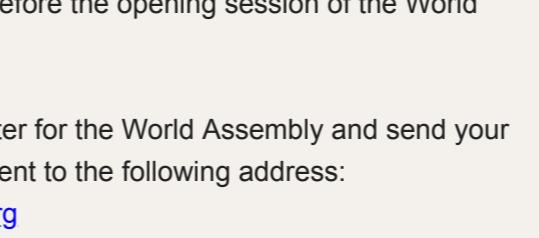
On 13 November, the European Parliament voted in favour of the Omnibus Directive, which includes several major setbacks with regard to social and environmental protection. This affects the gains achieved during the previous term of office under the "European Green Deal", which today are being practically dismantled before they have even been rolled out.

In our view, one of the most important gains was the Due Diligence Directive, passed in 2024. It required companies with over 1,000 employees to guarantee respect for human rights and the environment throughout their entire production chain, including work by subcontractors. This measure would have prevented several tragedies, like the one in Rana Plaza. This tragedy unfolded after a building collapsed in Bangladesh in 2013 killing over 1,100 textile workers subject to appalling working conditions.

Today, this directive has been rendered meaningless: the threshold has been raised to 5,000 employees, effectively exempting most companies. To make matters worse, European civil liability has been abolished. This was supposed to enable victims to take legal action against companies responsible for human rights or environmental violations.

Raising the thresholds also applies to the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), which requires companies to publish annual reports on their social and environmental impact. The result is that fewer companies will be held accountable.

Lastly, the obligation for companies to implement a climate transition plan, in line with the Paris Agreement, has also been removed. And this has all happened at the same time as COP30...



Caption: Aerial view of the European Parliament's plenary chamber | © Unsplash

Some good news: tax on small parcels to limit textile deliveries from China!

On Thursday 13 November, the ministers of the EU Member States approved the end of customs duty exemption for small parcels sent to member countries with a value of under €150.

Emmaus Europe has been calling for this since last autumn as part of our work combatting the crisis of surplus textile production. It was initially due to come into force in 2028 but is now going to be implemented from the first quarter of 2026!

However, we can't stop there. Discussions are now underway on additional tax on these parcels to fund customs checks. It is also high time we challenged the environmental absurdity of chartering cargo planes solely to deliver these ultra-fast fashion articles. In the wake of COP30, we can not finally tax kerosene at its fair climate price and ban air transport for non-perishable goods?

Solidarity

Two online collectives in autumn, meeting again in person in spring 2026!

Friendships were renewed when over 60 participants representing many groups and "Emmaus countries" gathered together for these events! Both collectives (Romania and Poland-Ukraine) were held online on 12 and 18 November, enabling a genuine reconnection between West and Central Europe!

In addition to hearing the news from Emmaus groups in Romania, Poland, Ukraine, Georgia, Latvia and Lithuania, these discussions were dominated by the global economic instability and the need to reinvigorate human, financial and material solidarity. Please contact [Emmaus](#) to obtain the documents for these two meetings.

As a reminder, Emmaus Europe regularly sends out solidarity appeals for transport consignments. You can download the list of items needed here, updated in May 2025

[Solidarity items required - Eastern Europe](#)

Updates on the Green Transition Fund

In March 2025, Emmaus Europe funded the installation of solar panels on the roof of the boarding centre for children in Srebrenica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), amounting to €15,000.

These solar panels will make it possible for the accommodation centre to reduce its electricity bills and spend more money on supporting the 61 children boarding there. For more information, read [this article](#) posted by IFS-Emmaus.

As a reminder, Emmaus groups can support the Green Transition Fund, funding energy impact projects for Emmaus groups in Eastern Europe.

Caption: Srebrenica: solar panels are installed to improve daily life for children boarding at the centre | © IFS-Emmaus

[Download the application kit - CET](#)

[Download the application kit - Chair](#)

Gelu nominated 'Man of the Year' in Romania!

In Romania, the economic and political situation remains very unstable. However, this is not the case in the way of good news! In October, Gelu was nominated 'Most Vulnerable of the Year' by Romanian national television for his involvement.

Emmaus Romania founder has been rewarded for his lifelong rights and to Romanian society. For Romanian speakers, [click here](#) to read an excerpt of the special issue dedicated to Gelu.

[Trilogue hopes:](#)

Emmaus Europe has joined forces with more than 250 European organisations and researchers to write to the EU Member States in an attempt to save the gains of the "European Green Deal" during the trilogue when Member States, the Commission and the Parliament will make the final decision on the Omnibus Directive. Read our letter [here](#).

Caption: Aerial view of the European Parliament's plenary chamber | © Unsplash

[Read more...](#)

Agenda

[Meeting in Someren in April 2026](#)

You know, you the 2026 is an important year for our Movement. 13 to look forward in 2026 in Someren, the Netherlands. Registrations are now open!

We will also have the opportunity to elect the next Emmaus Europe Chair in April 2026.

Councils of Emmaus International Assembly (CEI) will be held in the region of Someren, 13 April 2026.

From 10:00 to 12:30 in Someren, just before the opening session of the World Assembly.

To take part, it couldn't be simpler: register for the World Assembly and send your email to someren2026@emmaus-proxy.com to the following address:

[someren2026@emmaus-proxy.com](#)

[Sign up!](#)

European Elective Assembly: submit your applications!

Our future Chair and 2026 CEI are up for election. Apply

Nominees 5 (Emmaus Westervik - yourself) CEI inspired by Nina

2023: [What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?](#)

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

What would you like to say to the CEI candidates who are running?

