



Collectif Europiien des Communautiis de Base
La Haye (Pays-Bas)
du 18 au 20 septembre 2026

Report of the Vienna Christian Grassroot Communities 2025/2026

The Christian Base Communities CBC in Vienna hosted the CCB Representatives' Meeting in Vienna from May 16-18, 2025. The discussions mainly focused on the follow-up to the 11th European Meeting in Pesaro of September 20-22, 2024. On Saturday evening, after the church service at St. Ruprecht, there was a meeting of the European group with the community of St. Ruprecht.

Since January 2025, the contact group (focal points) had been busy preparing the CBC Forum – Topic: Becoming Familiar with the Jewishness of Jesus. 65 participants participated in the event on November 9, 2025. The lively engagement with the topic is seen as a successful revival of the forum. The Machstraße parish and the Coordination Committee for Christian-Jewish Cooperation also co-sponsored the forum. The main speaker was Dr. Martin Steiner, research assistant and academic advisor at the Institute for Jewish-Christian Research (IJCF) at the University of Lucerne.

Dr. Steiner also preached on the topic at the Liturgy of the Word on November 9 in Machstraße. Today, knowledge about the Jewish roots of Christianity and Jesus' Jewish identity is widespread and sounds familiar. But what seems obvious to many shouldn't be dismissed as just common sense. The recognition and acknowledgment of Christianity's Jewish sources can't be emphasized enough, and the base communities should be right at the forefront.

In May 2025, we started a revitalization of the website www.basisgemeinden-oesterreich.at. The website is increasingly developing as the renewed face of the base communities to the outside world. In addition, our website is a platform for interesting topics, a strong voice for more participation of CBC in the church, and for presenting the core elements of the base communities online as seen on: [Basisgemeinden Österreich - Who we are](#)

Paul Weiß passed away on July 14, 2025. Paul especially promoted the establishment of CBC at Machstraße and spread the idea of CBC widely through his books. Ilus Kohler passed away on February 5, 2026. Her tireless dedication with and for the communities inspired many. Both farewells have raised the question: What is the role of the community when a member dies? For a touching farewell, sharing memories and giving thanks, active participation from the communities is necessary. Communities should insist on this.

On June 16, the base communities in Machstraße invited the new Archbishop for *Gemeinde Quer* to the topic: Thinking Church from the perspective of communities. 154 people participated. More on this at: [Base Communities Austria - Community Follow-Up](#)

This year as well, some CBCs (Machstraße and Münchendorf) were able to experience and celebrate *Easter new* through long preparation. As every year, some communities spent and celebrated Pentecost together. The community in Endresstraße spends these days in Mailberg, the community olive branch in Traunstein, the Johannes Community in St. Pölten, and Community 3 in Kritzendorf.

The contact focal points meeting has taken place 4 times since June 2025. Some topics at the contact meeting were: The new right – since the new right is anti-Jewish, anti-modern, and against minorities, the Church cannot and must not go along with this path after the Second Vatican Council. Another topic was the need for learning communities: A community that does not learn has no future. A community can learn through broad and deep engagement with its past, its surroundings, and the poor within it (Vinzenc Community in Graz), signs of the times, and theology.