



The World Student Christian Federation in Europe

Annual Report 2010

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Greetings from the Chairperson

I am delighted to introduce the 2010 Annual Report for the World Student Christian Federation in Europe (WSCF Europe). The report shares our successes and achievements in 2010, giving an overview of our events, projects and publications. It also includes a financial report with our income and expenditure.

Highlights in 2010 included a conference in Berlin examining the intersection between religion and politics, three conferences on climate change, related to our annual theme of climate justice, a consultation on the Eucharist, furthering ecumenical dialogue on this key Christian practice, and the conclusion of our three year campaign against domestic violence, *Stop Being Silent!* We also published two issues of *Mozaik*, our ecumenical journal in 2010. *So God Made*, the follow-up resource to our 2009 gender conference, explores what it means to have a gender identity. *The Powers that Be*, a resource published after our conference in Berlin, looks at the links between spiritual power, religious power, and political power.

In August 2010, the European Regional Committee began an in-depth strategic planning process for WSCF Europe. This will examine every aspect of our work, with the aim of making ourselves and our member movements better able to engage with the needs of young Christians from all denominations in Europe, and to give our work a wider reach and a bigger impact. We will report the results of the strategic planning process in 2012.

This was also a year where we saw staff change over. We said goodbye to regional secretary Jooa Vuorinen, in September 2010. We thank Jooa for her three years of dedicated work for WSCF. Jooa was succeeded by David Masters from the UK.

Where possible, we've included a precise cost for each our events, projects and publications. Where this isn't possible, we've given an estimate. These costs are the full cost of the event, not all of which are included in our annual accounts as occasionally donors channel money through our member movements or pay costs directly rather than through WSCF Europe.

On the issue of funds, you'll notice we had strong support from churches in 2010, with over one fifth (21%) of our funding coming from church agencies. However some churches have shifted their priorities, directing funding away from WSCF Europe. As such, we currently anticipate that funds from churches will contribute less than 15% to our budget in 2011, and less than 5% in 2012. Funding from churches is vital to our work, both to maintain our Christian identity, and because our statutory funders require co-funding. If you are from a church or church agency, please consider funding our work in 2011 and 2012.

If you would like to follow the work of WSCF on a day-to-day basis, may I suggest you visit and sign up for our new social networking platform, wscfconnect.org. Here you will find all the latest information on our events and campaigns.

Finally, I hope you like the new format of the Annual Report, which is designed to be more engaging and accessible.

Myroslava Bukovinska
Chair, WSCF Europe





Headline Projects

Religion, Ethics, and Politics – God and the Use of Power

Programme: Theology Conference
Location: Berlin, Germany
Dates: 13-19 April 2010
Participants: 43
Total Cost: €38,872
Funders: European Youth Foundation, World Youth Programme of the World Council of Churches, German Ministry of Education, ICCO & Kerk in Actie
Resources: *Mozaik 25: The Powers that Be*, August 2010

Forty three students from across Europe studied how theology and religion have been closely tied with government and political policy in Europe and the wider world. Participants learned how religious ideas can be a source for positive, liberating change, as well as a destructive and oppressive influence. They focused on politics in the broadest sense, considering all forms of social relations which involve the use of power, authority or decision-making.

The conference promoted intercultural dialogue and appreciation of diversity among young people in Europe. It empowered students to raise their own views the relationship between Church and State as well as power and ethics. It gave them the opportunity to critically examine their own political life, and learn to become positive multipliers in their own communities.

Lectures topics included liberation theology, the Church's role in migration, and the interaction between Church and the state.

Methodologies included practical and creative workshops led by experts and participants; panel discussions, including one from interregional participants from Zimbabwe and Philippines; large scale role-plays; small discussion groups; and contextual bible studies. An excursion around the city of Berlin was a highlight of the event, as students were able to visit a church built during the Third Reich and tour the Reichstag where they met with Wolfgang Thierse, the Vice-President of the Bundestag. The intercultural evenings and free time in Berlin offered a chance to interact informally learning about one another's culture and the local culture.



Climate Justice Now!

Programme: Solidarity Conference; WSCF Europe and Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe
joint study session
Location: Strasbourg, France
Dates: 12-18 September 2010
Participants: 25
Total Cost: Unknown; no cost to WSCF Europe
Funders: European Youth Foundation
Resources: *Mozaik 27: Climate Justice Now!*, March 2011

The study session at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg brought together 25 participants from Europe, with different cultural, social and denominational backgrounds, creating a unique and diverse basis for discussions on the ecological situation in various countries, and the role and responsibility of young Christians in these situations.

Participants acknowledged the strong need to promote climate justice as a human right and issued a statement calling for more awareness and action in the churches on climate issues. The statement calls for all Christians to rethink our excessive consumerism and to consider alternative ways of life. It also points out the need to improve climate education, involving all parts of society as being a crucial part of the change. Finally, the statement demands that climate refugees are officially recognized as refugees by the United Nations.

During the study session inputs of three different guest speakers provided the overview of the themes discussed from various aspects - political, theological and practical. Participants contributed actively to the process of the study session with their experiences and knowledge of the subject, and enriched the atmosphere of the event with their creative approaches to the activities.

Consultation on the Eucharist

Programme: Lingua Franca
Location: Kiev, Ukraine
Dates: 11-16 June 2010
Participants: 28
Total Cost: €10,585
Funders: Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, ICCO & Kerk in Actie

This consultation gathered 28 students, the majority from Central and Eastern Europe, to participate in ecumenical dialogue and concrete practices on the theme of Eucharist. The shared Eucharist theme was upon request from the grassroots level of our national and local member movements. Young people want more training and dialogue on how to move forward in ecumenism, how to break down divisions between East and West, and between Orthodoxy,



Protestantism, Catholicism and other denominations, especially in the theology and practice of the Eucharist.

Though the group could not partake of the bread and cup together, everyone shared in the images, sights, smells, and experiences of different Eucharist services. One workshop taught participants to bake bread and participants found it to be very meaningful to make the bread together and share the freshly baked rolls even though they could not partake of it together in the Eucharist celebration.

Through education of other's traditional Eucharistic theologies participants were empowered to practice dialogue on Eucharist, promote reconciliation among young people from different denominations and cultures, and break down barriers of xenophobia, nationalism, misunderstandings and fear.

Stop Being Silent!

Programme: Lingua Franca

Location: Minsk, Belarus

Dates: 25-30 August 2010

Participants: 20

Total Cost: €10,238

Funders: General Board of Global Ministries: United Methodist Church (GBGM), Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, ICCO & Kerk in Actie, World Council of Churches World Youth Programme

Resources: *Mozaik 26: Stop Being Silent!*, January 2011

The third and final training event of our three year project, *Stop Being Silent! Identifying, Preventing and Overcoming Domestic Violence* brought together 20 participants. The project's goals were: To list the elements of violent behaviour; to identify one's own values and attitudes towards domestic violence; to describe Church's role in preventing domestic violence and its effects; and to demonstrate understanding of the domestic violence phenomenon.

Interactive sessions allowed participants to study and examine the realities of domestic violence in their home context. They learned about activism and campaigning, including examples of what young people can do in response to injustices in their home contexts. Through case studies and sharing of best practice, Students discovered innovative responses to domestic violence were able to evaluate what is needed in their own environments.

Each person left with more information on how to identify and respond to domestic violence. Being able to recognise and identify the problem is the first step to challenging domestic violence and ultimately finding individual and communal healing.



Universal Day of Prayer for Students

Programme: Bible study, Prayer and Worship Service
Location: 105 countries around the world
Dates: 21 February 2010
Total Cost: Unknown; no cost to WSCF Europe
Funders: World Student Christian Federation interregional office
Resources: Bible study, background sheet and worship service available online in French, English, and Spanish

The Universal Day of Prayer for Students (UDPS) is one of the longest established ecumenical events, first celebrated in 1898. In 2010, the UDPS focused on the WSCF Global annual theme, *Climate Justice*. There was also a donation request for the Student Christian Movement (SCM) in Haiti as following the earthquake in the country.



EYCE – WSCF-E Joint Study Session in Strasbourg, France



Excursion in Kiev, Ukraine during the Shared Eucharist Lingua Franca Training



Students playing a role play about the geopolitical system and human needs at the Theology Conference in Berlin, Germany



Dancing during the Stop Being Silent! Lingua Franca Training in Minsk, Belarus.



Leadership Training and Development

European Regional Staff and Officers' meeting

Programme: Staff and Officers' Meeting

Location: Lund, Sweden

Dates: 20-25 March 2010

Participants: 9

Total Cost: c.€5,000

Funders: European Union's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)

Nine staff members and officers of seven local movements in Norway, Finland, Georgia, Slovakia, Sweden, Germany, and Britain joined together at the Lund Student Christian Movement office to follow-up the activities and thematic work that had taken place over the past year.

The staff members, volunteer coordinators and officers of the local SCMs who attended were trained on the current issues facing WSCF-E and the global federation. They shared movement reports, activities, and struggles, enabling them to better cooperate and network together. The main focus of the week was to share news (good and bad), advice and helpful tips with one another bringing the region closer together.

During the meeting, participants also attended the celebration of International Oscar Romero Day at a local conference together with the Swedish SCM and churches. The groups attended lectures, to discuss and to learn how to better engage into the work for social justice, liberation and anti-oppression locally and globally.



Member Movement and Sub-Regional Projects

In Partnership with WSCF Europe

War, Reunification and Reconciliation

Partner: Nordic-Baltic Co-operation Council (NBCC)
Location: Oslo, Norway
Dates: 19-21 February 2010
Participants: 15

Fifteen students from Denmark, Norway, Finland, Lithuania, Germany, Jordan and Slovakia engaged with the theme *War, Reunification and Reconciliation* on a deep level.

The main purpose of the Winter meeting was for the student volunteers, board members, officers, and staff of the Nordic-Baltic student movements to meet, engage in team-building, learn new skills and network to maximise the impact of the work in the region. The meeting provides leadership training and intercultural exchange for all young people involved.

Ecology and the Future of Central Europe: With or Without life?

Partner: Central European Subregion (CESR)
Location: Zážežová, Slovakia
Dates: 20-25 September 2010
Participants: 23
Resources: CESR Anthology, Autumn 2011

Over 20 students from Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Latvia, Belarus Hungary and Austria travelled to central Slovakia for the annual thematic summer seminar of the Central European Subregion. Through the theme students discussed and engaged in meaningful dialogue about ecology, the current climate crisis and the Copenhagen Climate treaty as related to the Central European context.

The seminar was designed to promote cross-border cooperation and civic engagement, awareness raising and training young leaders to work on environmental topics in their home communities. In addition, through cross border exchange, the seminar helped to break down barriers of prejudice, misinformation and nationalism.



Living it Out

Partner: SCM Britain
Location: Swanwick, UK
Dates: 19-21 February 2010
Participants: 120

Participants explored the theme of living out faith through the four strands of spirituality, vocation, activism and mission. Through speakers, workshops, prayer and worship, and open-space discussions, participants sought answers to the questions: What does it mean to inhabit and tell the Gospel story? How do we live out the good news of our faith in the face of global economic injustice, the politics of fear and climate chaos? Can we challenge the commercialisation of our education and reclaim a sense of vocation?

Climate Justice: Global Event

Partner: WSCF Interregional Office
Location: Beirut, Lebanon
Dates: 28 October & 5-6 November 2010
Participants: 23

Participants from around the world gathered to examine the questions and challenges of climate justice, the annual theme of the global WSCF. Through interactive lectures and workshops, participants looked at the environmental issues facing students from a global perspective, examining diverse approaches from the various regions of the world and allowing for intercultural dialogue and exchange. WSCF Europe sent two delegates from the European member movements as participants.



Publications and Resources

Mozaik

Copies: 700 of each issue
Cost: €2,000 per issue
Funder: Included in the relevant conference budget

Mozaik (est. 1992) is the flagship publication of WSCF Europe, through which we share the resources and ideas developed at our conferences. As such, the themes of Mozaik follow the themes of our conferences. It is written and edited by students and young people, and reflects the diversity of our members from all Christian denominations in Europe.

CESR Anthology

Copies: 500
Cost: Unknown; no cost to WSCF Europe

The Central European Subregion (CESR) publishes an anthology every second year of academic articles written by students. Each anthology follows up the theme of the previous year's conferences.

E-News, Website & Social Media

Subscribers: 1,500
Cost: c. €100

Our quarterly e-news updates our members and member movements on the work and activities of WSCF Europe. We invite readers to take part in campaigns, events and partner events. In 2010, WSCF Europe joined Twitter and Facebook as a more accessible way to share our news with anyone interested in our work.

Also, the WSCF launched wscfconnect.org, a social media platform for WSCF members all around the world. By the end of 2010, the website already had over 250 members.

Governance & Statutory Meetings

Staff Members

Regional Secretary:	Jooa Vuorinen, Finland (to August 2010)
Regional Secretary:	David Masters, UK (from September 2010)
Lingua Franca Co-ordinator:	Rachael Weber, USA
Publications Intern:	Jill Piebiak, Canada
Mozaik Editor-in-Chief:	Paweł Pustelnik, Poland (from July 2010)
Hungarian Assistant:	Balazs Kalydy, Hungary

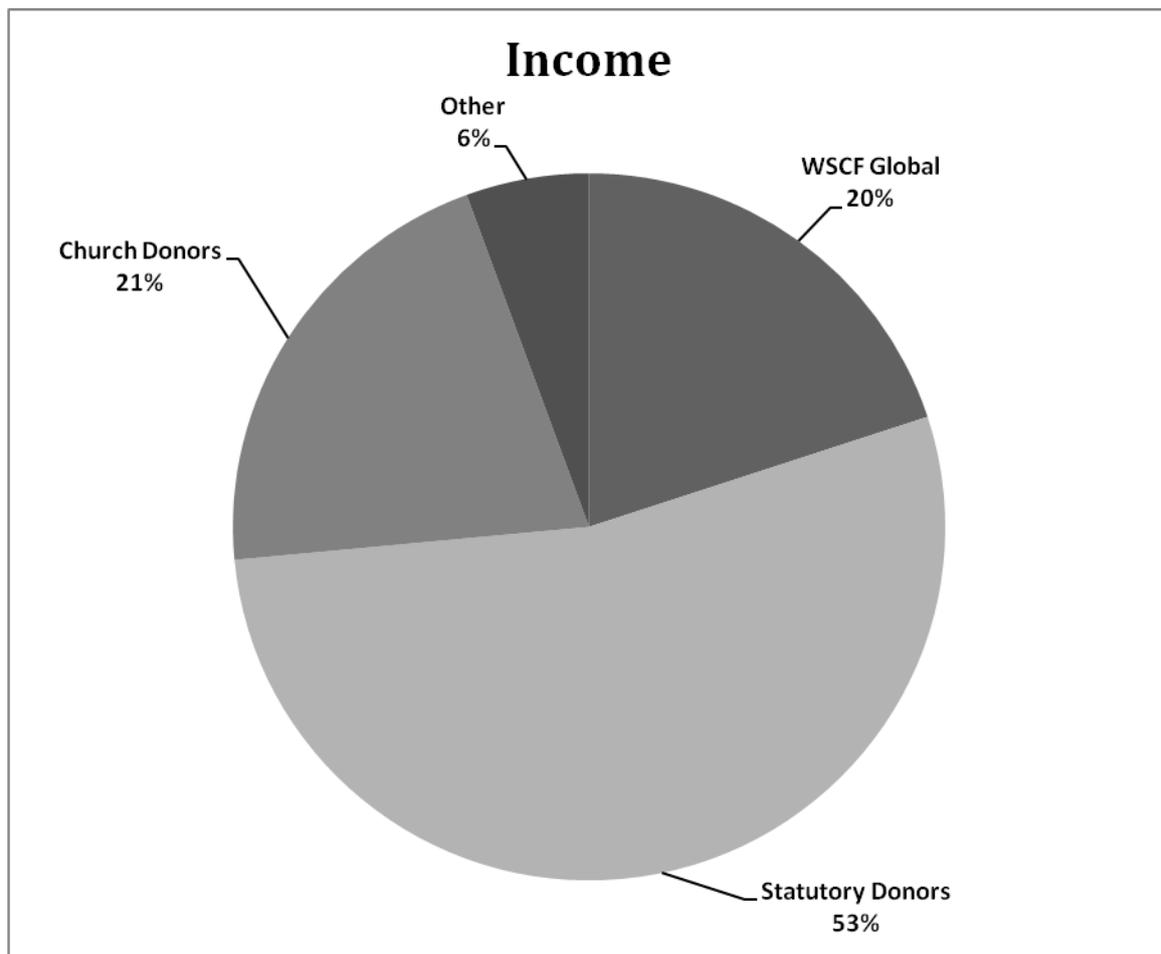
European Regional Committee

Chair:	Myroslava Bukovinska, Greek Catholic, Ukraine
Vice-chair/Links:	Katarina Babicova, Roman Catholic, Slovakia
Treasurer:	Matthew Gardner, Anglican, UK
Culture and Higher Education:	Maximilian Karrash, Protestant, Germany
Gender:	Joseph Nagle, Protestant, UK (to October 2010)
Gender:	Paul Crome, Protestant, UK (from December 2010)
Solidarity:	Vaida Krisciunaite, Protestant, Lithuania
Theology:	Sofie Eriksen, Protestant, Denmark
Global Executive Committee:	Hannah Satlow, Protestant, Austria
Global Executive Committee:	Marco Fornerone, Protestant, Italy

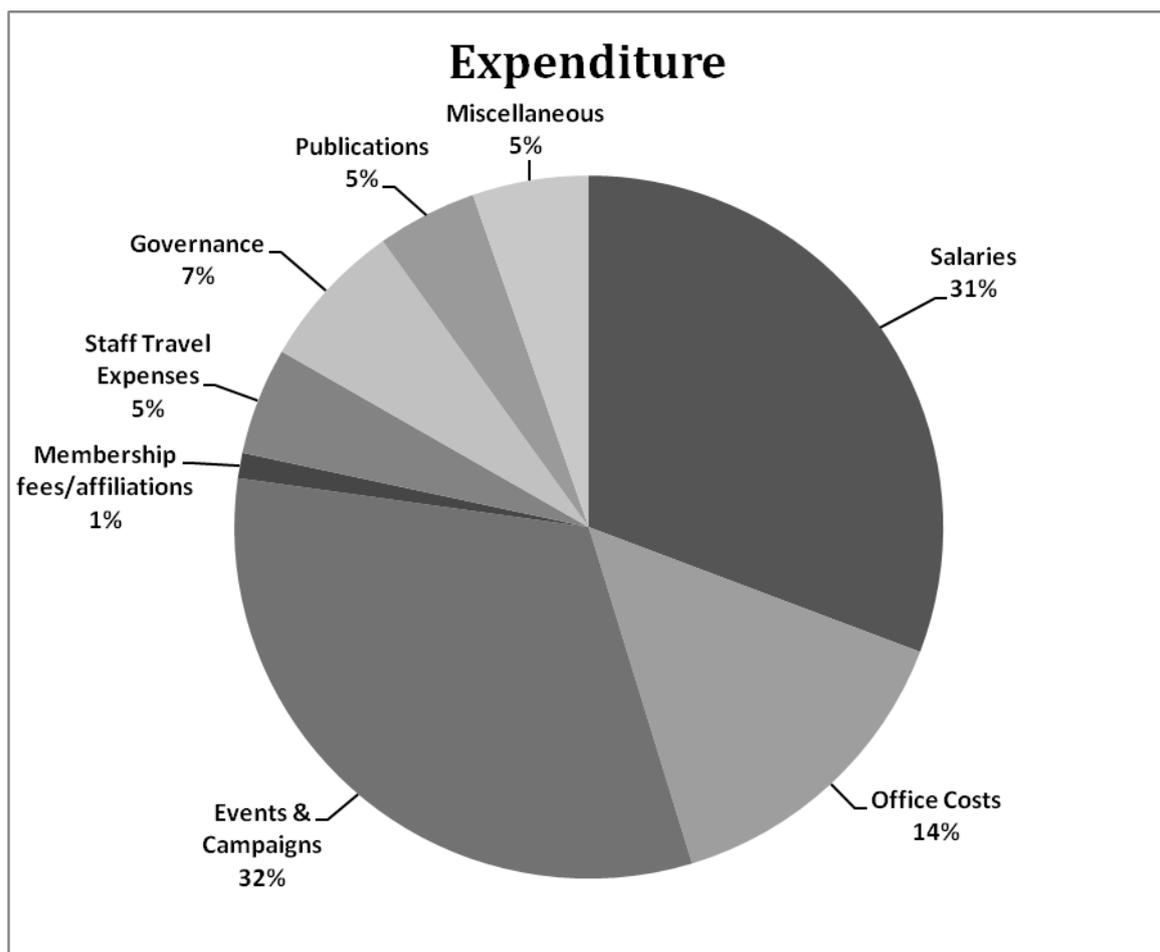


Finances

Income	
WSCF Inter-regional Office	€ 25,523
European Youth Foundation	€ 24,804
EU/EACEA	€ 43,677
ICCO & Kerk in Actie	€ 10,000
Finnchurchaid	€ 4,852
GBGM	€ 3,734
WCC WYP/Diakonisches Werk	€ 8,138
Participation fees	€ 3,206
Other	€ 3,941
Total	€ 127,874



Expenditure	
Salaries	€ 39,048
Office Costs	€ 18,422
Events & Campaigns	€ 40,520
Membership fees	€ 1,480
Staff Travel Expenses	€ 6,255
Governance	€ 8,631
Publications	€ 5,802
Miscellaneous	€ 6,723
Total	€ 126,883





Corrections

We apologise for omitting this information from the original report.

At the event War, Reunification and Reconciliation, there were participants from Lithuania.

The Nordic-Baltic Co-operation Council (NBCC) held an event in Samsøe, Denmark, 16-21 August.