



WSCF-EUROPE ANNUAL REPORT 2016



1 / Introduction to the report



ZUZANA BABICOVA
WSCF-Europe
Chairperson

Thank you for taking the time to read this Annual Report and your interest in our work. For all readers and our friends of the WSCF-Europe, I would describe the life of the organisation in 2016 with these words – a lot of commitment toward challenging times internally and with faith and ever searching spirit creating spaces for dialogue.

In 2016 we continued with our long term focus on internal organisational development – in areas of finances and communications. Projects in the field of communications and marketing covering – internal database development, digitalisation of archived materials, alumnae engagement activities and events, WSCF-Europe history book production and in the area of finances – regular giving system development and new sources of funding identification. Much of this work being done with wonderful dedication of Maria Kozhinova, Melany Bresciani and also Mirjam Meindl and other volunteers.

In our work for students, we continued with capacity building and educational activities. We ran our annual training focused on volunteer work management and continued to provide opportunities within WSCF-E for young people in various capacities. We have been once again able to include students from outside of Europe to our events – this time from the Middle East. Our key international event focused on important questions related to gender enabled us to reflect with wide student audience on identity issues that we want to confront with the searching mind. And our journal Mozaik has continued to be a stamp of the thoughts that students are bringing for discernment. Alongside all of this work, we are continuing to develop our new line of work-global networking where we are strengthening our connections and identity as the global organisation.

Our intersectionality geographically is very important and enriching for our work. Big thanks to Krista Autio for all her efforts and good cooperation with our colleagues and students in other parts of the world within our organisation. In the middle of the year, we organized the meeting for our Senior Friends-former members and supporters – it was a very refreshing moment to see the community of people and their belief in this work and very positive memories.

Internally, 2016 has been a challenging year as we have experienced unexpected income shortfall from our global headquarters and needed to adjust to it in the middle of the year and to intensify our efforts to mitigate this event. We are grateful to all people who assisted us financially and non financially to overcome this challenge. I am grateful to commitment to our board members – Clare Wilkins and Rachel Power who have shown a lot of care and responsibility. 2016 has made us resilient and showed much of strength we can find within ourselves and our networks too. Despite such an event, we were able to continue with much of the organisational commitments we made and delivered our work. My special gratitude always goes to Natia Tsintsadze who was the one from all of us for whom resiliency and impact that I talked about is related to and has been felt the most- professionally and personally.

It has been an honour for me personally to continue to serve WSCF-Europe surrounded by many people who volunteer with kindness and generosity and by all people who support our work for justice and peace in all kinds of ways. Thank you to our long term institutional partners, our Regional Committee members for their time and gifts and all our friends who assisted us. Thank you for your trust and faith in continuing our work So that All may be One – Ut Omnes Unum Sint. Only together we make this happen.

Yours,
Zuzana,
WSCF-E Chairperson

2 / Executive summary



NATIA TSINTSADZE,
WSCF Executive for Europe Region and Programme
Director for Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation

Time to act! This sentence perfectly captures the dynamics within the Federation last year. Not only we had to take actions towards more sustainable and stable future of the Federation, but we had to play far greater and stronger role in the development processes in Europe.

Going through the transition processes last year was a challenging experience from the financial and organisational perspectives. But it presented us with the opportunities too. We learned lessons from our rich history which itself has been guiding us to stability, solidarity and unity. We have managed to be truthful to our values while remaining in the forefront of over 110 national movements across six regions.

With a forward-looking leadership team, clear vision and strategic planning we were able to strengthen the ties with and among our Student Christian Movements (SCMs) in Europe. We worked with other ecumenical organisations and developed new partnerships with stakeholders.

The right direction and strong leadership of the WSCF-Europe have been key drivers through this turbulent times. We believe that the organisation hasn't only survived but came out stronger as ever. And here we stand with a clear vision for future, solid foundation of organisational experience and expertise to move forward.

Past year has also demonstrated our great potential and ability to contribute to the major development processes in Europe. We continue to serve our mission of putting our Christian faith into action, serve the most vulnerable and ensure just and peace for all. We live in a time when hope for a better future and fear interchangeably fill our daily lives. Struggle for equality, human rights and inclusion is as vital as ever in the face of growing radicalisation, racism and hate rhetoric in Europe. The authorities use fear for building the walls and closing the gates to hope, humanity and compassion which are our ultimate values.

In this reality our primary task and role was to stand up to hate, exclusion and discrimination. We had to support and guide our young people and contribute to restore the trust in humanity.

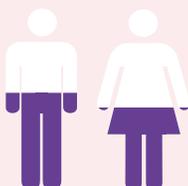
The WSCF-Europe has been engaged in several joint initiatives with the ecumenical and international organisations and took a strong position against the misconception and manipulation of immigration and diversity issues. As Christians we live in faith and faith always is the hope for better lives for everyone. Looking forward, in 2017 we continue to adhere to building stronger ecumenical network of students and young people in Europe and make a positive impact wherever we can.

3 / Year at a glance



our Facebook outreach grew to **1498** supporters.

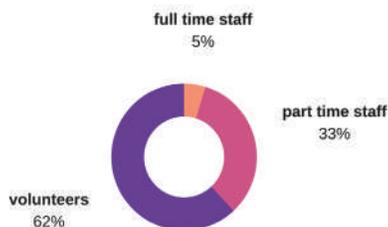
18 - 35 **67%**
35 and over **33%**



53% Male
46% Female



50% growth in our presence on online social platforms



proportion of **volunteers** directing the WSCF-Europe is over **60%**

14 042 people visited our website in 2016

That is **1,9%** more than last year.

Most of our readers come from USA, UK, Philippines, Italy, Germany, India, Canada, Netherlands, Australia, and Slovakia.

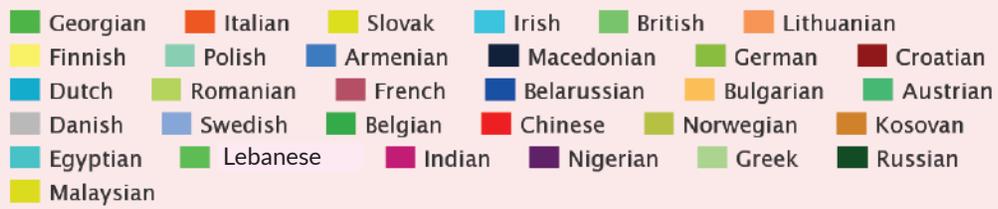
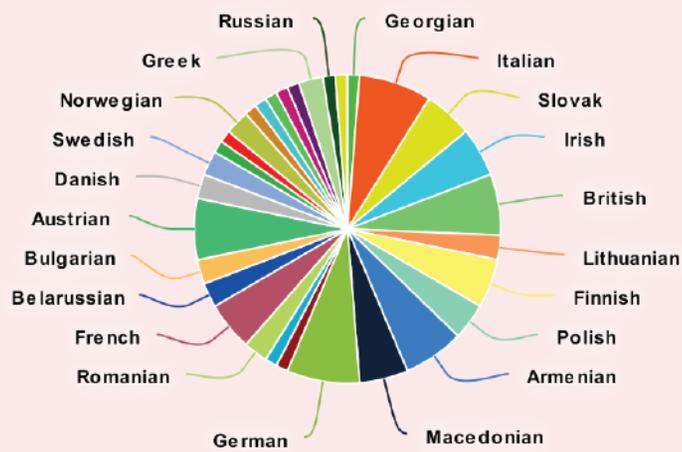


over 10000 pages of archives digitized



1529.68 €

Donations received from individual supporters



meta-chart.com

4 / Our objectives



WSCF-Europe’s general thematic areas align with those of the WSCF Global. They are: Peacebuilding; Interfaith dialogue; Eco Justice; Higher Education; and Identity, Diversity and Dialogue.

- Active members of WSCF-Europe participated in projects such as Christian Peacemaker Teams
- We are expanding our work on combating xenophobia and social exclusion by joining the No Hate Speech Movement

In 2016 we focused on the Identity, Diversity and Dialogue, through our annual conference dedicated to identity formation and sexuality as a taboo subject. Read more about this event in Our Achievements.

2013 Regional Assembly has set priorities for our work in 2014-2017. They are: capacity-building & empowerment; internal organisational development; and peace-building & interfaith dialogue.

The strategies for achieving these objectives are also identified by the WSCF- Global: Capacity-building; Solidarity & Advocacy; Movement building; Biblical and Theological Analysis; and Diakonia.

- WSCF-Europe works with these through various thematic networks. We take an active part in WSCF global Advocacy and Solidarity Committee’s work
- WSCF-Europe participates in activities organised by various thematic networks of the Conference of European Churches, such as Churches’ Commission for Migrants in Europe, and European Christian Environmental Network
- We are part of Religions for Peace through our membership in European Interfaith Youth Network



Our Vision

LIVING FAITH
TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE.

Our Mission

Inspired by our common Christian faith:

We campaign for a just and peaceful world;

We are a progressive Christian voice,

Aware of our political responsibility;

We educate and empower one another

To be leaders and critical thinkers.

We build meaningful relationships;

We share and cultivate our passions;

We embrace diversity as a gift.

We pray and worship God together

As one community;

We explore our common faith in Jesus Christ,

Which makes us one.

5 / Movements contact details



AFFILIATED

Austria

Evangelische Hochschulgemeinde in Österreich

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Britain

Student Christian Movement

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Czech Republic

Oikumené – Akademická YMCA

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Denmark

YMCA and YWCA Denmark

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Finland

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Suomen Kristillinen Ylioppilaliitto SKY/Finlands

Kristliga Studentförbund

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France

Association des Etudiants Protestants de Paris

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Young Christians for Peace and Democracy

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SCM Ireland

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Italy

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Lithuania

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Netherlands

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Ekunet

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Sweden

Kristna Studentrörelsen i Sverige

KRISS C/O Sara Ytterbrink

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CONTACT MOVEMENTS

Armenia

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Croatia

STEP – Studentski Evandeoski Pokret
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Czech Republic

YWCA v České republice
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France

L'Action Chrétienne des Etudiants Russes
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Email: secretariat@acer-mjo.org

Iceland

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Macedonia

Youth group of the United Methodist Church
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nataliepylipiv@yahoo.com

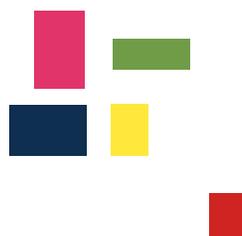
ASSOCIATED MOVEMENTS

Armenia

Youth Union of Jervezh
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Bulgaria

Orthodox Center “Prof. Totyo Coev”
Email: christian_students@abv.bg



6 / Our achievements



6.1 / Capacity-building and empowerment

Exploring our gifts, limits and capacities

One of the main focuses of our work is building capacity of our member movements and other active youth movements in Europe. This year, we have concentrated our capacity-building outreach on a training held in Norway on 3-6 March.

6.1.1 / Staff and Officers' Meeting

Staff and Officers' Meeting is an annual capacity-building training for all WSCF-Europe member movements and other European movements working with young people on similar issues. This year 22 representatives from 17 countries were invited to Oslo. The purpose of this event was building capacity of movements and facilitating networking between them. This year's meeting focused on: communication via social media and on volunteers' management and retention. These sessions were led by Director of Communication from World Council of Churches (WCC) Marianne Ejdersten, Web Coordinator of WCC Annegret Kapp, and a Senior Friend and experienced trainer François-David Freschi. The meeting was hosted by the Norwegian Student Christian Movement and funded by the European Commission.



Matus Adrian
(Romania, France)

We can learn that we can share Christian values even though we are different. It is better to see the common points than to argue on small

theological debates. This is how we can better understand us, the society and the world.





PARTICIPANTS:

- Tzovinar Talyan (Armenia)
- Ivan Kuks (Belarus)
- Adrian Matus (Romania)
- Flavius Popa (Romania)
- Hadje Sadje (Holland)
- Hristina Tanceva (Macedonia)
- Auguste Zickyte (Lithuania)
- Marta Sappe Griot (Italy)
- Anita Dimitrova (Bulgaria)
- Mariam Muradyan (Armenia)
- Anette Klinke (Germany)
- Severin Jungwirth (Austria)
- Niels Gade (Denmark)
- Mirjam Meindl (Austria)
- Salma Charaf (France)
- Ruth Wilde (UK)
- Snejana Serafimova (Bulgaria)
- Bogdan Napa (Romania)
- Eimhin Walsch (Ireland)
- Annegret Kapp (Germany)
- Marianne Ejdersten (Sweden)
- Are Kaspersen (Sweden)
- Natia Tsintsadze (Italy)
- Francois David Freschi (Belgium)
- Zuzana Babicova (Slovakia)
- Pavlina Manavska (Macedonia)
- Jurgita Kozenauskaite (Lithuania)



6.1.2 / Study session “Let’s talk about Sexuality: The explosive power of taboo subjects”



Searching for answers together

This study session has tackled the WSCF strategic objective Identity, Diversity and Dialogue and used capacity-building methodology to do so. 32 participants representing 20 different countries spent a week together for the Study Session “Let’s talk about sexuality: The explosive Power of Taboo Subjects” at the European Youth Centre in Budapest between 9th and 14th of May 2016. The Study Session gathered people from diverse backgrounds creating intercultural and ecumenical environment where everyone had a chance to express their opinion in a safe space. Creating a safe space had an important role as the topic was so sensitive.

Throughout the week the main issues that were presented are: what is a taboo subject? How to start unwrapping these topics? Are there some taboos that should remain taboos? Are we having troubles even saying the word sexuality? Have we already started talking about marginalised groups, sexual orientation, etc? The non-formal education methodology used allowed participants on the one hand to participate more in their own learning by guiding their own discussions and introducing their own topics and on the other hand to enhance their own learning beyond cognitive.

The invited guests brought their own expertise to the discussion. Dr Konstantinos Kenanidis and Dr Renato Lings presented a biblical, theological and ecclesiological perspective approach on sexuality and sexual orientation during a panel discussion and representatives of local organisations from Budapest that deal with the topics related to the Study Session, Rena Katona and Daniel Holländer, familiarized the participants of the study session with the Hungarian context. Rena Katona from Ars Erotica led a workshop concerning sexual education and Daniel Holländer gave a talk about the Rainbow Foundation and Pride event in Budapest providing insights on governmental decisions in Hungary.

During the week participants discovered that there are different kinds of taboos for different people and what may be a taboo topic for some maybe a widely accepted discussion/reality for others. For some, own community or church doesn’t want to talk about sexuality much, so even the word sexuality is more or less a taboo. For others, own community or church might be already talking about how to handle same-sex marriage. Recognising this as a challenge may open up for further discussions and offer more possibilities to initiate dialogue. Therefore, this Study Session suc-

fications through a healthy and balanced ecumenical platform where we – youth from different backgrounds and cultures – can start from this wonderful experience to examine, and this what we had found in this seminar.

Mainly, the study session highlighted the LGBTQI+ issue as one of the contemporary challenges in our global age on various levels; socially, culturally, politically and religiously, as the fact of the presence of this community is not even recognized (at least officially) on many international agendas in many countries worldwide. WSCF-E helped us to open the floor about this issue on the Christian level as an ethical and theological challenge that should be discussed, as this took place through presented lectures from theologians that belong to both traditional and non-traditional Christian backgrounds to raise our questions about what the bible says and how we can consider the bible text today in a world that is dominated by globalization and modernization. We had had working groups where we could put on the floor the conclusions we reached and the still-raised questions we need to answer through our seminar, as we – at the end of the day through an evaluating time with the seminar coordinators – shared the positives/negatives points and also suggestions for the following days respectively.

We learnt new terms (at least for my ears) about various sexual orientation issues that had never been mentioned in our society, to the extent we didn't even know about their existence, that gave more tools to go through this topic and explore deeper dimensions rather than the surface ones our societies use to present when real questions are raised – especially from younger generations – about it. It broadened the scope and highlights how big and complicated the case is.

Frankly, many concepts and ideas that were displayed through the seminar were very familiar to the participants, but for myself they required some time to be considered and examined, and this created a challenging path to run rapidly for catching the normal flow of the program. This payed my attention that I need to receive some fundamental information about sexuality.

It was also great opportunity to meet the WSCF senior friends where I could meet people I met in the 35th General Assembly of WSCF in Bogota, Colombia and exchange some memories and experiences in various issues concerning the WSCF and the ecumenical movement.

At the end, I would like to mark this unique experience that I use to mention when this topic is raised in my daily life and how wealthy it was, also would like to say that although the seminar was nearly for one week, but more time was needed

to cover extra perspectives of this sensitive issue, as many questions were still raised and opened discussions had not yet fulfilled. These seminars are not expected to solve all the problems and face all the challenges that the world faces today about sexuality but it lights a red lamp in our board that dealing with it could not be finalised with few verses without considering the recent global change that requires more academic studies on various levels, also opened minds and hearts with bended knees to God to ask Him for guidance and wisdom by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

PARTICIPANTS:

Miriam Schubert (Germany)
Natalia Vasilevich (Belarus)
Hoi Tung Ng (China)
Knut Svihus (Norwegian)
Amalie Kvamme (Norwegian)
Visar Xhambazi (Kosovan)
Lusine Simonyan (Armenia)
Claudia Giampietro (Italy)
Ramy Hanna (Egypt)
Antranik Manoukian (Lebanese)
Jakob Hilfiker (Italy)
Pierre Thierry (France)
Immanuel Simon (Indian)
Michael Erhunmwunse (Nigerian)
Paschalis Gkortsilas (Greek)
Hripsime Muradyan (Armenian)
Matleena Ikola (Finland)
Anastasia Kryuchkova (Russia)
Zhivanka Vitanova (Macedonia)
Stefcho Gjeorgjiev (Macedonian)
Matthias Potempa (German)
Philipp Konrad (Austria)
Satu Koikkalainen (Finland)
Pawel Pustelnik (Poland)
Jakub Niewiadomski (Poland)
Renato Lings (Denmark)

6.1.3 / WSCF-E Friends Gathering

Continuing with WSCF-Europe spirit beyond student age



Senior Friends of WSCF-Europe travelled from various countries in Europe to meet in May 2016 in Budapest with their fellows and catch up with the life of the organization they used to be involved in all kinds of ways in the past. WSCF-Europe was happy to facilitate this meeting and to organize it in conjunction with a student conference. This was with our intention to bring both students and former members together in shared intellectual and spiritual spaces. The meeting itself has a history in WSCF-Europe and the previous one happened in Austria, in 2009. WSCF Europe wants to renew and establish a tradition of Senior Friends gathering and this meeting was the very start of it or rather the continuation of it. At this meeting the group spent the time renewing memories of what it was that brought them to volunteer and be engaged in WSCF-E and what they enjoyed. Another substantial part has been reporting of past few years internal developments to participants engaging them in analysing and understanding how the organisation has been going forward and factors influencing the work. The second part of the meeting was dedicated to visioning how this group of interested people would like to continue – what type of meetings and communication channels

could be established for the future. What the group put together was also our prayer and spiritual time which was created by the group for themselves. The planning committee was composed of the current Chair (Zuzana Babicova) and former Chair (Sofie Eriksen), former Treasurer (Markus Ojakoski) and other former European Regional committee members – Vera Papp and David Cleary who were helping to prepare this event.

Markus Ojakoski (Finland)

“We need organizations like WSCF more than ever. I was really happy I am not alone with this thought.”

Daniel Bonniot de Ruisselet (France/Hungary)

“In our sharing session it came back with a striking unanimity how much we all missed the WSCF Spirit: intellectual stimulation, safe space to share and live our differences, spiritual home even for those not always completely fitting in established churches, community experience.”

Sofie Bonde Eriksen (Denmark)

“To understand our own traditions and communities, it is good to leave them occasionally to be reminded, that you are not primarily Lutheran, Catholic or Orthodox but Christian.”

6.2 / Organizational development



PARTICIPANTS:

Hannah Satlow (Austria)
Daniel Bonniot de Ruisselet (France)
Katharina Satlow (Germany)
Philip John Sides (Ireland)
Hans Hommens (Germany)
Ee Chia Chuah (Malaysia)
David Wilkins (UK)
Clare Wilkins (UK)
David Cleary (Ireland)
Vera Papp (Hungary)
Sofie Bonde Eriksen (Denmark)
Pawel Pustelnik (Poland)
Markus Ojakoski (Finland)

In 2016, WSCF-E Regional Committee has been focusing on three internal organizational development areas: finances, staff team structure and communications.

Financial development

In terms of finances, the main focus was on enhancing financial solidarity by building new financial income streams. WSCF-Europe aims to be in solidarity with other WSCF regions in order to ease the budget of the global Federation, so that common resources can be used for other causes and internal needs in more vulnerable regions, especially in Africa and Latin America.

This year we have developed the first regular donations system in WSCF-Europe that shall bring financial resources in the coming years. We have also developed a crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for publishing the complete history of WSCF-E by 2019 (see more under Communication Strategy Development). Our contribution to the global WSCF office (IRO) was supporting it partially with our professional human resources. The highlight of our financial development work is securing for the second consecutive year the funding in the amount of 11 600 euro - for the year 2017.

Structural staff team development

Our vision is to form a professional staff team working together with volunteers, who adds a professional know-how in their areas of expertise to WSCF-Europe work throughout the year. In 2016 we engaged with half-dozen volunteers assisting us with professional skills (website development, coaching, fundraising consultancy, photography and pastoral care). We have also launched an ongoing “register your skills” initiative to build up our pro bono reserves from our own members and former members.

Communication strategy development

Communications and publications were another important area of organizational development this year. Our main area of development this year was building up our online presence, and raising the bar for quality content published on our website and social media. We have strived to improve both the visual and the content parts of our materials, which has resulted in a lot of positive feedback from our audience. We have involved more resources in developing our monthly newsletter, with a bigger team working on its development and testing new ideas.

Our journal Mozaik has continued on as an important part of our traditional print communication, this year dedicated to politics, religion and the topic of multiculturalism. We brought Mozaik a step further and digitized all issues starting from 1992, which can now be accessed by all audiences at any time.

Furthermore, we have launched a crowdsourcing history project of WSCF-Europe, which aims at creating a publication to share our history. The objective of this project is to access WSCF archives in Yale University and to collect together institutional information on WSCF-Europe since its regionalisation in 1969. The Yale archives exist largely only in paper form. We aim at producing a comprehensive record of our fifty-year history, remembering the people who made this organisation what it is, and acknowledging the contribution we made to Christian life in Europe. Due to numerous office and staff moves, a big share of this information was lost over decades. In late 2016, we started a wide crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for collecting relevant materials in Yale, digitizing them, and publishing the complete history of WSCF-E by our 50th anniversary in 2019. Communicating the past and the legacy of our movement in print form and online will be a key component of our external communication priorities in the upcoming years.

One of the largest projects of the year was to develop an internal contact database to understand the scope of how and when WSCF people were involved in the life and development of the region. The database team has put together over 1100 contacts of active WSCF



people from the last 25 years, which is a tremendous resource for the current WSCF-E team for both advisory and legacy reasons. At the same time, we have been working on digitization of over 10 000 pages of archived materials, covering the years 1980–2010.

Another large-scale initiative was engaging WSCF-Europe supporters and alumnae in the life of the region. We have launched a Register as WSCF-E Friend registry, with almost 100 people registered throughout 2016. For this audience we have developed a community program: production of a quarterly Newsletter for registered Friends of WSCF-E; a closed Facebook group for this community; and also organising a 2 day event for Friends of WSCF-Europe in Budapest in May 2016. We strive to engage more alumni in our activities, and we will continue to develop the Friends initiative in 2017.



6.3 / Our students in action

In spring 2016, the **Finnish Lutheran Movement Sky** ran a writing contest “Stories of faith”. It invited students to write stories about the importance of faith in their own surroundings and everyday life. The stories also brought forward the voices of those who usually remain on the margin of society. The stories highlighted students in different life situations and encouraged young people to reflect on the importance of faith in the joys and sorrows of life. The jury consisted of a book critic and blogger Minna Jaakkola, journalist-writer Sari Pullinen and expert-non-fiction writer Juha Luodeslampi. The competition aimed at everyone from the age of 18-35. The winner received a €200 cash prize. Second and third place participants won a one-year subscription for SKY’s own Etsijä-magazine.



Finish Lutheran Movement SKY

In April 2016, **SCM Sweden** arranged a retreat at the Sigtuna Foundation refuge close to Stockholm. The theme of the retreat was: “Curiosity” and the participants had rich opportunities to try out new ways

to nurture our relationship with God. The activities offered included: drawing, painting, reading, long walks and contemplative prayer. Mass and Worship Services were celebrated in a beautiful chapel cut out from the bedrock at the side of a hill. The retreat was arranged in cooperation with the University Chaplains in the Diocese of Stockholm.

In July, our Italian movement **Federazione Giovanile Evangelica in Italia** organized a seminar about communication “Scusa, puoi ripetere?” (“Excuse me, can you repeat?”). The seminar discussed the importance of maintaining an active dialogue in an intercultural church. The Federation underlined the increasingly multicultural composition of our churches and our gatherings; the importance of multilingualism for the personal growth of our membership and how these enrich our discussions. We also recognize the importance of continuing to use Italian as the main language in FGEL, this means we need to do all to ensure the facilitation of the learning for non native speakers. The event was the second part of an ongoing project about communication FGEL is currently undertaking.



Italian movement

Armenian SCM, Youth Union of Jervezh, organized a 3-day camp in July in the National Park of Dilijan. The aim of the project was to promote an environmentally friendly lifestyle, to experience sustainable tourism, and to support the conservation of flora and fauna. Participants also had a small trekking-pilgrimage to Aghavnavanq Monastery which was hidden in the forest and made some cleansing works in the area as well as made a donation to families in need of Aghavnqavanq village. All 20 participants of this activity were the members of Jervezh Youth Union. The project was beneficial both for the members of the camp, and for the residents of the village.



Armenian SCM

“Forbundshelga” is an annual retreat for SCMer from all over Norway. Over the weekend, they participated in discussions and workshops on a given topic and also had some organizational training. This year the topic was “Radical and justice-based following of Christ”. The weekend in September featured many fruitful debates on what the topic means to us as Christians today. In between the workshops the SCMer had prayer services, hikes, parties and bonfires.



Fellesbilde

In November the **Lithuanian SCM** hosted an international training course “Personal integrity and good leadership” by EYCE. The event was attended by 20 participants from 11 different countries and was reinforced by active Lithuanian SCMer and local speakers.



Monika Klemanaitė

SCM Lithuania

In December **STEP (Student Evangelical Movement)** did a project on Human Trafficking under the topic “What is your price?”. The goal of the project was two-fold: on the one hand, to introduce the issue of human trafficking to students, to help them understand the origin and perpetuation of modern day slavery, and on the other to challenge young people (students) to think about where the value of life comes from and how much human life is worth. The project consisted of two parts: the first one was the campaign in the student center, where we put up a board with index cards with prices on them, and asked male students to pick one of our two student volunteers and say how much they would pay for a date with them – once they picked an index card with a price, they’d turn it around to find facts about human trafficking written on the back. About 50 people participated. The second and the central part was the conference, where 5 speakers spoke on the topics surrounding trafficking, sexuality and the worth of human life from a legal, psychological and theological perspective. There were about 40 people who were directly impacted by the conference and rated it with an overall “excellent” review. The entire project was led and coordinated by STEP volunteers, who had the opportunity to research on this topic, and think creatively on how to fight this problem in our society.



Mirela Pindjak

STEP movement in Croatia

6.4 / WSCF-E collaborating with partners in 2016 toward peace and justice



EYF (Re)mix seminar	1-4 March Strasbourg, France	Networking with international and local youth organisation in Europe; Best Practices Sharing (how to integrate a gender perspective, how to ensure a good impact, etc)
European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe	15 March Brussels, Belgium	Partners meeting
FGEI General Assembly	22-25 April Velletri, Italy	SCM Italy meeting
Theological School of Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, Greece	31 May - 4 June Thessaloniki, Greece	Annual Summer School on Human Rights “Stand up for Women’s and Children’s Rights”
On the way to a «European Christian Convention»	9-11 June Kappel am Albis, Switzerland	Strengthening Ecumenical Work in Europe
European Christian Environmental Network (ECEN)	11-15 June Helsinki, Finland	“Water in a sustainable future”



“Have no Fear”	14-16 June Lunteren, Netherlands	The impact of the global refugee crisis in Europe and European churches’ responses
Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church	16-27 June Crete, Greece	“He called all to unity”
Agape International Political Camp 2016	13-20 August Prati, Italy	Breaking down boundaries on a journey towards a common home
Season of Creation Ecumenical Opening Ceremony “Kirkot pihalla”	1 September Helsinki, Finland	Ecumenical Eco-Justice
Protest against Polish government’s projected ban on abortion #Czarny-Protest #BlackMonday	3 October Helsinki, Finland	Solidarity
OSCE Seminar: Interreligious Dialogue for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination	10-11 October Baku, Azerbaijan	Interreligious Dialogue
WSCF AP Region School for Ecumenical Leadership Formation	20 October - 5 November Siem Reap, Cambodia	Identity and diversity; feminist theology, eco-theology, human rights and human trafficking
European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe and Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission	7 November Brussels, Belgium	Partners meeting
Joint Consultation meeting of the Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe and Conference of European Churches	8-10 December Copenhagen, Denmark	Being Church in Europe Today, Ecclesiology & Migration
Religions for Peace, European Interfaith Youth Network (EIYN)	2-5 December Taplow Court, England	Promote education of human rights values, tolerance and solidarity with the dignity
Welcoming the Other – Multireligious Youth Against Religious Extremism WSCF IRLTP	1-6 December Dhaka, Bangladesh	WSCF Global Training on Migration and Racial Justice.

7 / Volunteers & people who move WSCF-Europe

7.1 / Meet the crew: European Regional Committee



Zuzana Babicova
Chairperson



Rachel Power
Vice-Chairperson



Clare Wilkins
Treasurer



Jurgita Kozeniauskaite
Links Coordinator



Krista Autio
Global Networking
Coordinator



Pawel Cecha
Thematic Coordinator



Armine Babajanyan
Capacity-Building
Coordinator



Pavlina Manavska
Co-Opted Member



Annika Foltin
Global Executive
Committee member



Ellis Tsang
WSCF Global Executive
Committee member



7.1 / Meet the crew: Our staff



Natia Tsintsadze
Regional Executive



Maria Kozhinova
Communications Officer



Melany Bresciani
Office Assistant



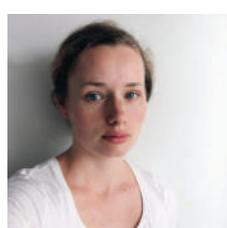
James Jackson
Mozaik Editor-in-Chief



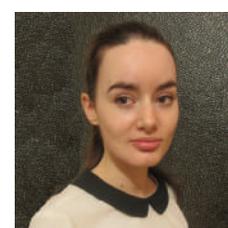
Andrea Franic
Mozaik Art Editor



Clare Okura McCay
Mozaik Illustrator

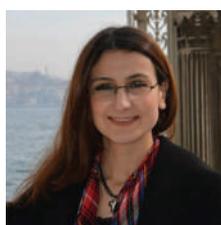


Maria Bradovkova
Graphic Designer



Elena Bradovkova
Graphic Designer

7.2 / Our dedicated volunteers



Yulia Bajelidze
Global Advocacy and
Solidarity Committee
Member



Giulia Dalmonte
Representative to the
WSCF Working Group
on Identity, Diversity
and Dialogue



Gabriela Bradovkova
Newsletter Editor

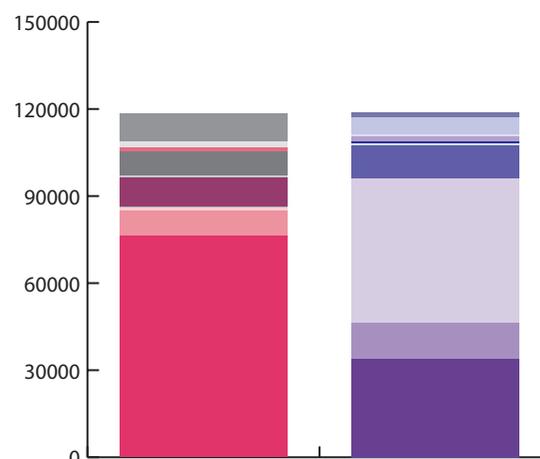
8 / Statutory information

8.1 / 2016 Financial Review

Expenses Income infographic

Total Expenditure: 109.223,14 €

Total Income: 111.240,73 €



EXPENDITURES

Staff Costs	76.219,39 €
Office expenses	9.433,92 €
Financial services	1.207,39 €
Miscellaneous	310,81 €
SCM Capacity Building Training	9.848,05 €
Gender and Theology conferences	543,14 €
Leadership development / ERC meeting	7.877,38 €
Networking and programmes development	1.449,87 €
Senior Friends Gathering	2.333,19 €
Grant refund *	12.265,47 €

INCOME

Inter-regional Office grant	33.917,75 €
EYF Structural Grant	12.198,00 €
EU admin grant	50.000 €
Other Programmatic income	1.092,82 €
Donations	1039,68 €
EYF programmatic grant	580 €
Participation fees and travel contributions	2.237,48 €
History Project	490 €
IRO loan refund	8.000 €
Senior Friends Gathering	1.685 €

* 12.265,47 will be covered by the IRO loan refund to be received in 2017

8.2 / Statutory meetings of the Europe Regional Committee



Planning, learning and inter-generational and partnership encounters

Total costs: 7.980,38 €

Dates: Feb 2016 and June 2016

Number of days: 6 working days together

In 2016, the WSCF-Europe Regional Committee and the staff met twice: in February in Finland (Helsinki) and in June in Germany (Hamburg). Both meetings were essential for planning ahead years 2016 and 2017 - our finances and our programmatic work. At both statutory meetings we also reflected on our internal team work with the help of a coach (Francois David Freschi) - to understand what in our work we enjoy, what we struggle with and to identify better ways of working together as a team towards our organisational goals. In addition, both meetings gave us the chance to connect with our local grassroots movements. We thank our local hosts Marita Mattila and Gisela Gross-Ikkache for helping us greatly with practical arrangements. A fantastic addition to both meetings were also meeting with our Senior Friends / alumnae Ilari Rantakari, Silke Lechner, Tanja Roiha, Henri Jarvinen and others. This inter-generational sharing inspires us as we meet our predecessors and discuss often the same challenges, but what is most important leaving us the feeling of continuous support.



Hamburg, June 2016, meeting with Uta Andréé
(Missionsakademie an der Universität Hamburg)



Helsinki, Feb 2016,
meeting with Ilari Rantakari & Henri Jarvinen
(Former Senior Friends
and WSCF-Europe
members)



9 / Looking ahead to 2017

Capacity building

In the area of capacity building we shall continue to focus on practical skill development and knowledge exchange between young people. Our annual meeting for key volunteers in our movements organized in 2016 focused on developing their skills in volunteer management and retention. This helped them to maximise their presence and outreach through online communication. Many of WSCF alumnae are now providing this type of training on a pro bono basis. Intergenerational capacity building is what we will continue to do, so to empower young people to become engaged members of our communities, working for peace and justice.

Fundraising

Our challenges in the future are perhaps similar to those in many Christian communities: somewhat unpredictable funding sources and inactive members. We are planning to engage our audience in new ways through being more present, active and visible online and creating events with topics which are relevant for today's Christian students. One way in which we want to engage new people is through music – we want to create a WSCF-E public Spotify playlist which can connect people in a different way. We will continue tackling the membership phenomenon also by growing our internal WSCF-E contacts database, and re-establishing links with alumnae and movements. In 2016 WSCF-Europe has been focusing on communication channels for Friends of WSCF-Europe; the next step is creating support mechanisms that enable our alumnae to help WSCF-Europe in all kinds of ways. In regard to funding sources, we have a long-term partnership with the Council of Europe and the European Commission, which generously contribute to our activities and administrative

costs. However, as an NGO, we largely depend on donations, which is why we will continue developing the tools and structures to encourage individuals and organisations to donate for our cause. The regular donations system, established in late 2016, is the first step to achieving our goal.

Partnership strengthening around No Hate Speech topic

2017 is an exciting year for us, because, for the first time our multiple-event funding application was approved by the European Youth Foundation and the Council of Europe, which means that all our events are supported with their considerate aid. We are looking forward to organising these events and fostering a deep, diverse, and respectful dialogue. We want to make the most of our No Hate Speech campaign, which will hopefully engage new students and movements in our work. This campaign will kick off at the Staff and Officers meeting, and continue throughout the year.

Your support: THANK YOU!



We would like to thank all who helped us throughout the year with various practicalities. Your support makes WSCF-Europe happen!

Your financial support keeps WSCF-Europe in action. Thank you for giving us the strength and independence to be a uniting voice for all people, empowering youth and bringing justice, peace and solidarity to our communities.

List of Individual Supporters in 2016:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Niradh Kaul | 8. Rachel Douglas |
| 2. Maria Kozhinova | 9. Alena Babicova |
| 3. Zuzana Babicova | 10. Anna Najdeczka |
| 4. Ondrej Babic | 11. Gabriela Bradovkova |
| 5. Vera Papp | 12. Sofie Eriksen |
| 6. Dirk Grützmacher | 13. Katherine Sotejeff-Wilson |
| 7. Clare McLean | 14. Natia Tsintsadze |

Who funded us in 2016:



**Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union**



**European Youth Foundation
of the Council of Europe**



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