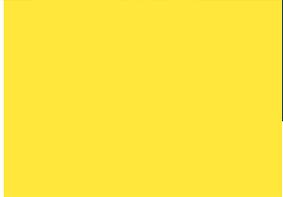
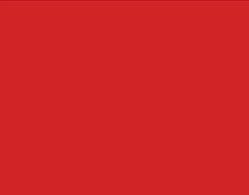


*So that all may be One.
Ut omnes unum Sint.*



WSCF-Europe Annual Report 2015





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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

ZUZANA BABICOVÁ



The year 2015 saw both challenges and much growth within the organisation – in our work for justice and peace as well as internally for us as the team. For this reason, I would like to speak about challenges in internal as well as external work that together made us grow. It is in the context of challenges that we celebrate even more the big and small achievements that help us to realise the mission of WSCF – to be an organisation that in its small ways tries to make our world a better place to live for everyone. I want to share here with you all those challenges we faced and also developments we were able to realise with the help of God and many of you.

Challenges that were occurring throughout 2015 were happening on an internal as well as external organisational level. Any challenges are surely very educational: we need to get out of your comfort zone and known environments and situations to be able to learn and grow. And this was happening to us throughout the year. The challenges were largely due to financial reasons - start of the decrease of some long term secure funding which was putting us in unknown situations. For this reason, I want to share how these challenges were managed and what it meant for the team. We closed the year 2015 with the team larger than ever before – ten board members, with two new roles we introduced and filled. It was great to see people having an interest in developing work for students even further and bringing a commitment to serve for the next two years. Our joy was also due to a former board member – Maria Kozhinova – who had been volunteering for more than three years, joining the staff team and bringing all her skills, WSCF institutional knowledge and network to the service of the Communications Officer role. It was also the first full year for our key executive Natia Tsintsadze who has shown incredible dedication and professionalism. She went many extra miles in 2015 for WSCF-Europe safeguarding the best interests of the organisation. Her efforts that she brought in fundraising in 2015 were far beyond the call of duty and hence I remain grateful and feel that I owe her much compensation for the results she delivered. To continue marking contributions throughout 2015 we asked and received help from more than twenty actively engaged volunteers throughout the year that were assisting with a range of skills. In addition, a great number of people provided financial support that combined with the voluntary support helped us to make differences in the work we do. Also, David Cleary, who officially left the board team, has continued to assist the work with his capabilities. So, despite challenges, our team has grown stronger and even larger.

Now, I would like to also touch more concretely upon the side already mentioned – financial challenges. These were major and thus had impact on the quantity of our work, as well as our focuses and decisions. In financial management, we were able to deliver both minor and major cost savings. The key decision was to relocate our office location from Berlin to Trento. This was to ensure that our office is in the home location of our key executive Natia for the sake of stability. With this decision, we came back to the model functioning in WSCF-Europe in the 1980s-1990s. Our move to Trento, Italy also enabled us to be closer to another constituent part of WSCF-E- an old historic movement from Italy. Later, we also made a cost saving and at the same time a structural change in staff by creating a Communications Officer role and thus not employing only one person to cover our administration and marketing/communications together. This enables us to have staff with more specialist skills, to deliver better communications and a better support service for WSCF-Europe. With this change, we have embarked upon communications projects as well as improved our social media presence (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, website, etc.). We have also placed emphasis on traditional print media communication by sharing our enhanced annual report by traditional mail service. With less financial resources, we focused on improvement of areas of work which can be done with less money but which at the same time are of great importance for the organisational future. For this reason, we focused in 2015 on initiation of historic organisational data collection which in the long run (with more resources) will result in an historic WSCF-Europe publication covering people and organisational history since the mid-1960s when WSCF's regionalised model was established. Another line of work which arose as a response after attending the Global Assembly of WSCF (2015 in Colombia), the first in 7 years, was a creation of a global networking workstream with the aim to better connect European student movements with those based in other parts of the world to enable sharing, communication and collaboration in interest areas. The very first results of this in 2015 were: successful presence of three non-European students (from Chile, USA/Philippines, and Malaysia) at our European student conference; and continued news sharing from outside of Europe being brought to the attention of our European student movements through our media facilitated by Krista Autio, Global Networking Coordinator. WSCF-Europe also organised its own Assembly in autumn 2015. Both the global and regional assemblies were opportunities for organisational renewal. Most importantly, they also enabled us to meet each other to develop plans for common interests and to strengthen our personal connections. A lot of fundraising and thematic preparation in particular was happening prior to spring 2015 to enable wide participation and active and engaged contribution to the most important decision making meeting of the Federation. Our regional appreciation goes to the WSCF Latin America and Caribbean region who organized the Assembly for the whole global community along with the global staff team. Apart from two statutory meetings in 2015, WSCF-Europe organised two international student events- a conference on the theme How is Multiculturalism Possible together with



the European Union of Jewish Students, and a capacity building training event. The joint conference was an important part of our long term work on getting beyond our Christian framework and speaking to other faith or non faith based organisations about the acute challenges in need of answers in Europe today. We are still living the success of this event up to today through our connections and exchanges. Our second event was our annual capacity building training and networking event for all European movements which continues to bring empowerment to young people. Our third international event, Lingua Franca (a program focused on youth in Eastern Europe) was unfortunately not implemented due to not receiving funding. This has happened for the third year and we have decided to prioritise this even more for the years to come and to respond creatively to the difficult funding landscape. For that reason we created a special role on the Europe regional committee to be dedicated to this line of work.

In 2015 we continued producing our digital and printed publications with our annual journal Mozaik bringing intellectual reading and insights from youth on today's issues in their own countries and particularly from across Europe. The 2015 issue of our journal is particularly special because of its contributions from our partner Jewish organisation.

This year we also started a multi-year project which we hope to complete in 2019 by producing an historic publication of the 50-year history of our organisation. David Cleary and our organisational board will be volunteering to make this happen with key financial support from our wider community.

We are closing 2015 remembering many challenges on the financial level, yet these challenges brought a lot of innovation and creativity in our work; e.g. how to work without funding, and how to make savings where they can be made, exhausting many options. The team stayed together and brought much help both from outside and from within ourselves.

As T. Watson says Sailors are developed when seas are rough. We have stretched and sometimes broken our personal limits while facing all kinds of seas, but also delivered what we did not expect we could ever manage. I am glad that on the same boat with WSCF-Europe now in 2016, we are still enjoying volunteering with an even bigger team, more ideas for projects, surrounded by many supporting people, with key assistance of our long term contributing partners, and the help of God.

With truly deep gratitude to everyone who contributed to WSCF-Europe in any seen or unseen way in 2015.

Zuzana

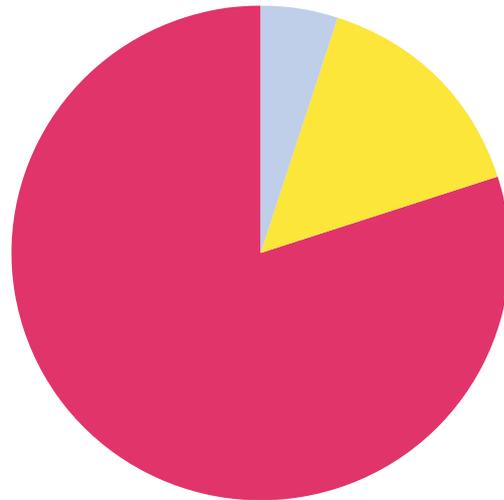
2015 AT A GLANCE

People who made our work happen

TOTAL NUMBER: 7

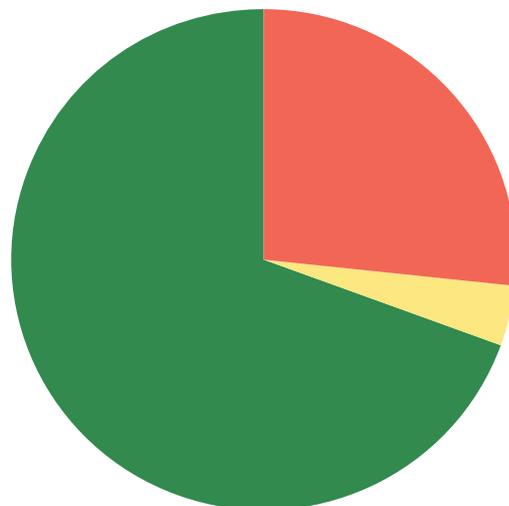
2 FULL TIME STAFF MEMBERS

5 PROJECT STAFF MEMBER

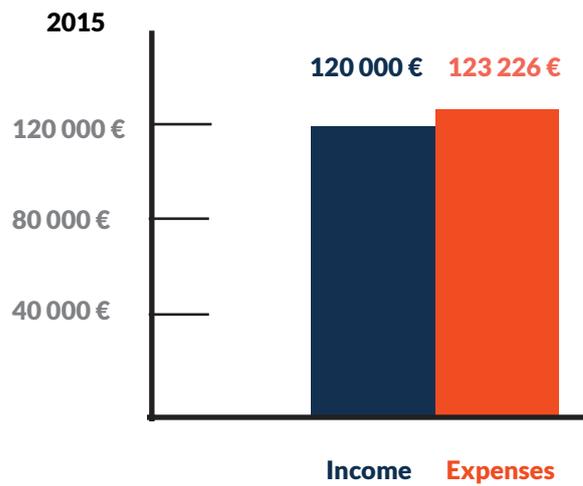


Outreach

TOTAL NUMBER: 1765

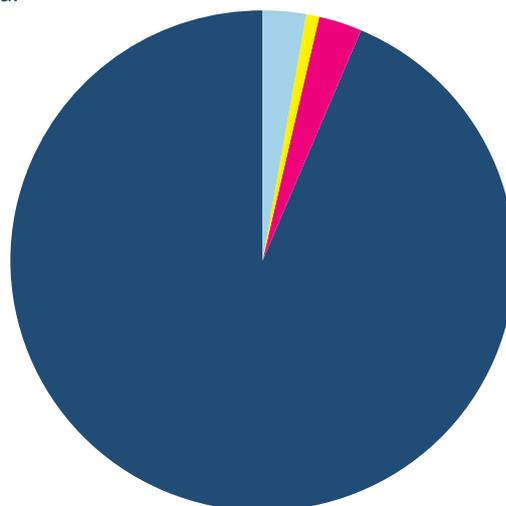


Finances



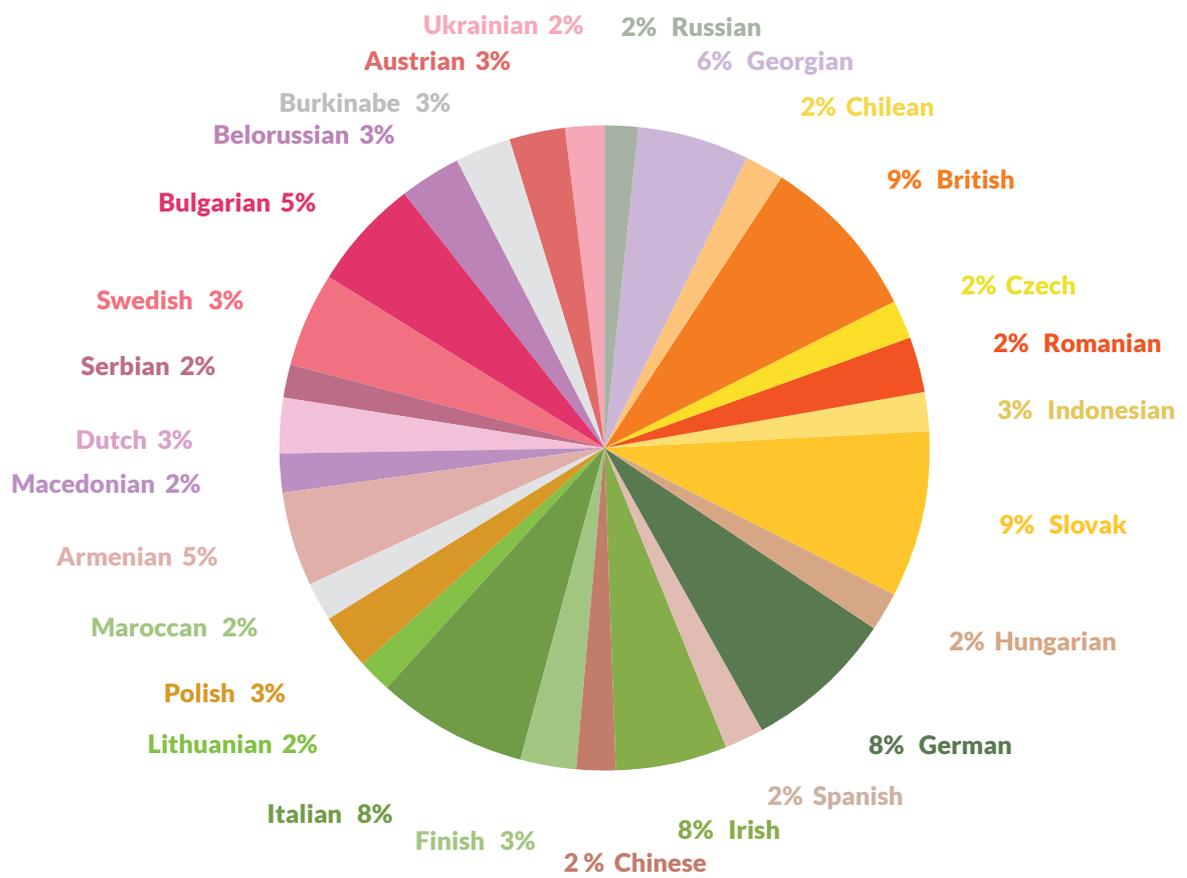
Diversity

67 – NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN OUR WORK IN 2015 IN PERSON



Nationality

67 – NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN OUR WORK IN 2015 IN PERSON



OUR PEOPLE

Governance board

Outgoing board



ZUZANA BABICOVÁ
Chairperson
 Nationality and residence:
 Slovakia and
 lives in Bratislava
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2013
 Term ends: Oct 2017



ANNIKA FOLTIN
**Vice Chair
 and Events Coordinator**
 German, lives in Germany
 First elected: Oct 2013
 Term ends: Oct 2015
**Global Executive
 Committee Membet**
 First elected: by the ERC
 in Oct 2014
 Term ends: 36th General
 Assembly



DAVID CLEARY
Fundraising Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 Irish and lives in Hungary
 Term of office:
 First elected: Jan 2014
 Term ends: Oct 2015



KRISTA AUTIO
Campaigns Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 Finnish and lives in Finland
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2013
 Term ends: Oct 2015



MARIA KOZHINOVA
Links Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 Finish and lives
 in Romania
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2013
 Term ends: Oct 2015



ELLIE PEACOCK
Events Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives in Ger-
 many
 Term of office:
 First elected: Jan 2014
 Term ends: Oct 2015



MARCO FORNERONE
**Global Executive
 Committee Member**
 Nationality and residence:
 Italian and lives in Italy
 Term of office:
 First elected: 34th
 General Assembly in 2008
 Term ends: 35th General
 Assembly in 2015



VALENTIN TRANCHAND
**Global Executive Committee
 Member**
 German and lives in Germany
 First elected: 35th General
 Assembly in 2015. Valentin
 resigned in Oct 2015. This po-
 sition was filled by Ellis Tsang,
 elected at the ERA 2015.

OUR PEOPLE

Governance board

Incoming board



ZUZANA BABICOVÁ
Chairperson
 Nationality and residence:
 Slovakia and
 lives in Bratislava
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2013
 Term ends: Oct 2017



RACHEL POWER
Vice Chair
 Nationality and residence:
 Irish and lives in Ireland
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



CLARE WILKINS
Treasurer
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives in UK
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



ADAM SMITH
Fundraising Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives in UK
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



KRISTA AUTIO
**Global Networking
 Coordinator**
 Nationality and residence:
 Finnish and lives in Finland
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



PAWEL CECHA
Thematic Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 Polish and lives in Belgium
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



ARMINE BABAJANYAN
**Capacity Building
 Coordinator**
 Nationality and residence:
 Armenian and lives
 in Armenia
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



**JURGITA
 KOZENIAUSKAITE**
Links Coordinator
 Nationality and residence:
 Lithuanian and lives
 in Romania
 Term of office:
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



ANNIKA FOLTIN
**Global Executive
 Committee Member**
 Nationality and residence:
 German and lives
 in Germany
 First elected: Feb 2015
 Term ends: 36th General
 Assembly

OUR PEOPLE

Our staff



PAVLINA MANAVSKA
Co-opted member
 Nationality and residence:
 Macedonian and lives
 in Germany
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: Oct 2017



NATIA TSINTSADZE
Regional Secretary
 Nationality and residence:
 Georgian/Italian and lives
 in Germany
 Appointed: Sept 2014
 Contract ends: Oct 2016



KATHRYN CAMMISH
Office Intern
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives
 in Germany
 Appointed: Feb 2014
 Contract ended: July
 2015



MARIA KOZHINOVA
Communications Officer
 Nationality and residence:
 Finish and lives in Romania
 Appointed as Interim Pub-
 lications Intern: July 2015
 Appointed as Communi-
 cations Officer: Nov 2015
 Contract ends: Feb 2017



ELLIS TSANG
**Global Executive
 Committee Member**
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives in the UK
 First elected: Oct 2015
 Term ends: 36th General
 Assembly



JAMES JACKSON
**Mozaik publication
 Editor**
 Nationality and residence:
 British and lives in the UK
 Appointed: October 2013
 Contract ended: 2016



MARIA BRADOVKOVA
**Mozaik publication
 Art Editor**
 Nationality and residence:
 Slovak and lives in Krakow
 Appointed: 2012
 Contract ended: Septem-
 ber 2015



BALAZS KALYDY
**Local assistant
 for Hungary**
 Nationality and residence:
 Hungarian and lives
 in Hungary
 Appointed: 2008
 Contract ended: Septem-
 ber 2015

an

SCM

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.***

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT



Governance

WSCF-Europe is governed by a governance board, internally called the European Regional Committee. As we are a grassroots organisation, our board members come from our member organisations and thus enable WSCF-Europe to give expression of the local level within the larger context of the European Region. The Chair and Treasurer of the board are both elected for four years, and other board members are elected for two years by a biennial Regional Assembly.

Management

Management of WSCF-Europe is a shared duty of both the elected governance board and our appointed staff. Our governance board is responsible for economical and organisational administration of WSCF-Europe, with the staff members professionally executing the decisions of the governance board. Our staff members are hired by the WSCF-Europe governance board in cooperation with WSCF-Global whenever necessary. WSCF-Europe values and applies participatory, inclusive, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient management. We believe that our strength lies in our lateral working environment that enables all gifts and capacities to be appreciated and reflected in all facets of our work.

WSCF-EUROPE PRIORITIES FOR 2014-2017



WSCF-Europe has set three priority areas where our focus will go during 2014-2017. The areas are- internal organisational development, peace building and inter faith dialogue and capacity building and empowerment. We apply results based approach to achieve goals in our three priority areas. Below is an outline of what we delivered in each priority area in 2015.

Peacebuilding and Inter-faith dialogue

WSCF-Europe continues focusing our mission on activities that bring us closer to the other. WSCF-Europe has been developing initiatives in interfaith and cross cultural relations with other European youth organisations. WSCF-Europe is already an active member of interfaith platforms and we will continue to do so.

It is our priority and sincere aim to establish positive relations with people of different faiths and those of no faith and to tackle difficult and controversial issues together. Our event organised together with the Jewish student organisation in 2015 has been a step toward this and we celebrate the positive experience that this event brought to us. WSCF-E also participated at two events organized by Religions for Peace in 2015. Our Journal Mozaik published in 2015 also features articles from Jewish authors.

Capacity building and Empowerment

From the time when WSCF was founded back in the 19th century, it has been the heart of our mission to bring empowerment to young people and to support them in becoming leaders within their communities. What WSCF has been providing is a space for the exchange of ideas, learning and growth; and also opportunities for capacity development in the areas of language and leadership. As a global and European community, we believe that it is very important to enable each other in our communities to find a way to connect through one language that enables further communication. We have always seen a need to provide a way for all young people to be part of our community and work through language. For that reason the ability to speak the same language has become very central, in order to ensure inclusion of all. For more than 20 years, WSCF-Europe has been running a summer English language camp called Lingua Franca which provides the opportunity for participants to learn English. In addition, it also gives space for the integration of a theme which reflects our overall thematic priorities. WSCF-Europe will thus strive to continue to provide this opportunity for young people, especially from Central and Eastern Europe. In 2014-2017 it is a high priority to continue being an organisation which cares for all parts of our community and enables growth and empowerment through language learning.

Another aim in the area of capacity building shall continue to be practical skill development and knowledge exchange between young people. Our annual meeting for key volunteers in our movements organized in 2015 focused on providing skills development in areas of NGO running such fundraising, member database management, project management, online communications, publications, and many others. Many of our former members are now providing this type of training on a pro bono basis. Inter-generational 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.



Organisational development

In the area of internal organisational development, there are three sub areas which the WSCF-Europe governance team will be working on: finances; staff team structure; and external communication, along with publications. In terms of finances, the main focus points shall be on financial solidarity, and at the same time on building new financial income streams.

In the first focus area, financial solidarity, WSCF-Europe aims to be more in solidarity with other parts of the global Federation by decreasing our spending from the global budget. We do so to ease the budget of the global Federation in order that they use common resources for other causes and internal needs in other regions, especially in Africa and Latin America. To achieve this, the WSCF-E team strived to receive new funding for our region in 2015 and 2016 to be available as European funds. In the second focus area, WSCF-Europe aims at increasing its generated income to build links to other parts of our global organisation, thus enabling WSCF Global to better serve its mission. WSCF-Europe shall thus become more interconnected with other parts of our global movement.

How did we achieve our financial strategy in 2015?

- Securing a new funding in the amount of 11 600 euro for the year 2016
- Raising more than 1500 euro to support inter-regional activities

We are also addressing our staff team structure. We aim at creating one professional team, composed of pro bono supporters and permanent and part time staff members. In relation to the first group, our movement has supporters who are

willing to engage and provide help to aid our mission and work. We want to release this potential and to give it practical tools by creating a small support pro bono team. This shall be in areas of IT support, visual design support, financial and fundraising consultancy, and marketing support. Our pro bono supporters are already now providing help on a “when need be” basis, and we shall continue to nurture this cooperation. This help shall also greatly aid our previously mentioned priority in the area of capacity building and empowerment, as professional support provided from our alumni will provide learning and capacity building opportunities for young leaders serving in the WSCF-Europe governance body.

Regarding our permanent staff team, in 2015 we recreated one position to better serve our mission by having more specialist staff. Our aim is to create a also paid Fundraising position, as well as one staff member supporting communications and campaigns initiatives. With this aim, we will better use the capacities of our key staff member - the Regional Secretary - who shall concentrate rather on strategic tasks, while having other staff members supporting them in the role.

How did we achieve our staff structure strategy in 2015?

- Opening two roles for communications and administration, which were previously covered by only one staff member
- Engaging more than 5 pro bono volunteers assisting us with professional skills (covering design, IT, photography and pastoral care)

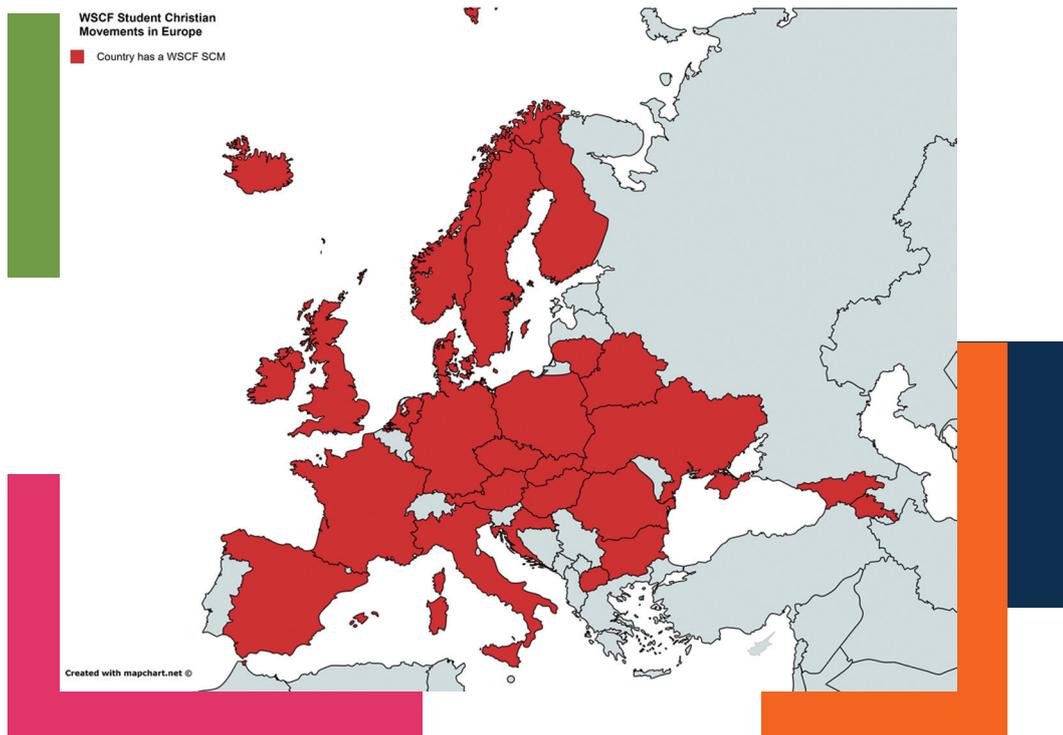
The third area of WSCF-Europe organisational development which we would like to strategically prioritise is our external communications and publications. We will be placing a big focus on our online presence through social media, which is to be better used for our communications to serve our activities and aims. In addition, we will continue to complement this new online communication strategy with our traditional print publication Mozaik, which is dedicated to a selected theme each year. Furthermore, during the next few years we will be expanding our publication area by involving more volunteers and creating publications to share our history. Communicating the past and the legacy of our movement in print form, and later online, will be a key component of our external communication priorities.

How did we achieve our communications strategy?

- Start of historic data research completed by a table with names and contacts of all board members over the last 25 years
- Enhancing the content of digital publications (Annual report, Facebook and Newsletter content); and the creation of a LinkedIn presence

Our strategic organisational development will focus on further sourcing of funding, enlargement of the staff team and specialist support team members, as well as on the improvement in quality of our external communications.

OUR MOVEMENTS



Structure

WSCF Europe is part of a global federation of grassroots Student Christian Movements. These local organisations work on campuses, locally, or nationally to bring Christian students from all denominations together to work on issues of social justice. As a global organisation the World Student Christian Federation connects these Movements through events, networks and solidarity/advocacy work.

WSCF-Europe is a member organisation movement. We bring students from our 28 member movements across Europe together through international conferences, campaigns and our student journal [Mozaik](#) to meet one another, share their faith in a safe space and work towards social justice in their communities. Biennial

Regional Assemblies as well as annual meetings of SCMs' staff, volunteers, and our governance board, keep WSCF-Europe connected. Our conferences, campaigns and events raise awareness about important issues that face students today.

Student Christian Movements in each country share their work together as members of WSCF Europe. We host international events for their members and individuals interested our work with issues of Gender, Culture and Higher Education, Theology and Solidarity.

WSCF-Europe differentiates between full membership, associated membership, and contact movements. Member movements can attain full membership by the acknowledgement of WSCF Global at our global statutory meetings - General Assemblies. Associated membership is obtained by submitting a request to the WSCF-Europe biennial statutory meetings - Regional Assemblies. WSCF-Europe has member organisations across Europe in the following countries: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Lithuania, Poland, Belarus, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, France, UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, Italy, Armenia and Georgia. WSCF-Europe contact movements are in Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Iceland, Macedonia, Romania, Spain, and Ukraine.

All university students are welcome to participate or volunteer by sitting on the ERC, a conference/camp preparatory committee, writing and contributing to Mozaik or our blog, or by representing WSCF Europe at events held by our partners.



Movement event highlights

BRITISH STUDENT MOVEMENT - SCM. SCM held its annual summer gathering in June, in Chapeltown, Sheffield, bringing together students and members from across the movement in Britain. Students heard from speakers including Chine Mbubaegbu, Rev. Dave Tomlinson and Symon Hill, during a weekend exploring issues of vocation and faith in the 21st century. On the

campaigns front, it has been another hugely busy year: SCM members were at the climate lobby in June, as well as the Stop DSEI (an international defence and armaments trade fair) events in September. In November they launched a new campaign centred on refugees.



GERMAN STUDENT MOVEMENT – ESG. In October in Frankfurt am Main ESG organised the second nationwide meeting of choirs from local student movements, “EinSinGen”. Over 200 male and female singers travelled from all over the country to Frankfurt in order to sing together, make new friends and worship. Students from all corners of Germany sang together and joined in workshops on classical, gospel or popular music.



FINNISH MOVEMENT – SKY. In August, SKY members took part in a demonstration against the Government’s political decisions which increase the growth of income inequality. In September, SKY participated in a demonstration, organised by the trade union movement, to support the wage earners’ side. SKY also collaborated with the Buddhist community to create a letter to the Minister of Environment, stating religions’ shared concern about the inefficiency of current environmental politics.



ROMANIAN STUDENT MOVEMENT – MIRA. The student movement has initiated a regional project “Greenopolis”. The Greenopolis team has been running training and educational workshops for students and children on “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” and renewable energy. Greenopolis has raised public awareness on controversial environmental issues, having discussions on topics such as deforestation, renewable energy and different consumption patterns. The Greenopolis team has switched off the lights for Earth Hour; planted trees and cleaned up areas for Earth Day, EU Sustainable Energy Week, and during “Planting of good deeds” project; hosted a popular exhibition on water consumption as part of the UN-Water World Water Day; and celebrated its own Green Weeks in March – April. In December 2015, Project Greenopolis received an award: it was nationally recognised as the Project of the Year in Environmental and Animal Protection domain. The award was given at the Romanian National Volunteer Gala.



POLISH STUDENT MOVEMENT – BMP. On 15-17 May, with the blessing of His Eminence, His Beatitude Sawa, Metropolitan of Warsaw and the entire Poland Sawa, BMP held the 36th Paschal Orthodox Youth Pilgrimage to the Holy Mount Grabarka. The Pilgrimage was attended by many Orthodox youth from all around Europe, as well as by the Romanian student movement MIRA. The two movements organised a joint programme, featuring joint prayers and meals; excursions to Bialystok city, to monasteries Zwierki and Odrynki, and an excursion to Bialowieza Natural Reservation.

BELARUSIAN MOVEMENT “ECUMENA”. On 2-4 October in Kaunas, Centre Ecumena organised a theological interdisciplinary and ecumenical panel in the framework of the Congress of Belarusian Studies on the topic “Churches in wars and wars in churches: ideas, history, everyday life”. More than 20 scholars took the floor with their papers to present upon a wide range of issues, connected to: theological reflections on war and peace in general; the influence of war on the self-identification of churches; the role of church and Christians in historical conflicts; and the mythology of war. There were famous ecumenical figures



and Orthodox theologians among the special guests: Dr. Peter Bouteneff from St. Vladimir’s seminary in US who tried to deconstruct the concept of war as a “less good”; and Rev. Dr. Cyril Hovorun from Ukraine proposed a theological reflection on Maidan 2014 and the war in the Eastern Ukraine in connection with churches’ involvement in these events and quasi-religious ideologies behind them. Centre Ecumena presented three papers, by Natallia Vasilevich, Rev. Alexander Shramko, and Dzmitry Shyla. Not only Orthodox, but also Roman Catholics and Greek Catholics were among the participants, which gave an opportunity to discuss inter-confessional relations; how these three Christian traditions can overcome the wars of former centuries between them; what they need to do to heal their memories; and why it is important to be first of all self-critical rather than blaming other traditions.

come the wars of former centuries between them; what they need to do to heal their memories; and why it is important to be first of all self-critical rather than blaming other traditions.

Movements contact details

AFFILIATED

AUSTRIA

EVANGELISCHE HOCHSCHULGEMEINDE
IN ÖSTERREICH
<http://www.ehg-online.at/>

BELARUS

CENTRE ECUMENA
<http://ecumena.by/>

BRITAIN

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT
<http://www.movement.org.uk/>

CZECH REPUBLIC

OIKUMENÉ – AKADEMICKÁ YMCA
<http://www.publix.cz/acadymca/>

DENMARK

ØKUMENISK UNGDOM (ØU)
<http://oekumeni.dk/>

FINLAND

ORTODOKSINEN OPISKELIJALITTO (OOL)
<http://www.ool.fi/>
SUOMEN KRISTILLINEN YLIOPIKASLIITTO (SKY)
/FINLANDS KRISTLIGA STUDENTFÖRBUND
<http://www.sky-fks.fi/>

FRANCE

ASSOCIATION DES ETUDIANTS PROTESTANTS DE PARIS
<http://www.aepresidence.fr/#!association/cee5>

GEORGIA

YOUNG CHRISTIANS FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY
<http://ycpdgeo.wordpress.com/>

GERMANY

VERBAND DER EVANGELISCHEN STUDIERENDENGE-
MEINDEN IN DEUTSCHLAND (ESG)
<http://www.bundes-esg.de/>

IRELAND

SCM IRELAND
<https://www.facebook.com/SCMIreland>

ITALY

FEDERAZIONE GIOVANILE EVANGELICA ITALIANA
(FGEI)
<http://www.fgei.org/>

LITHUANIA

VILNIAUS AKADEMINIO EVANGELIKU LIUTERONU
JAUNIMO DRAUGIJA
[http://www.liuteronai.lt/Baznytines-organizacijos/
Vilniaus-akademio-evangeliku-liuteronu-jaunimo-
draugija](http://www.liuteronai.lt/Baznytines-organizacijos/Vilniaus-akademio-evangeliku-liuteronu-jaunimo-draugija)

NETHERLANDS

THEINN BETWEEN
<http://www.innbetween.nl/>

NORWAY

NORGES KRISTELIGE STUDENTFORBUND
<http://forbundet.no/>

POLAND

FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX YOUTH IN POLAND
<http://www.bmp.cerkiew.pl/>

SLOVAKIA

SCM SLOVAKIA

SWEDEN

KRISTNA STUDENTRÖRELSEN I SVERIGE (KRISSE)
<http://www.kriss.se/>

ASSOCIATED MOVEMENTS

ARMENIA

YOUTH UNION OF JERVEZH

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Youth-Union-of-Jervezh-%D5%8B%D4%B5%D5%84/528932177216587?fref=ts>

BULGARIA

ORTHODOX CENTER "PROF. TOTYO COEV"

http://pbfvt.pravoslavie.bg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=68&Itemid=81

CONTACT MOVEMENTS

CROATIA

STEP – STUDENTSKI EVANDEOSKI POKRET

<http://www.step.hr/>

CZECH REPUBLIC

YWCA V ČESKÉ REPUBLICCE

<http://www.ywca.cz/>

FRANCE

L'ACTION CHRÉTIENNE DES ETUDIANTS RUSSES

– MOUVEMENT DE JEUNESSE ORTHODOXE

<http://www.acer-mjo.org/>

ICELAND

KRISTILEGA SKÓLAHREYFINGIN – KSH

<http://www.ksh.is/>

MACEDONIA

YOUTH GROUP OF THE UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH IN SKOPJE

ROMANIA

ASOCIAȚIA MIRA

<http://colegiulsfantulnicolae.ro/mira>

SPAIN

CRUZADA-MILICIA DE SANTA MARÍA

<http://cruzadasdesantamaria.org/3D0milicia.html>

UKRAINE

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT UKRAINE

OUR ACTIVITIES



How is Multiculturalism Possible Conference

LOCATION: Litomyšl, Czech Republic

DATES: 17-24 October 2015

PARTICIPANTS: 29

FUNDERS: European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe and General Board of Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

COSTS: 23.786,19 €



The WSCF-Europe together with the European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS) organised the conference “Religion and Politics: How is Multiculturalism Possible?” for 29 students and young people from 16 countries and different faiths. They came together to present, discuss and analyse the relationship between religion and politics and how religion can or cannot be part of our multicultural society. The participants looked at several cases of how cultural minorities and majorities can be best recognised in state policies.

The five day meeting included keynote talks from the invited speakers and presentations from the participants; workshop sessions facilitated by the leadership team members; and a lot of informal time for getting to know each other through insightful conversations. Participants were asked to defend or challenge various statements that would not necessarily reflect their personal opinions in real life. It was an opportunity for the participants to challenge their own views on certain issues and discuss and analyse possible ways forward to the building of multicultural societies. Many participants noted that the conference had a strong impact on some of their opinions and ideas.

Having three participants from the WSCF member movements from Chile, Indonesia and USA/Philippines was one of the most exciting and inspiring opportunities for the conference. Not only did they give a broader international dimension to the event, but their contribution to the discussions added value to the critical points and diverse perspectives.

The exposure day was one of the highlights of the conference. The meeting with Mr. Sanka, the head of the Muslim community in Prague, was a dynamic and interactive session as participants were able to put in practice the knowledge and information received during the conference. In addition, participants were able to hear more about a Muslim perspective on the intersection between religion and state and learn a real-story case of living religious life in one of the most secular countries in Europe.

Another highlight was the interreligious panel discussion with: Zuzana Amrani, representative of the Muslim community in Prague; Rabbi Tanya Segal from Poland; Roosmarijn Eva Goldbach from the Netherlands; and Daniel Barton, legal expert from Prague. Hearing various perspectives from secular as well as from different religious representatives resulted in an extremely interesting and informative discussion.

Experience of our participants



PATRICK VOKOUMA, UKRAINE

I always wondered why the world we are living in faces so many problems, and came out of the conference with a main cause of these problems: People do not accept each other. And to give my contribution to solve them, I understood that first I should have a wide background about what it is to live together in order to be able to take forward these tips of how to live together. That's how I have come from participating in many training courses and events relative to the topic.

WSCF - Europe was the first organisation to give me the opportunity to meet and interact with people from many denominations, through the Lingua Franca Summer Camp in Miclauseni. This was a very big experience for me, so when this other event "Religions and Politics" came, I did even not hesitate a second to apply for it: and I already knew that it would be another powerful experience.

First of all, the topic of the conference was quite complex: we all know that talking about religion is not always easy, the more when it comes to add politics to it. But this Conference gave the opportunity to participants from three continents to share their visions and ideas in an environment of mutual respect and consideration. Everybody had the chance to speak and there were many debates where I understood what wonderful ideas people could have. Also, the workshops permitted me to not only have a theoretical basis but also practical uses of it. And it is always nice to see how, whatever the origin of each person, the expressed ideas can be complementary.

Besides all this, we did not forget to have fun also, as we were able to hang out in a very multicultural group and learned a lot about the countries and cultures of one another while relaxing. Sometimes the discussion of the day was continued during free time and it was very nice to see how interested people were interested in the topics, perhaps because the situation is almost the same everywhere.

Just as I was seeking, I learnt a lot from this conference organised by WSCF and EUJS and I met many people that it will be nearly impossible to forget. This kind of initiative could be one of the solutions to overcome many social problems in Europe and could contribute to building a really inclusive European society where everybody will respect one another, and will not persecute anyone because of their religion or denomination. My congratulations to the organisers and the staff, who have done a lot of work to make this happen, and I cannot wait to attend the next event.



YANA KARBOVSKA, UKRAINE

The "Religions and Politics: How is Multiculturalism Possible?" conference which was held in Litomyšl gathered 30 people from around the world, with different mentalities and traditions. Our aim was to discuss the very sensitive and controversial issues of politics and religion. Despite the diversity of opinions we needed to be respectful, attentive and tolerant towards each other. Through lectures, excursions, group discussions and workshops, as well by common life in a great location we have maintained a warm and friendly atmosphere, where we learned to understand and accept all our diversity. This experience will be useful in my environment which has become increasingly multicultural over the years.



LOI ALMERON, PHILIPPINES

Litomysl was a sweet little town. The everyday and evening walks, and the curiosities of where the actual residents are and why a bar named after hell (after translation) has the coolest music and awesome caramel dessert, and of course what vegetarian food we would have next added to the closeness of the group.

Honestly, I was surprised with how sociable I was there. It has not always been easy for me to be personal and open up, and it became more intimate because the group made me feel included every single time. I was happy to render support in conducting WSCF's interviews. It's always fulfilling to do anything related to my field. Fellow international delegates furthered my understanding of beliefs in Latin America and Indonesia. The organizers were accommodating and just amazing. Not enough words, really.

It was funny when I realized that not only was it my first time in Europe, it was the first time that I was surrounded by mostly Europeans all the time. It was unbelievable how the group was brought together and had a perfect chemistry. I had the sweetest roommates ever. How I miss everyone.

In my application essay, I mentioned how my interests as a journalist are on religions, faiths and cultures. To learn, even the most vague situation, about a European religion or belief was a profound moment for me. I was never previously up close with learning about Christianity, and even more Judaism, in Europe. I found myself observing and listening to everyone's stories and realities. Before, I thought I knew enough

about the world, but the whole trip showed how much more we could actually learn through personal interactions and dialogues, and immersion into cultures.

In my most recent essay for my Ethics class in the Graduate School of Journalism at University of California, Berkeley, I cannot help but include a relevant topic from the conference. I wrote about my ethical dilemma as a journalist who participated in ISM, and in it I discussed the lessons on freedom of conscience and thought that were part of a bigger lecture on freedom of religion.

As I mentioned earlier, it is quite rare that I approach lecture speakers to have a deeper conversation. I recall that after the very first lecture, on multiculturalism and secularism in Europe, I went up to Dennis Goldstoff and just shared how I did not fully realise the arguments on both fostering and rejecting multiculturalism within nations. The argument that diversity of cultures and beliefs enriches society and lends support to immigrants, and the argument that the constant migration may lead to lost cultures and national identities. Before, my thinking was that we should always open our doors to those who need help. It was a no-brainer. But it is true that losing identity is detrimental to a society.

This is something familiar to me, especially nowadays that I have been reporting on the struggle for self-determination of the indigenous people and Muslims in the Philippines. People need that. We long for identity and freedom to be ourselves. (Interestingly, coming as a representative of WSCF-North America and bringing more of my Filipino heritage was enough identity crisis for me.)

To see how the same struggle happens in different realities across distances, it changes not only who we are but also who we become in the most unexpected way.

Capacity building and Empowerment



European Regional Staff and Officers' Meeting 2015

LOCATION: Madrid, Spain

DATES: 20-23 February 2015

PARTICIPANTS: 23

FUNDERS: EU Erasmus plus

COSTS: 7.182,93 €

Twenty-three young leaders of Student Christian Movements (SCMs) from across Europe met in Madrid, Spain, on February 18-22, 2015, for the annual WSCF-E Staff and Officers' meeting. This event, being the capacity-building and networking meeting for young leaders from Christian movements all around Europe, traditionally utilises informal learning methods to allow to share their experiences, ideas and resources. The event also featured a strategical networking meeting with a local Catholic Christian group, Milicia de Santa María, led by Mr Javier Segura. This Spanish SCM has become our contact movement and will take part in our future events. Madrid as the location, and our venue in Madrid, turned out to be an excellent choice for the Staff and Officers' meeting.



The meeting engaged young people on how a Journal is produced (James Jackson, Mozaik Editor in Chief) how to create effective online communication (Ellis Tsang, Fundraising and Communications Officer), how to go about database creation and management of the database (Miroslav Shindarov from Bulgaria). Young people also prepared for themselves the evening Fair designed as a space to meet professionally, to learn about each others' events and activities, as well as the struggles of each of the member movements. The Fair was half-structured: each SCM representatives had an equal chance to present their SCM, after which there was an open space for delegates to freely share ideas and experiences with each other. The Intercultural evening following after was more of an informal activity, aiming at enhancing participants' intercultural communications skills, their cultural learning, as well as their networking skills.

Part of the even was also the upcoming WSCF statutory meeting – the General Assembly (GA) in Bogotá, Colombia, in March 2015. The session about the GA was intended to prepare the European SCMs and their GA delegates for this important event. The representatives of European SCMs agreed on a list of proposals and concerns which the Europe Region wanted to raise at the GA. The Officers agreed that it is important to discuss the current affairs prior to the Assembly, so that the delegates to the GA will unite their powers, and thus will have the chance to affect the decision-making in Bogota in a more significant way for the Europe region. This session was very intense, with a lot of discussions; many different opinions and new ideas were expressed. The topic most engaged in by participants was that of the elections of the next leadership team to lead the Federation.

This year's event exceeded our expectations in how popular and awaited it was. Many Officers said that they received the information they had come to Madrid for. In particular, the sessions on the publications, on effective online communication, and on the GA were indicated as useful by the participants. There was demand for both more training sessions and more networking and information sharing sessions. The topics discussed were relevant for the officers in their everyday work, and the new ideas that the participants will take home, will have a significant positive impact on the organisation and functionality of their movements. Overall, the event was a success, and the prepcom team, lead by the Links Coordinator, will strive to preserve the high standard in the upcoming years' Staff and Officers' Meetings.

Experience of our participants



ANDREI STROCAU

I took part in the WSCF-E meeting in Madrid representing the Belarusian SCM “Ecumena”. For me it was the first experience of such work, but very important. WSCF means a lot for the history of the Orthodox community in Europe, inside it grew the RSCM (Russian Student Christian Movement) which united many emigrants from Soviet Union and became the catalyst for theological revival in Orthodoxy. The most well known of these figures is Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh, or Andrew Bloom, and “Ecumena” works on translating his books to Belarusian, so I spoke about this work in Madrid among the friends of the same movement, WSCF. While in Madrid we heard the news about 21 Coptic neomartyrs being canonized, read the astonishing testimony of the brother of one of the killed, who forgives the killers for everything. This became the background atmosphere of our meeting, where I saw young people from many countries, living Christian life beautifully and responsibly. And, despite great differences, together.

I met such people during the Staff and Officers’ Meeting in Madrid- a unique event, in which there was a time for both fun and substantive content.

Mornings began with common breakfast and prayers. The daily schedule was based on many substantive activities, during which we gained the knowledge needed for the improvement of our associations. It was also a great opportunity to exchange views and receive many tips. There was also a time for integration, for example during a cultural evening; and a trip around Madrid, with a meeting with youth from the local association.

The Staff and Officers’ Meeting for me was like a safe place, where everyone can exchange their views, experiences, show themselves and be fully understood. However, the most important thing was all the great people, who made Madrid become in my memory a place where I met many valuable friends.



SHOGHAKAT MURADYAN

I participated in the Staff and Officers’ Meeting 2015 (18-22 Feb, Madrid) as a member of SCM Armenia (Youth Union of Jervezh).

The first meeting day started with a workshop on publications, after which was the SCM introduction process, so I got the opportunity to talk about the main activities of my movement as well as to learn about other movements. On that day we also had an Intercultural evening with national food, songs and dances.



MAGDALENA NASUTA

There are some places you want to go back to. There are also people who make the places become unique.

The second meeting day was about databases: specifically about tools that can ease the process of information gathering and the whole communication process in each movement. We also talked about the importance of having an official Web Page for our movements, and the ways of minimising the costs.

The whole last day was about the WSCF functioning process; mainly about the upcoming GA and ERA 2015. The topic for the discussion became the budget of WSCF Global and the reasons of postponing GA in 2014. After this we were introduced about preparations for ERA 2015. The meeting was informative and effective.



New Capacity Building Coordinator's Position

Capacity building aims at understanding the obstacles that inhibit people or organizations from realising their development goals, while enhancing the abilities that will allow them to achieve measurable and sustainable results. This scope is the main stream which enables an organisation like WSCF to overcome difficulties and create fertile ground for new opportunities in the future.

The Capacity Building Coordinator's position was first created at the European Regional Assembly in 2015, in order to support European movements in their capacity building. The Capacity Building Coordinator will be working with projects such as Lingua Franca, as well as assisting with Staff and Officers' Meeting organisation.

Spirituality and Advocacy



Advocacy and Solidarity Committee

In 2015, the Europe Region was represented in the WSCF-Global Advocacy and Solidarity Committee by Global Networking Coordinator Krista Autio and a volunteer from our Student Movement in Georgia, Yulia Bajelidze. The main purpose of the Committee is to strengthen WSCF's bonds of solidarity, especially in times of political crisis and (un)natural disasters. The Committee aims to create more connections at all levels of the federation to better understand the needs and perspectives of SCMs. In addition, the Committee facilitates strategic planning and monitoring for global advocacy and solidarity programs. The Committee met at Palermo, Sicily, on 12–13 December 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to develop strategies, action plans and guidelines for Federation and its student movements for work on Transformative Diakonia (serving the poor and oppressed). In the next four years, the Committee will work on Transformative Diakonia work with the special focus on migrant and refugee justice. Each region of the federation will follow its own action plan drafted at the ASC in-person meeting in 2015.

SOLIDARITY STATEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

In the course of the year, WSCF-Europe has published on our website eight calls for prayers and four solidarity statements.

PRAYERS:

- for the New Year (Pray with WSCF-Europe for 2015)
- for Colombia Ahead of WSCF General Assembly
- for Romani People on International Romani day
- for Evangelische Hochschulgemeinde (SCM Germany) ahead of the Kirchentag event
- for WSCF - Latin America & Caribbean Region's Request to Colombian President To Stop the War in Colombia
- for Nepal
- for Baghdad, Beirut & Paris
- during Refugee Crisis

SOLIDARITY STATEMENTS:

- Nepal Earthquake Relief: An Appeal from SCM Nepal and WSCF AP
- Solidarity appeal from SCM Nepal
- Statement For Justice for the Lumad Communities in the Philippines
- Solidarity Statement on Refugee Crisis

Universal Day of Prayer for Students

PROGRAMME: Bible study, Prayer and Worship Service

LOCATION: 105 countries around the world

DATE: 15 February 2015

TOTAL COST: No cost to WSCF Europe

FUNDERS: World Student Christian Federation interregional office and the World Council of Churches

RESOURCES: Bible study, video study and worship service available online

WSCF has been celebrating and promoting the [Universal Day of Prayer for Students \(UDPS\)](#) in partnership with our regions and movements. First celebrated in 1898, the Universal Day of Prayer for Students is observed on the third Sunday in February – this year on the 15th. The UDPS is one of the tangible signs of our common life and connection between students and senior friends of the Federation all around the world. The UDPS is one of the oldest ecumenical days of prayer.

This UDPS we prayed for students in Mexico who live and study in the face of intimidation from those in power. We prayed that students would be voices of reconciliation as the country tries to uncover the truth surrounding the 43 students who went missing in 2014. We prayed for security and peace for all those who wish to study. We also gave thanks for all the incredible contributions made

by students: those in Hong Kong and Taiwan who are leading the movement for democracy; those from SCMs in Cambodia, Egypt and Thailand who are helping to represent a vibrant Christian faith and work for issues of human rights and female empowerment.

This year's theme was 'We are Many, We Are One' – inspired by the theme for the 2015 WSCF General Assembly, taking place in Bogota, Colombia from 27 February - 5 March 2015.



Experience of our participants

FINNISH CHRISTIAN STUDENT MOVEMENT SKY

This year's UDPS challenged us to pray for freedom of speech in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Mexico. In Taiwan, our sister movement has participated in a democracy demonstration by giving shelter to demonstrators and praying for them. "This student-driven national movement challenges young Taiwanese to pay more attention to social justice issues", said Taiwanese movement member We Yi-Lin.

The battle for social justice did not pass Hong Kong by, when in September-October 2014 students and other citizens organised a peaceful demonstration aiming at protecting citizens' rights to choose politicians democratically. "Our vision is that a peaceful protest will in the long run bring to our country the culture of peace, and the spirit of democracy can take root in our lives and society permanently", said Lau Kim Ling, General Secretary of the Hong Kong student movement.

In Ayotzinapa, Mexico, in September 2014, 43 students disappeared. The students were travelling to a conference organized by the Mayor's wife, where the students were to organise a peaceful protest. Police detained the group on the way, and they are believed to have been given over to the local criminal group to be tortured and killed. The students' disappearance and deaths have provoked nation-wide protests in Mexico, and the Mayor and his wife were detained. Students demand to be able to express opinions safely and without fear. They have started an online solidarity campaign "We are all Ayotzinapa" with a hashtag #SomosAyotzinapa.

SKY prays that the voices of students and citizens in Taiwan and Hong Kong shall not be silenced, but will be heard and defend freedom of speech and democracy. For the 43 disappeared students from Ayotzinapa, their families and loved ones, SKY prays peace. For students in Mexico and nearby areas, SKY prays that they may feel safe and brave, and for the solidarity campaign to be heard and to be inspiring for new generations of students to campaign for social justice. SKY also prays for students to remain strong in their faith, growth for their movements, and that the movement will remain faithful to the values of non-coerciveness and community spirit.

Statutory meetings

WSCF Europe governance board meetings



JANUARY AND JUNE 2015

The European Governance board met twice in 2015, in January in Paris, and in June in Stockholm. The locations were chosen in order to support our already existing student movements in France and Sweden, and to revive their connection to the region. The Paris meeting concentrated more on finances and budget, both those of the Europe region, as well as those directly or indirectly related to the the upcoming General Assembly in March 2015. The Stockholm meeting dedicated most sessions to strategic planning and to preparation of the Regional Assembly in October 2015. Total costs of both meetings is 8.272,42 €.

European Regional Assembly



OCTOBER 2015

The highest decision making body of WSCF-Europe, the 2015 European Regional Assembly (ERA), took place in Litomyšl, Czech Republic, on 25-26 October 2015. The ERA is held every two years, and it marks the end and the beginning of WSCF Europe's two year cycle. It is a time for reflection on the past and the future, and a statutory meeting of all WSCF member movements across Europe. Regional assemblies normally take place immediately following thematic conferences.



The election of new governance board members is always an important part of the Assembly. All candidates presented themselves to the floor, and secret ballots were used for voting. The ERA is also the space to consider changes to our governance principles, described in the Europe region By-laws. The Regional Assembly discussed proposed changes, and voted on them.



WSCF-Europe for the years 2015-2017. There were five thematic groups: Theology and Spirituality, Eco-Justice, Interfaith, Advocacy and Solidarity, and Gender. In addition, there were three organisational working groups: Fundraising, Regional Networking, and Global Networking.

Furthermore, the Regional Assembly served as the space for information sharing and networking. WSCF also prioritised inviting observer guests from other regions to attend the event, and had the honour of hosting international guests from three different

regions - Luis Aranguiz Kahn from Chile, Loi Almeron from the USA/Philippines, and Nova Yolanda Putri Siphatar from Indonesia.

Last, but not least, prayer time also constituted an important element of the Regional Assembly as an event where we gather as a community to plan and decide about the future of WSCF-Europe. Are Norrhava from the Swedish Christian Student movement volunteered to organise pastoral care and prayers, and co-led the prayers together with participants.

WSCF General Assembly Colombia 2015



FEBRUARY, MARCH 2015

The World Student Christian Federation held its 35th General Assembly in February and March of 2015. This Assembly's theme was "We Are Many. We Are One – Sent out to Build God's Peace". The General Assembly is held every 4-6 years and it is the moment for representatives from all of the member movements to gather and set the priorities and direction for the next years.

The WSCF, like others in the ecumenical community, recognizes that the landscape of the 21st century is changing dramatically. Therefore, this General Assembly came at a crucial time, as we evaluated these changes and examined our mission and vision, our communication and decision-making processes, and our work in light of them. This Assembly served

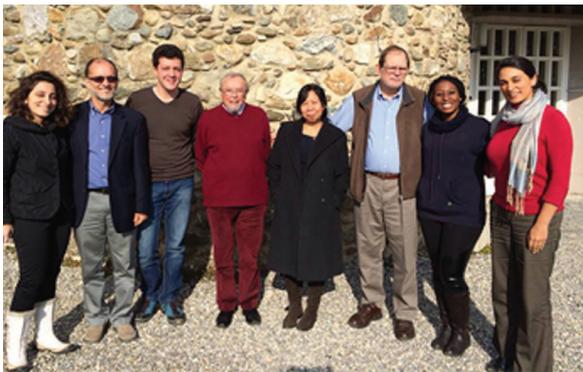
as a catalyst for the renewal of the movement for its sustainability and greater effectiveness in the years ahead. Further, we recognised that our contribution

to change must be in conversation with ecumenical and church actors, as well as other global actors. We have to learn from each other as we build our capacities and strengthen our institution in pursuit of achieving our mission: to motivate and train young ecumenical leaders. Our goal is also to play a strong role in furthering God's peace and justice in the church and world today.



AT THIS ASSEMBLY WE:

- evaluated the work since the last General Assembly in 2008,
- considered and discuss new ways of working,
- affirmed the directions we have been developing,
- set clear mandates for the content and approach of the work in the coming years, and
- reached a greater common understanding of the need for a more thorough assessment of all aspects of our organisational and movement life.



PREPARATIONS

The 35th General Assembly started to be prepared a few years before the actual Assembly, led by many people in different areas of the organisation for this historically important GA. The preparatory team members were WSCF Inter-regional office team - General Secretary Christine Housel, Chairperson Horacio Mesones, Treasurer Youhanna Kamal, and Vice Chairs Shantha Ready Alonso and Bronwyn Claire; a Colombian local Student Christian Movement team, led by Regional Secretary for Latin America and Caribbean, Marcelo Leites; and many others from the Executive Committee. There were a total of 180 participants including delegates from the member movements, staff, Executive Committee members, and WSCF/SCM Senior Friends, representatives of partner organisations, and guests participating.



Choosing Bogota as a place to hold this statutory meeting was a result of a thought process and dialogue with local stakeholders and Colombians. This

country where peace building is ongoing and taking place was chosen in order to draw attention to the realities of this country and enable WSCF international solidarity work to contribute to the work for peace in Colombia.

Global Networking

New Networking Coordinator position

WSCF-Europe established the post of Global Networking Coordinator, filled by Krista Autio, at the European Regional Assembly in October 2015. The coordinator's role is to enable greater sharing across our global organisation, with students from Europe having greater awareness of student movements in other parts of the world and to create platforms of sharing, exchange and (eventually) in person meeting places. The first objective is to create a database of both official and active contacts from movements of other Regions: email addresses, Facebook pages and website addresses for getting in contact with people in SCMs all around the world. The post with this mission was created for our student movements from Europe and other regions to contact each other, establish relationships for sharing projects and ideas, and gather information about what

movements do. For WSCF-Europe's monthly newsletter the Coordinator writes articles about, and with the help of, movements from other Regions.



Event participants from outside of Europe

With the global networking line of work, this year the governance board has initiated the new practice of fundraising in order to invite students from other regions of WSCF to our events to create connections across our global organisation: enabling mutual learning; new experiences; and exchanges. We managed to fundraise for three global participants for the Religions and Politics Conference in October 2015, who all attended the European Regional Assembly as well. We have observed the mutual benefits of this initiative, and we are intending to continue this tradition in our future events. We believe that meeting with representatives from other regions once every 4-6 years,



at the General Assembly is not enough to keep the spirit of WSCF strong, and with our action we can contribute to creating stronger interpersonal connections and more active experience exchange.



LUIS ARANGUIZ KAHN, CHILE

To be a part of the event “Religion & Politics”, organized by WSCF and EUJS has been one of the best experiences of my life. I came from Chile as a member of the SCM in Santiago and had many questions about this topic. So, to be involved in this event was a great opportunity to learn, discuss about political issues and to improve my understanding on the topic. Besides, it is very important to note that the event also gave me the opportunity to meet with a lot of people that have, if not the same, at least similar questions. That was so strengthening to me to continue along my learning path. In addition, the European Assembly of WSCF was an important space to me as a member of the Chilean SCM, especially because it gave me the opportunity to feel part of a bigger community of believers that I didn’t know personally, but also (and most important), to feel part of a group of friends. Finally, it was important to realize in situ that there are a lot of people in different places of the world working hard and seeking the same thing, the Kingdom of God. That brings hope.



NOVA YULANDA PUTRI SIPAHUTAR, INDONESIA

I would like to say a huge thank you to WSCF-Europe, which gave me this opportunity. Thank you also to WSCF Asia Pacific and SCM Indonesia, who have supported my trip to Europe. It will be great if the members of WSCF-Europe come to our region as well, and we can learn together about Indonesia and about Asia. I am proud to be a part of this ecumenical movement. Let’s make this world a home for all people.



Teaming up together for common goals

APRIL–MAY

In April and June 2015, Council for World Mission organised its annual programme Face To Face. This year’s edition was entitled Mission in the Context of Empire Through the Lens of Migration and Human Trafficking. This Programme was held in The Netherlands on 12 April to 23 May 2015. The Programme provides the participants with opportunities to engage in theological reflection; guided study in a supportive atmosphere; explore and learn about Dutch culture; experience work placements in migrant communities, and alongside trafficked and undocumented people; develop worship and study resources as well as different workshops for interview techniques, creative writing and the like. The WSCF-Europe representative at this event was **Matty Ben Urmersbach** from Germany.



JUNE

Five days, tens of thousands of visitors, thousands of events: German biennial event, the 35th Protestant Kirchentag, was held in Stuttgart, on 3-7 June 2015. The event was attended by WSCF-E Vice-Chair Annika Foltin, who also participated in a Kirchentag-related conference in Bad Boll. This latter event, collecting together 60 people from different denominations and more than 20 European countries, aimed to discuss the idea of a “European Christian Convention”. The conference led to a “roadmap” which recorded its results and will now circulate around, and grow among, churches and organisations. Further planning for the project is now in the hands of a European coordination team, in which Annika Foltin represents WSCF-E.



JUNE

Five days, tens of thousands of visitors, thousands of events: German biennial event, the 35th Protestant Kirchentag, was held in Stuttgart, on 3-7 June 2015. The event was attended by WSCF-E Vice-Chair Annika Foltin, who also participated in a Kirchentag-related conference in Bad Boll. This latter event, collecting together 60 people from different denominations and more than 20 European countries, aimed to discuss the idea of a “European Christian Convention”. The conference led to a “roadmap” which recorded its results and will now circulate around, and grow among, churches and organisations. Further planning for the project is now in the hands of a European coordination team, in which Annika Foltin represents WSCF-E.

AUGUST

The International Political Camp “Peace Pedagogy - towards new paradigms for people’s security” was held in Agape, Italy, on 15-22 August 2015. At this event, the representative of WSCF-Europe was Are Norrhava from the Swedish SCM. The camp featured a week of lectures, discussions, and reflection on the theme of peace and security. Peace pedagogy is about intentionally finding new ways of speaking about security and peace; a guiding question during the week was “Security for whom?” Participants were challenged to reflect on new forms of activism needed to achieve people’s genuine security.

AUGUST



In August 2015 the United Nations, together with Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan under the Patronage of his Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II, co-organised a Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security in Amman, Jordan. The Forum discussed the topics of peace and security, sought solutions, provided space for experience exchange, and adopted the Amman Youth Declaration. **Yulia Bajelidze** from our member movement in Georgia was invited to this historic event and was selected to be among 150 fully funded participants from nearly 11 000 applications. She says, “It was my pleasure to represent Young Christians for Peace and Democracy (SCM Georgia) and World Student Christian Federation-Europe at such an historic event.”

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

From the 28th October until the 1st November the Religions for Peace – European Assembly was held in Castel Gandolfo, Italy. The Assembly was on the topic of “Welcoming Each Other: From Fear to Trust” and addressed the fears of Europeans over the influx of refugees and migrants on the continent, and how these fears can be overcome and turned into trust. WSCF-Europe was represented by governance board members **Krista Autio** and **Annika Foltin**.



Religions for Peace also held a Global Religious Youth Leaders’ Summit on “Welcoming the Other: Multi-religious Youth Respond to the Challenges of Violent Religious Extremism, Refugee Crisis and Climate Change.” The summit was held in Paris, France, prior to the COP21, on 26-28 November 2015, and brought together more than 40 people, to focus on three topics - climate change, religious extremism, and the refugee crisis. The main part of the gathering was the contribution of members of the RfP International Youth Committee from Africa, Europe, Latin America, North America, and Asia and Middle East. Among them were two representatives from WSCF, Natalya Pylypiv (WSCF Europe) and Marcelo Leites (WSCF

Latin America), who are appointed representatives from WSCF to serve on the International Youth Committee of Religions for Peace International. They were aiding the summit as resource persons. As a group, the participants joined the COP21 programme of religious organisations on 28 November, and also a gathering of [Act Alliance](#) celebrating the achievement of a faith-based petition urging political leaders at the COP21 climate summit to take action to curb global warming. From the current board of WSCF Europe, **Zuzana Babicova** and **Annika Foltin** joined the summit.

WSCF-Europe History Project 2015



This year, the WSCF-Europe team decided that we need to explore more our history, going back to the beginning of the regionalisation of WSCF back in 1960s. We want to find out all of the people involved in leadership, and to map out thematic and strategic development of our Europe regional work over the past 50 years. We wish to know our what our predecessors did to pave the way for the work we are doing now, and understand better the development of the organisation over the years.

This long-term project uncovering our cultural organisational history has been started off by our former Fundraising Coordinator David Cleary (2013-2015) who identified our recent leadership going to back to

1989. After our Regional Assembly in October 2015, we formed a team to coordinate our efforts towards exploring further the historic work of WSCF-Europe. The team consists of David Cleary, newly elected Fundraising Coordinator Adam Smith, and Chairperson Zuzana Babicova. The aims of the project are to:

- identify leadership members and active volunteers of WSCF-E since 1960;
- identify thematic areas in each decade since 1960;
- collect personal testimonials; and
- create a publication and website section showcasing our findings.

Publications and resources



Mozaik Journal

COPIES: 500 OF EACH ISSUE

COST: 3.392,68 €

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 events and programs.. As such, the themes of Mozaik follow the themes of our annual programs. It is written and edited by students and young people, and reflects the diversity of our members from all Christian denominations in Europe.

E-Newsletter

Number of subscribers: 474 as of Dec 2015

Our monthly e-newsletter 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. This year, we have cleaned up our subscriber lists, and deleted all inactive subscribers.

Website

WSCF-E has been prioritising the digital face of the Region. The content of the website has been updated weekly. The blog area of the website has experienced an improvement in content quality and publishing frequency. Many of the WSCF delegates to partner events wrote reports which were featured on the

website. The webpage also offered news on upcoming events, solidarity statements, and prayer requests on topical social and political issues; as well as resources for our members to use in their local contexts.

Social Media

WSCF-Europe runs an active Facebook page, a Twitter account, and a Flickr account, and multiple thematic Facebook groups for different audiences. In 2015 the WSCF-E online audience has grown in numbers, as well as in quality of engagement. Facebook continued to be the main platform for social engagement with our audiences. During this year, the number of active Facebook followers grew by 25%, reaching over 1200 followers at the end of the year. Twitter was more actively used for live event reporting, but also for communicating with and retweeting our partner organisations and other regions. We have continued to use Flickr, uploading pictures from all events on single online platform that is easily accessible. We have also developed a LinkedIn profile for WSCF-Europe, in order to create a new hub for finding volunteers and staff for our needs.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

EXPENDITURES 2015

Regional Secretary salary	26.737,39 €
Publications Intern/Communications Officer salary	7.662,25 €
Mozaik Staff	1.240 €
Employment Taxes and Social Security contributions	33.452,61 €
Office rent	3.469,07 €

Office equipment and supplies	762,95 €
Communications	1.169,52 €
Bank Charges	682,26 €
Financial services	1.382,44 €
Insurance	138,33 €
Postage	575,44 €
Miscellaneous	1.625,56 €

Religion and Politics Conference	19.020,93 €
Capacity Building training in Madrid	7.182,93 €
European Regional Assembly	3.676,32 €
Networking and programs development	1.676,27 €
WSCF Global Programs	1.245,93 €
Board meetings-Paris and Stockholm	8.272,42 €
Publications	3.254,77 €

INCOME 2015

WSCF Inter-regional office	43.745,00 €
European Youth Foundation	15.200 €
Donations	563,08 €
European Union administrative grant	46.527,00 €
General Board of Global Ministries	4.086,15 €
Participation fees and travel contributions	7.975,49 €
Other Programmatic Income	1.927,24 €

PEOPLE POWER:

Our dedicated volunteers



ARE KASPERSEN
Pastoral care Volunteer



JURGITA KOZENIAUSKAITE
Event Volunteer



ELLIS TSANG
Event Photographer



HESTER VAN TROMMEL
Event Volunteer



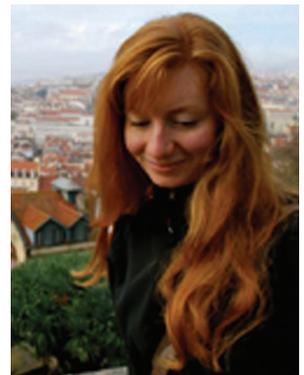
MIROSLAV SHINDAROV
IT support volunteer



DENNIS GOLDSTOFF
Event Volunteer



GABOR NEMET
Graphic Design
Volunteer



KATARINA BABICOVÁ
Event Volunteer



YULIA BAJELIDZE
Advocacy & Solidarity
Committee



GABRIELA BRADOVKOVA
Newsletter Volunteer



ELENA BRADOVKOVÁ
Graphic Design
Volunteer



MARIA BRADOVKOVÁ
Graphic Design
Volunteer

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 unifying voice for all people, empowering youth and bringing justice, peace and solidarity to our communities.

Our contributors in 2015:

Valentin Tranchand, Paweł Pustelnik, Dinesh Suna, Marita Mattila, Rachael Weber, Salters Sterling, Zuzana Babicova, Sofie Eriksen, Katherine Sotejeff-Wilson

Who funded us in 2015:



**Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Commission**



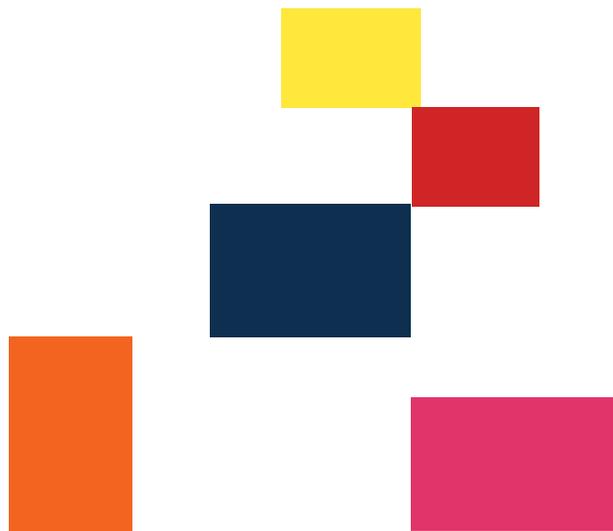
**European Youth Foundation
of the Council of Europe**



General Board of Global Ministries



WSCF Inter-Regional Office



World Student Christian Federation - Europe

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