

Happy New Year!



Going into 2021, we are leaving behind us a year that for most of us has been very different. We have gotten used to studying, working, and hanging out with friends and family through our phones and computers. What kind of year 2021 is going to be is yet to be revealed but we in the WSCF-E have much planned and we are very much hoping for a fruitful, fun, and engaging year despite the challenges we are still facing.

With this letter we would like to share our plans for 2021 and invite you to join us!

Who are we?

Beginning a new year we would like to introduce our organization for those of you who are new to the WSCF or have not been in contact with us before.

WSCF-E stands for World Student Christian Federation in Europe. We are **representing Christian students** in the European region and are part of the global federation. The **other regions** are Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and North America. Each region has a **regional committee**, ours is usually referred to as ERC (European regional committee). You can read more about us at our webpage <http://wscf-europe.org/>. Every other year we have the *ERA* (European **regional assembly**) where the movements elect the ERC, decide what we are going to do the next couple of years and if we should make any changes to our bylaws for example. WSCF-E consists of 28 Student Christian Movements in Europe. Our motto is **“proclaiming justice together for peace”** and in order to do so we try to advocate, educate and connect for issues related to human rights, but also religious and environmental topics.

The world federation has an **Inter-regional office** with an **Executive Committee**. Each region has 2 representatives plus the regional secretary in the committee. Our representatives, called ExCo's, are Marta Sappé Griot and Paudie Holly. The **General Assembly** takes place every 5th year and is the highest decision-making body of the WSCF. The **General Secretary** for WSCF is Marcelo Leites. You can learn more about the federation at <http://www.wscf.ch/>.

What do we do?

We are a **movement based organization**. Without you in our SCM's, we would be nothing! The ERC (European regional committee) is working for the movements in the region. We support the movements and their staff and officers in many ways and we are organizing different study sessions, campaigns, and other events. The topics which we work with are: Gender and Sexuality, Solidarity and Advocacy, Theology, Interreligious dialogue and Ecojustice. Any member of any SCM is welcome to



contact us if you are interested in joining a working group!
We are also making sure that our ERA's take place as they should and we are connecting our region to the global level.

What is happening in 2021?

Meetings for the Movements

Since we cannot travel or meet each other in real life we are going to start to have **meetings via Zoom for all our movements and members!** It is going to be an informal way of meeting each other and spending time together. This is a great way to connect from home, so make sure to spread the word to your friends in the movements (or perhaps a friend that is not a member but would like to join). We hope you are as excited as us about this!

During the meetings we will get to know each other, discuss, play, laugh and pray, so if you are up for some international contacts, you are more than welcome to join. It would be great, if you could send a quick message to chair@wscf-europe.org before, so we can arrange activities matching the group size, but if you would like to join spontaneously that's fine as well. You are welcome in any case! Just make sure you have your favorite drink, snacks and a smile ready 😊

You will find us at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82062261696>

We will meet **every other Monday at 8pm CET** starting on January 25 (next meetings being on February 8, February 22...).

Gender and Sexuality Campaign

This year we are launching a campaign on gender and sexuality. It is going to be a series of events, study sessions, or seminars about different topics. The events will happen between April and August. One event is planned to be held once a month or every other month. Stay tuned for more info about this campaign. If you would like to join the working group or are interested in learning more do not hesitate to contact us!

General Assembly, GA

In June the GA is taking place. It was originally planned to take place last year but was postponed due to the pandemic. It is going to be a virtual meeting, and an amazing opportunity to meet new people from all over the world. Europe is the host-region for this General Assembly.

Study Session on right wing populism

In this training course we will train young activists to

- ... to **understand** the idea behind and the methods used by right wing populism.
- ... to **interact** with it from an individual and church perspective.
- ... to **learn** from each other.
- ... to **grow** to act as multipliers.

The study session will happen in June 14-18 in Budapest in cooperation with the Council of Europe. Contact us if you are interested in joining!



European Regional Assembly, ERA

This fall our regional assembly is taking place! Due to the pandemic it is most likely to be a virtual assembly. More info about this is coming, but it is a perfect time to start thinking about delegates, if your movement has any amendments or motions that you would like to bring to the ERA, or if you are interested in being a candidate for the ERA.

We hope that you all are looking forward to this year as much as we do and that we get the chance to meet you!

The warmest greetings and wishes for a blessed year,

Christiane Gebauer (Chair)

Stina Tysk (Vice-Chair)

And the rest of the ERC