



Energy and Climate Change – the Churches’ Role and Voice
10th Assembly of European Christian Environmental Network
27 September – 1 October 2014, Balatonszárszó (Hungary)
Programme & Timetable

Saturday, 27 September, 2014

Arrivals & Registration

18.30 - 19.30 Dinner

20.00 – 21.00 Welcome evening

Sunday, 28 September, 2014

7.30 – 8.30 Breakfast

10.00 Worship service, celebration of creation time with churches in Hungary

12.30 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 15.30 Opening session
○ Organisation of the Assembly
○ ECEN activity report 2012-14

15.30 – 16.30 **Churches responding to challenges of climate change and energy scarcity**
Theological vision & Churches’ tasks and responsibilities
Key note presentation
Bishop James Jones, Church of England

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee/tea

17.00 – 18.30 **Churches’ engagement in taking care for creation - ECEN work in thematic groups:**
○ Theology & creation time
○ Climate change
○ Eco-management
○ Transition lifestyle
○ Environmental education

18.30 – 20.00 Dinner

20.00 – 21.00 **Care for creation in European Churches – activities, programmes and initiatives**
Open space for discussion and sharing

Monday, 29 September, 2014

7.30 – 8.30 Breakfast



- 8.45 – 9.00 Morning prayers
- 9.00 – 10.30 **Climate change - recent developments and Churches' reactions**
Recent developments and a number of upcoming expected events makes climate change an intensively discussed topic in various international fora. Last IPCC report, EU discussion on climate policy and UN efforts to finalise the deal on post Kyoto Arrangement in COP meeting in Paris 2015 provide the key inputs for the debate. What are the key new findings of the IPCC report? What is the position of the Christian community in responding to these challenges? What role do Christians play in the current discussion on climate change and what do they expect from their Churches?
Speakers
- Clarisse Kehler Siebert, Stockholm Environment Institute
 - Henrik Grape, Church of Sweden
 - Michael Northcott, University of Edinburgh
- 10.30 – 11.00 Coffee/tea
- 11.00 – 12.30 **Climate change – a challenge for global community, the role of the EU and UN**
Climate change can be addressed effectively only through a concerted effort of global community. It is widely acknowledged that UN and the EU have to play a particular role in the process role. Along with the efforts of leading to COP meeting in Paris 2015, the UN programme on Sustainable Development Goals is aimed to put a conceptual frame on climate mitigation as the part of a broader programme. Ethical dimension of these efforts has to be seriously considered. What should be the shape of the new EU climate policy? Who are the key stakeholders in the EU debate? What are the outcomes of the summit of religious leaders with the UN General Secretary? What are future plans of the WCC in addressing climate change?
Speakers
- Barbara Botos, Deputy Head, Climate Policy Department, Ministry of National Development, Hungary
 - Janos Zlinszky, UN SDG programme
 - Adrian Shaw, Church of Scotland
- 12.30 – 14.30 Lunch
- 14.30 – 16.00 **Ethics and Energy – Churches' role in energy transition**
Constantly increasing energy consumption has become a significant sign characterising developed western society and a vision to be followed by the developing world. Is this compatible with a vision of a sustainable world? What are challenges of energy production and energy consumption and their link to climate change? What are difficulties and perspectives of energy transition? Can individual lifestyles contribute to reduction of energy consumption? Is energy poverty a serious threat to be faced? Do ethics contribute to decisions on energy production and consumption? What is the role of the churches?



Speakers:

- Dorothea Hauptstock, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy
- Béla Munkácsy, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest

16.00 – 16.30 **Environmental justice – is cooperation of churches with secular NGOs and public authorities possible?**

The office of the Hungarian Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations (so-called Green Ombudsman) was established in 2008 as a unique institution in the world in order to reinforce advocacy for the natural environment and to safeguard intergenerational justice.

Speaker:

- Sándor Fülöp
Hungarian Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations 2008-12

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee/tea

17.00 – 18.00 Discussion in the thematic groups

18.00 – 18.45 Summary of the day's deliberations
Plenary session

19.00 – 20.00 Dinner

Tuesday, 30 September, 2014

7.30 – 8.30 Breakfast

8.45 – 9.00 Morning prayers

9.00 – 10.30 **Churches working together – Churches' response to environmental challenges**

In recent years grew rapidly a number of different Churches initiatives responding to challenges of climate change and environmental degradation. Can Churches learn from each other? Can they coordinate their activities? What should they demand from a dialogue with political decision makers?

- ECEN Twinning project
- Churches' preparation for COP 21 in Paris 2015

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee/tea

11.00 – 12.30 **Churches working together – Churches' response to environmental challenges**
(continued)

- Care for creation in churches in Hungary
- Youth addressing eco-justice and sustainable lifestyle
- Discussion in the thematic groups

12.30 – 14.30 Lunch



14.30 – 16.00 **Thematic groups**

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee/tea

16.30 – 17.30 **Where do we go from here?**

Care for creation becomes an agenda point in activity on an increasing number of churches. It is widely acknowledged that environmental crises and threat of climate change have spiritual and ethical roots. What is the specific role of the churches? In what sense can theology and ethics play a role in responding to concerns of climate change, limited capacity of natural resources and ever increasing demand of energy? How can churches cooperate among themselves as well as with other partners from civil society and respective governments in addressing these issues? What are necessary steps forward?

Church Leaders' panel with:

- István Szabó, bishop, Reformed Church in Hungary
- Béla Harmati, bishop emeritus, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary
- James Jones, bishop, Church of England
- Guy Liagre, General Secretary of the Conference of European Churches

17.30 – 18.30 Summarising Plenary, outcomes

18.30 – 19.00 Closing prayers

19.00 – 20.00 Dinner

20.00 – 21.00 Festive evening

Wednesday, 1 October, 2014

Departures