

Summarising the activities of the Evangelical Church A. C. in Slovakia related to the programme of the 10th WWC Assembly

Globalisation – economical and spiritual crisis, the problem of big poverty, and on the other hand cumulative wealth, increasing unemployment, destroying environment.

Our country as the whole EU is facing a deep and longstanding financial, economic and social crisis characterised by high level of unemployment and growing inequalities. Unemployment has climbed to a deep level over 14% and has an increasing tendency. The higher the unemployment is, the higher the needs for social services are. The pressure on social cohesion is mounting.

- The root of crisis is the crises of faith, because the faith in Jesus Christ creates widely accepted human values such as a fellowship, liability for the suffering and the poor, the ability to make sacrifice for others and all this is put into action. From this point of view it is important to put stress on the message of Gospel offered to people of all social and age groups.
- The role of the Church is to endeavour that the Christian message have a necessary impact on formulation of the ethical and juridical norms, which control world's free markets and the mass media actions.
- The Evangelical Church of Augsburg Confession (ECAC) in Slovakia has challenged members of smaller church congregations to participate in the project "Education for sustainable development for smaller rural church congregations in Slovakia". The programme GRUNDTVIG is the international project specialized on the education in the field of persistently sustainable development, power saving, reduction of nitrogen-oxide emission and other relating themes.
- The Evangelical Diaconia devotes to the problems of abused women. Together with our German partner they organize courses, seminars, workshops, exchange activities.
- Several churches related to the Ecumenical Council of Churches in Slovakia devote to Roma mission for more years as this ethnic needs help and guidance very urgently – their unemployment is very high, most of them do not have full basic education, they are in deep poverty and that effects their quality of living, especially the families with children. Some churches try to offer them all kind of free time activities for adults, youth and children focused on spirituality and education. Education plays a very important role in general, but it is very important for lower class people as the upper education can enable them to find a qualified job.
- The ECAC participates in various ecumenical activities to help the poor or alike suffering people e. g. the World Prayers' Day that are focused not only on prayers but also on collection of money for projects for different country each year; collection of money for the poor or the people in need after various natural disasters not only at home, but also abroad.
- Rescheduling of the Church – financial reason
- The preparation of a decision-making process around the question of complete financial independence of the Church

Expectations:

It will be a unique opportunity for the whole fellowship of member churches of the WCC to meet together in prayers and celebration, but also in discussions about the global problems of God's creation - how to care for life and seek justice in this world.