

## Remarks from the Silesian Evangelical Church of the A. C. in the Czech Republic regarding WCC Assembly in Busan, 2013

I am very glad, that the upcoming WCC Assembly will tackle the global economical issues which are of fundamental import.

The impact of economic crisis is milder in the Czech Republic, however the unemployment rate grows and real wages sinks. Thus the population buying power sinks and the crisis gets deeper.

It is time to search for real causes of the division of our world into a handful of the rich controlling bank sector and the millions of poor whose number increases.

In our church we don't occupy ourselves with these problems for the time being in that we need to solve an urgent issue of its self-financing in relation to adoption of the restitution act.

On the other hand we respond to aforementioned problems on two levels. First the work of our Silesian Diacony contributes to solving a whole range of social problems. Second, the work of our congregations, as regards youth work or family work conveys and strengthens the ethical and spiritual basis of an attitude to life, economy and the like.

In regard to the negotiations of WCC our next observations are based on our standpoint toward the contents of the São Paulo Statement: International Financial Transformation for the Economy of Life.

- 1) As regards the solution of overall crisis in the world, we need to return to Christ, to repentance. We don't need to return to alternatives, but to the centre, Christ. **Biblical Christianity contains enough incentives for economical transformation, both freedom and activity as well as ethical norms and charity.** The existence of so much inequality and exploitation is caused by turning away from Christianity and Christian values and implicit or explicit adoption of atheism, anti-Christian mentality and indifference toward Christianity, as a result of leftist thinking.
- 2) We don't need to engage in alternative or Non-Christian movements in seeking help in dealing with global economical problems. It is well-founded to suppose that an application of Non-Christian elements will spawn a syncretistic theology, where Christ will be pushed to periphery.
- 3) Hence it does not suffice to change structures and regulations, peoples' hearts need to change, both those of oppressors and oppressed. New structures can be misused too. **It is not sure that the new is not worse than the present and that a new totalitarianism does not arise.**
- 4) As regards gender justice, we would have to know which changes are envisioned. They cannot go too far lest the role of the family as the basic unit of society be impaired since man and woman are created differently. They are equal but their tasks are different.
- 5) The WCC Assembly should clearly support the family as a basic unit of society, including economic consequences of that fact.

Sincerely,

Mgr. Jan Waclawek  
Bishop of the Silesian Church of the A.C. in the Czech Republic