

Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe aisbl



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EYCE Press Release: EYCE ExCo meets in Brussels, Belgium

The Executive Committee (ExCo) of the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe (EYCE) met for their scheduled meeting from 3rd to 6th of February 2011 in EYCE's Office in Brussels, Belgium. The ExCo also took the opportunity to meet with the representatives of EYCE's Belgian Member Organisation Service Protestant de la Jeunesse (SPJ), who share the office building at *Maison Protestantisme*, in order to discuss various ways of future cooperation.

The ExCo reviewed and evaluated the work that has been done since their last meeting in October 2010 in Belfast, as well as started initial preparations for EYCE's 38th General Meeting.

The agenda of the meeting included further planning of the Council's work for 2011, which included change in the dates initially planned, as well as further development of EYCE's Campaign to Promote Ecological Justice, which will be officially launched in March. Also, the ExCo worked on the outline for themes and events in 2012.

The foreseen events for the year 2011 are:

- 27th of February - 6th of March, "Learn. Engage. Lead. A Step by Step Ecumenical Leadership Training for Young Europeans", Geneva, Switzerland.
- 3rd - 10th of July, "Taking steps towards an ecologically responsible society. Political and theological perspectives on Ecological Justice", Kiev, Ukraine.
- 21st - 28th of August, "Be the Generation of Peace! A seminar to enhance the participation and contribution of young people to peace processes", Tbilisi, Georgia.
- 4th - 11th of December, "Secularism and Religions: Working Together for a Common Europe. An interreligious study session", European Youth Centre Budapest, Hungary

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Rue Brogniez 44 – 1070 Bruxelles – Belgium

Phone: +32 2 5106171 – Fax: +32 2 5106172 – E-Mail: general.secretary@eyce.org – Web: www.eyce.org

Bank details: KBC Bank, Argence Marnix – BIC/Swift: KREDBEBB – IBAN: BE30 7340 0440 4011



Alongside other activities in 2011, EYCE's 38th General Meeting will take place from 17th - 23rd of October. It will be held in Höchst, Germany and will be hosted by EYCE's German Member organisation *aej*.

The ExCo developed the initial programme for 2012, with the two first events of the year focusing on the training for potential IPC members, as well as a training course on Human Rights with regards to ethnic minorities.

The preliminary dates for these events are:

- 19th - 22nd of January 2012, "Learn. Engage. Lead. Training for Young Leaders in Non-formal Peer Education"
- 19th - 25th of March 2012, "Human Rights for Everyone? Right!!! A training Course for Young Christians to Overcome Racism and Discrimination Against Ethnic Minorities"

The ExCo meeting in Brussels also provided time for meeting with representatives of EYCE's Belgian Member Organisation Service Protestant de la Jeunesse. Meeting with Yann Gabel, Cecile Binet and Petra Rathmann gave the opportunity to share the activities of EYCE and SPJ, as well as find the possible ways of closer cooperation in the future, involving Belgian young Christians into the life and work of EYCE.

The ExCo also met with the president of the European Union of Jewish Students Benjamin Zagzag and discussed the further cooperation with EUJS in the field of interreligious work. A very fruitful meeting was held with the representative of Church and Society Commission (CSC) of CEC Ms. Elizabeta Kitanovic, which resulted in concrete ideas and proposals for cooperation of EYCE and CSC in 2012.

More information about EYCE's activities and work can be found on our website at www.eyce.org

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