

Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe aisbl



Conference of European Churches

PO Box 2100,
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Prague, 8th November, 2013

Dear Rt Rev. Christopher Hill , dear Rev. Dr. Guy Liagre,
dear members of the Governing Board of CEC,

Greetings from Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe - EYCE!

With this letter we would like to share with you EYCE's official reaction to the outcomes of the 14th Assembly of CEC, resulting from the 39th EYCE General Meeting, which took place in October 2013 in Brno, Czech Republic. During this meeting time was set aside to discuss the processes during the CEC assembly, evaluate the past cooperation between the two organisations and decide the further steps.

As the EYCE delegated representative in Budapest already expressed, EYCE is very disappointed by the decided change of the course in the work of CEC, especially regarding the status of associated organisations, as well as by the lack of transparency in the process, how this decision was made. It is not clear how the change of the legal status of the associated organisations addresses the main concerns the reform was supposed to resolve. Nevertheless, the EYCE General Meeting accepted the changes as a democratic decision and discussed all available options for further partnership with CEC.

As an outcome of this discussion, the 39th EYCE General Meeting drafted and approved the document "*Future Relationship between the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe and the Conference of European Churches after the forced loss of membership as an outcome of CEC's 14th Assembly*". Please find it attached to this mail.

In accordance to this document and on behalf of EYCE's General Meeting as the highest decision making body, we would like to ask for EYCE to be taken out of the recently established list of organisations in partnership.

This decision should not be understood as disregard of the past cooperation between the two organisations from the side of EYCE, despite the expression of such disregard by the CEC Assembly. In contrary, this situation should be taken as an opportunity to search for more sustainable ways of mutually beneficial cooperation. The Executive Committee of EYCE is open to discuss the possibilities for future collaboration. An initiative from the side of CEC in this regard will be considered as a first step in rebuilding the trust, e.g. a meeting

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with representatives of boards from both organisations as it has been already discussed unofficially between the General Secretaries.

We hope that an acceptable solution for both sides and a way forward in relationship in mutual respect will be found soon.

On behalf of EYCE's General Meeting,
Yours in Christ,

Benjamin Mlýnek
Chairperson of EYCE

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