

25 - 31 March 2016



[Archbishop of Greece urges EU to share responsibility for refugees](#)

Greece's people are exhausted from years of economic crisis and the Orthodox church head there is pleading with the European Union to reconsider its decision to limit the refugees it is accepting.



[International affairs facilitator reflects on pilgrimage](#)

With a background in international conflict resolution, peace-building and reconciliation, Professor Emily Welty is uniquely suited to her role as acting moderator of the

[Prayer Cycle](#)

[27 March - 2 April 2016](#)

[China, Hong Kong, Macau](#)



[» View the prayers](#)

[3 - 9 April 2016](#)

[Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore](#)



[» View the prayers](#)

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the WCC. She facilitated the commission's work most recently during its annual meeting in Geneva from 7 through 14 March.

[French ecumenical delegation considers WCC convergence text](#)

The Faith and Order Commission's convergence text "The Church: Towards a Common Vision" continues to be discussed by churches on a journey toward revealing the unity of the church and how it is inextricably bound on a pilgrimage of justice and peace.



[WCC-UNICEF partnership shares two child-friendly versions of the Draft "Principles for Child-Friendly Churches"](#)

The Draft "Principles for Child-Friendly Churches" are now available in two child-friendly versions. One explains the principles to children under ten years of age, while the other explains it to children over ten years of age. Both versions are available for download.

[New blog post](#)



[Now is the time for queenly leadership!](#)



[EAPPI blog: Good Friday in Bethlehem](#)

[processes in indigenous contexts](#)

The WCC will convene a conference on the theme “Reconciliation Processes in Indigenous Contexts” in Trondheim, Norway, on 20-21 June.



[Commission on the Status of Women adopts theme of 'Leaving no one behind us'](#)

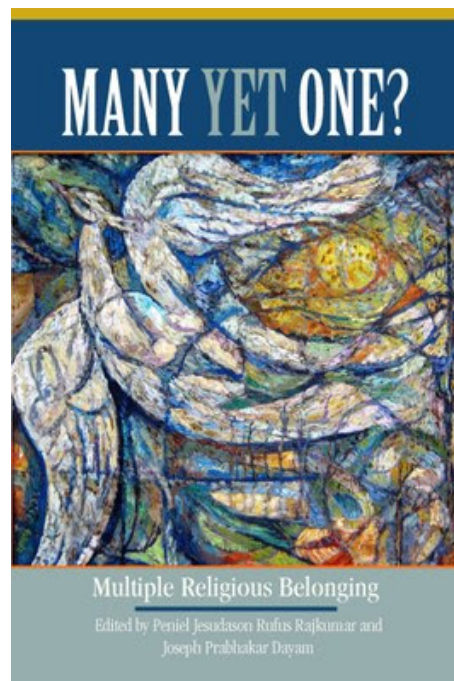
The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is taking a new turn in its 60th Session by relating its goals to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).



[Europeans struggling with reality of refugees, reports advocate for migrants' rights](#)

The average person in Europe may

[New Publication](#)



be having more difficulty coming to terms with the reality of migrants and refugees than ever before, said Maria Mountraki, given how close to home — literally — the influx of people has become.



[*WCC strongly condemns terror attack in Pakistan*](#)

The World Council of Churches' general secretary has strongly condemned the lethal terror attack in Pakistan on 27 March as shocking and brutal, urging the government to ensure that its communities can be better protected against fanatics.

Upcoming events



Faith, food and El Niño in Southern Africa

18 April 2016

Johannesburg, South Africa

In Southern Africa, around 28 million people are facing food insecurity due to drought conditions brought on by the strength of El Niño in 2015/2016. The World Council of Churches – Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance is holding a regional consultation, hosted by World Vision International, to plan coordinated faith-based action in support of sustainable agriculture, agro-ecology and other climate-resilient methods, particularly targeting the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) discussion on the response to El Niño.



Central Committee meeting

22 - 28 June 2016

Trondheim, Norway

A new Central Committee was elected by the WCC 10th Assembly from among its delegates in November 2013. It serves as the chief governing body of the WCC until the next assembly, meeting every 2 years. It is responsible for carrying out the policies adopted by the Assembly, reviewing and supervising WCC programmes and the budget of the Council.



Interfaith Pre-Conference at AIDS 2016

16 - 17 July 2016
Durban, South Africa

The International AIDS Conference (18-22 July) provides extensive opportunities for sharing and networking across all levels of care and response to the epidemic. It draws tens of thousands of people every two years. The WCC-Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance is coordinating an Interfaith Pre-Conference to bring faith-based participants together to share good practices, networking, and discussion of the faith-based response to current challenges in responding to HIV.



Pastoral Challenges to Sharing the Faith in a Multi-cultural and Multi-faith World

14 - 31 August 2016
Bossey, Switzerland

A central missionary and pastoral challenge of today for churches in a multi-cultural and multi-faith world is how to share the faith with younger generations in a way that is meaningful for their lives. This course offers the opportunity to analyze the challenges, understand the values and aspirations of young people living in these contexts, and learn about successful approaches.



Youth Engagement, Religion and Violence

18 - 22 August 2016

Cairo, Egypt

Young people are very much affected by the violence and tensions along religious lines that we are witnessing today in the Middle East but also in Europe, Asia, North America. The seminar is an interfaith initiative jointly organized by the Egyptian Muslim Centre Al Azhar (mosque and university), and the WCC.



Time for Creation

01 September - 04 October 2016

Worldwide

From 1 September - the first day of the Orthodox church year - to 4 October - the feast of Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, in the Catholic tradition - churches are called to become involved in the Time for Creation.



Youth Engagement in Social Justice in Latin America

01 - 06 October 2016
Colombia

Latin America is one of the most unequal regions in the world in terms of income and living conditions. At the same time, the region has strong religious traditions and churches. The seminar will address topics linked to the engagement of Latin American churches in social justice issues, drawing on the experiences of the participants themselves.



Mission and Transformative Discipleship

16 - 20 October 2016
Rosario, Argentina

The main objective of the seminar is to orient missionaries and staff belonging to various mission organizations and different denominations to a better understanding of the contemporary context concerning the witness to Christ as participants in the Missio Dei.



European Reformation Roadmap launch

03 - 04 November 2016
Geneva, Switzerland

The year 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. A chain of commemorative events, starting in Geneva, will connect cities in the Netherlands, Italy, Hungary, Switzerland, Slovenia, Ireland and Germany. Each stop-over will last 36 hours: regional and ecumenical partners will invite people to a festive occasion with numerous activities, in order to discover local traces of Reformation history.