Session I: Local becomes national becomes global

Stockholm, 26 August 16:00–18:00
Marianne Ejdersten, Director of Communication

NORDKOM Stockholm, Sweden
WCC Soundcloud with Bonhoeffer

https://soundcloud.com/themartyrsproject/09-bonhoeffer
In 1930, in Oslo, Nathan Söderblom was rewarded the Nobel Peace prize for his initiatives to make the fellowship of churches a movement for justice and peace.

Nathan Söderblom 1866-1931
"Lord, be before us to guide us, be behind us to push us, be beneath us to carry us, be above us to bless us, be around us to protect us, be in us so that in body and soul we serve you for the glory of your Name."

The Ecumenical Centre in Geneva
• Fellowship
• Founded 1948 in Amsterdam
• 345 member churches
• 110 countries
• Representing 550 million Christians (including most of the world's Orthodox churches, scores of Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist and Reformed churches, as well as many United and Independent churches.)
• 100 employees
• Based in Geneva, New York, Jerusalem and Nairobi....
WCC fellowship: This is where God placed us

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MsmrjYW0w
The World Council of Churches (WCC) is the broadest and most inclusive among the many organized expressions of the modern ecumenical movement, a movement whose goal is Christian unity.
For its member churches, the WCC is a unique space: one in which they can reflect, speak, act, worship and work together, challenge and support each other, share and debate with each other. As members of this fellowship, WCC member churches:

• are called to the goal of **visible unity** in one faith and one eucharistic fellowship;

• promote their **common witness in work for mission and evangelism**;

• engage in Christian service by **serving human need, breaking down barriers between people, seeking justice and peace, and upholding the integrity of creation**; and

• foster renewal in unity, worship, mission and service.
pilgrimage of justice and peace
Assembly’s call for a pilgrimage

God of life, lead us to justice and peace

World Council of Churches
10th Assembly
30 October to 8 November 2013
Busan, Republic of Korea
Strategic objectives as pilgrimage aspects: inter-related

- strengthening the fellowship
- witnessing together
- encouraging spirituality, reflection and formation
- building relations of trust and understanding
- inspiring and innovative communication
Objective 5: Inspiring and innovative communication

• The WCC is an effective communication actor and a platform for sharing stories and voices from member churches and ecumenical partners working together in the pilgrimage of justice and peace, and raising the fellowship’s visibility and public role.

• From the Strategic Plan
The WCC communications team marking #ThursdaysInBlack, for a world without #Rape and #GenderViolence.
The WCC Communication Strategy?
Inspired by the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC). WACC is a non-governmental organisation that builds on communication rights in order to promote social justice.

WACC has articulated seven guiding principles for communication:

- Communication is a spiritual exercise
- Communication builds and shapes community
- Communication enhances participation
- Communication promotes freedom and demands accountability
- Communication celebrates cultural diversity
- Communication builds connectedness
- Communication affirms justice and challenges injustice.
pilgrimage of justice and peace
pilgrimage of justice and peace

1. What is a pilgrimage? Write your thoughts about pilgrimage from your context.

2. What are justice and peace? List the stories of justice and peace from your context.

3. Why a pilgrimage of justice and peace? Discuss why the church needs a pilgrimage of justice and peace.

4. How will you inspire others about the pilgrimage? Explore spiritual dimensions that will draw congregations in.

5. Who will join you in the pilgrimage? List the partners you would like to engage.

6. What will be your focus on the pilgrimage? List the issue(s) you intend to address in your pilgrimage.

7. Where do you expect the pilgrimage to take you and your community? You have partners and focus — now define the outcome you would hope to see.

8. How will you move your pilgrimage forward? Now that you have your foundation and know where you want to go, think of how to move forward.

9. What will be the impact of your pilgrimage? You have moved forward together — now explore the milestones along the way.
To express solidarity with churches and people in Israel and Palestine, the leadership of the World Council of Churches (WCC) Central Committee visited Israel and Palestine 7 to 12 March.

Local Christians have been gathering daily at the site of the bulldozing to protest the illegal confiscation of their land and to pray for the protection of the Cremisan Valley.

www.eappi.org
Skype interview with Jerusalem

Anna Hjälm, Ph.D.
Ecumenical Officer
Jerusalem Inter-Church Center/ WCC
Jerusalem

anna.hjalm@svenskakyrkan.se
The World Council of Churches (WCC) in collaboration with the South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) convened church leaders for a special consultation on the South Sudan Peace Process, 14-15 April in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
#COP21 Paris
WCC Communication plan

A) Member churches “know about” the WCC’s participation and impact at COP21 and the process leading to Paris (“Care for Creation and Climate Justice” programmatic work, the general secretary’s agenda on climate change related events)

B) WCC gives visibility to member churches’ involvement at COP21 and the process leading to Paris

C) Communications raise the profile of the work developed by the WCC

D) Visible cooperation with ecumenical and interfaith partners such as ACT Alliance, the French Protestant Federation, the Lutheran World Federation, the Ecumenical Coordination towards COP 21, etc.
Skype interview with

Eva-Maria Reinwald
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#COP21 Paris
What is WCC Publications?

The books and journals programme of the WCC

• A long and distinguished history
• Publishing about 20-30 books per year
• 10 journal issues per year:
  • The Ecumenical Review
  • International Review of Mission
  • Current Dialogue
• Reinventing itself in a global, digital age
Four key audiences or markets or publics of WCCP

- **Church:** WCC church bodies, churches, ecumenical partners, and church professionals—*the ecumenical core*
- **Academy:** Theologians and scholars of Christianity, libraries and seminaries, denominational organizations
- **Policy:** Reflective public-policy professionals and policymakers in government and NGOs and journalism
- **Public:** Churchgoing and general publics everywhere
Bible studies

Each season WCC Publications will publish a set of Bible studies related to the search for peace and justice.
A pilgrim spirituality

- The new ecumenical prayer cycle
- New features, aligned to the pilgrimage
- An ecumenical song book, centred on themes of justice and peace
Journals

Specific questions or themes related to the pilgrimage will be highlighted in *The Ecumenical Review*, *International Review of Mission*, and *Current Dialogue*.

Related monographs and consultations
2015 WCC Publications

- **Spirituality and prayer resources**
  - Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, hymnal, Bible studies
- **Trade books**
  - Baldwin, Taylor, Visions, Moltmann
- **Academic resources**
  - Kinnamon, GA IV, GETI 2, Peace reader
- **Reports and congregational resources**
  - Pilgrimage congregational resources, *Prisoners*, Hinduism report
WCC Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace: testimony of a survivor of sexual slavery during World War II

Ms Gil Won-Ok

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lv471h3z6U
For more information:
www.oikoumene.org

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