



photo: Sean Hawkey/WCC

Media Pack
Ecumenical groups at COP21

This pack presents details of church leaders and experts from the organizations listed here who can speak about climate change.

World Council of Churches

WCC is a worldwide fellowship of 349 churches. The organization's members collectively represent some 590 million people in about 150 countries..



www.oikoumene.org
@oikoumene @WCCclimate
tel: +41 22 791 6111

The Lutheran World Federation

LWF is a global communion of 145 member churches in 98 countries representing over 72 million Lutherans.



www.lutheranworld.org
@LWFWeb @LWFyouth
tel: +41 22 791 6111

ACT Alliance

ACT Alliance is a global alliance of churches and related organizations focusing on development and humanitarian assistance. With more than 140 member organizations and 25,000 staff it works in 140 countries with a combined budget of approximately US\$1,500,000,000.



www.actalliance.org
@ACTAlliance @actclimate
tel: +41 22 791 6033

Conference of European Churches

The Conference of European Churches (CEC) is a fellowship of some 114 Orthodox, Protestant, Anglican and Old Catholic Churches from all over Europe, plus 40 national councils of churches and organizations in partnership.



www.ceceurope.org
@ceceurope
tel: +32 2 230 17 32

World Communion of Reformed Churches

WCRC is comprised of 80 million Christians in Congregational, Presbyterian, Reformed, United, Uniting and Waldensian churches. WCRC has 225+ member churches.



www.wcrc.ch
@Reformedcomunion
tel: +49 511 8973

Our Voices

Our Voices is the global interreligious campaign linking faith-based communities, civil society organizations and individuals advocating for climate change action at local and international levels.



www.ourvoices.net
@ourvoices2015
tel: +356 9921 1110

COP21 Media Pack

Contact

Interviews and comment

This pack contains a list of speakers in the ecumenical movement who can speak about climate change issues and are available for interview and comment during COP21.

Our speakers include leaders from churches and organizations that have divested from fossil fuels.

We have speakers from every continent, who can represent a broad range of experience on climate change.

We can provide speakers in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Russian, Greek, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Tagalog, Chichewa, Kiswahili and Slovak.

To arrange an interview with anyone listed in this pack, please contact our media liaison.

Photography

We've made a special site for photographs that are free for media use.

Images include portraits of ecumenical speakers, photographs of the climate pilgrimages and ongoing photography from COP21. The site will be updated daily during COP21.

There is no charge for using the photographs. Please visit the site to see the images.

Media Liaison team:
Susanne Lende
Marcelo Schneider

Mobile in France:
+ 33 754 241 861
WCC media desk, Geneva
+41 795 076 363
email:
media@wcc-coe.org

website for images
www.oikoumene.org/cop21photos

media advisories
www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre



photos: Christian Aid, Sean Hawkey/WCC

Ecumenical groups act and divest from fossil fuels

Ecumenical action on climate change is global and diverse.

In recent years ecumenical groups have been deeply involved in advocacy and action on climate change and have taken part in every Conference of Parties. The **World Council of Churches** and related groups have taken strong moral positions on the fossil fuel industry that generates emissions that cause climate change. Putting their money where their mouth is, they have divested from fossil fuels, withdrawing a pool of billions of dollars from the industry. Some media references to important decisions to divest follow here.

The **ACT Alliance** works across the world on humanitarian responses to disasters that are related to climate change. Their massive response to Typhoon Haiyan was an example of this. ACT also works on long-term development that promotes low-carbon development and adaptation to climate change that many communities around the world are already suffering. ACT has run a climate campaign at <http://actclimate.org/> raising signatures calling for an ambitious climate agreement, and taken part in a three-

month cycling pilgrimage across eight countries in Africa.

The Lutheran World Federation, as well as deciding to divest, has been instrumental in the global campaign called **Fast for the Climate**, promoting a monthly day of fasting for the climate, building awareness and calling for individual and collective actions to stop climate change. Being represented at COP21 by a young delegation and also being people of faith, the LWF believes that there is an intergenerational responsibility to care for creation and stand in solidarity with its neighbours.

OurVoices has built a global movement of diverse faith-based groups working through congregations and churches on local and global action and advocacy on decision makers.

Ecumenical divestment stories in the media:

World Council of Churches
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/jul/11/world-council-of-churches-pulls-fossil-fuel-investments>

Church of England
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jul/14/church-of-england-governing-body-ap-proves-divestment-policy>

Episcopal Church
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/03/episcopal-church-fossil-fuel-divestment>

Methodist Church of Britain
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/may/01/methodists-new-climate-policy-signals-move-away-from-dirtiest-fossil-fuels>

United Methodist Church
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/united-methodist-pension-fund-issues-new-guidelines-1421945354>

United Reformed Church of Scotland
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/mar/27/united-reformed-church-of-scotland-to-divest-from-fossil-fuels>

The Lutheran World Federation
<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/world-lutheran-body-votes-not-to-invest-in-fossil-fuels-30843>

United Church of Canada
<http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/08/11/news/united-church-canada-divests-fossil-fuel-assets>

Church of Sweden
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/16/business/international/churches-go-green-by-shedding-holdings-of-carbon-emitters.html>

United Church of Christ, US
<http://www.ucc.org/gs2013-fossil-fuel-divestment-vote>

Anglican Church of New Zealand and Polynesia
<http://www.anglicantaonga.org.nz/News/General-Synod/Pledge>

The Uniting Church in Australia
<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/latest/uniting-churchs-assembly-to-divest-from-fossil-fuels/story-e6frg90f-1227044025553>

Presbyterian Church of New Zealand
<http://gofossilfree.org/the-presbyterian-church-of-new-zealand-joins-a-chorus-of-faith-based-action-down-under/>

Churches and church-related groups around the world are already working with the effects of climate change, from extreme weather events like typhoons and floods to long-term droughts and the failure of agriculture and fisheries.

In this picture a farmer walks along the riverbed of the Rio Grande, Nicaragua, dried up because of a prolonged drought in the region.



Pilgrimages for COP21 in Paris

In many countries, people have joined a pilgrimage for climate justice walking towards the UN Conference on Climate in Paris. Christians have joined people from other faiths as well as civil society organizations to walk together to build support for a fair, ambitious and binding treaty from the climate negotiations as well as committing themselves to live more simply, in a more eco-friendly way, caring for God's creation, our common home.

Pilgrimages have crossed Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Germany, the UK, South Africa, Uganda and other countries, and the peoples' pilgrimage, that set off from The Philippines has made its way through the world's climate change hotspots, and is currently making its way from Rome to Paris.

Photos from top: pilgrims in London, Wuppertal and Geneva.



photos: Christian Aid, Sean Hawkey/WCC, Stéphane Gallay/LWF

Pilgrimages for COP21 in Paris

Climate pilgrimages for COP21 have crossed Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Germany and the UK. Cyclists have crossed eight African countries from South Africa to Uganda. Pilgrims will meet in Paris on November 28.

If you'd like to interview people who have made the pilgrimages, please contact the Media Liaison team:

Susanne Lende and
Marcelo Schneider
+ 33 754 241 861
media@wcc-coe.org

Climate pilgrimage info:

Sweden: www.ekovandringen.se/
Norway: www.klimapilegrim.no/
Denmark: www.gronkirke.dk/klimapilgrimsvandring/
Netherlands: www.klimaatloop.nl/
Germany: www.klimapilgern.de/
UK: www.pilgrimage2paris.org.uk/
Italy: www.peoplespilgrimage.org



Ecumenical speakers on climate change and divestment

To arrange interviews please contact the WCC media liaison team: + 33754241861



Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit

General Secretary, World Council of Churches

Languages:
English, Norwegian, German



Rev. Dr Martin Junge

General Secretary, The Lutheran World Federation

Languages:
English, German, Spanish



Rev. Ilkka Sipiläinen

National Office of the Church Council, ELC in Finland, Advisor on Society and Sustainable Development

Languages:
Finnish, English



Rev. Fletcher Harper

Executive Director of Green Faith and representative of OurVoices

Languages:
English



Archbishop Dr Antje Jackelén

Primate of the Church of Sweden

Languages:
English, Swedish, German



Archbishop Seraphim Kykotis

Greek Orthodox Church, Member of the WCC Working Group on Climate Change

Languages:
English, Greek



Rev. Henrik Grape

Sustainable Development Officer, Church of Sweden Climate Change Advisor, ACT Alliance

Languages:
Swedish, English



Yeb Saño

Former climate negotiator for The Philippines, representative of the Peoples' Pilgrimage and OurVoices

Languages:
English, Tagalog



Bishop Ingeborg Middtømme

Norwegian Lutheran Bishop for the Diocese of Møre in the Church of Norway

Languages:
Norwegian, English



Archbishop Thabo Makgoba

ACT Alliance Global Climate Ambassador. Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa

Languages:
English



Larisa Skuratovskaya

WCC delegation, Russian Orthodox Church

Languages:
Russian, English



Rev. Milton Mejía

General Secretary, Latin American Council of Churches

Languages:
Spanish, English



Pastor François Clavairoly

President, French Protestant Federation

Languages:
French, German, English



Prof Dr Heinrich Bedford-Strohm

Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria, Chair of the EKD Council.

Languages:
German, English



Dr John Nduna

General Secretary, ACT Alliance

Languages:
English



Vitumbiko Chinoko

ACT Alliance Climate Justice Coordinator

Languages:
English, Chichewa

Ecumenical speakers on climate change and divestment

To arrange interviews please contact the WCC media liaison team: + 33754241861



Joy Kennedy

Canadian Council of Churches, WCC Working Group on Climate Change

Languages:
English



Peter Prove

World Council of Churches, Director of International Affairs

Languages:
English



Mattias Söderberg

Chair of ACT Alliance Climate Change Advisory Group

Languages:
English, Danish, Swedish, Spanish



Dr Guillermo Kerber

World Council of Churches, Programme Executive on Care for Creation and Climate Justice

Languages:
Spanish, English, Portuguese, French



Thomas Hirsch

Climate & Development Advice, Executive Director

Languages:
German, English



Mohamed Adow

Senior Climate Advisor at Christian Aid, co-chair, Climate Action Network

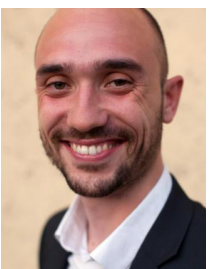
Languages:
English, Kiswahili



Rev Dr. Peter Pavlovic

Study Secretary, Conference of European Churches, Secretary of the European Christian Environmental Network

Languages:
English, German, Slovak



Martin Kopp

Climate Justice Advocacy Officer, The Lutheran World Federation

Languages:
French, English

Events in Paris

STOP Press: at time of going to press announcements are being made about security issues in Paris that will affect many of the plans made for events outside the COP21 location, including the cancellation of large planned events such as the march on Nov 29.

Full and up-to-date plans for events will be found on this website:

www.cop21religions.org

Some activities that are still anticipated include the following:

**Nov
27**

Arrival and welcome event for pilgrimages in Paris.

**Dec
1**

Fast and breaking of the #fastfortheclimate

**Nov
28**

Delivery of religious climate petitions and joint service at Saint Denis Basilica.

**Dec
3**

Ecumenical service in Notre Dame cathedral

**Nov
30**

As COP21 begins there is a multi-faith event at the IUCN pavilion at Le Bourget

**Dec
5**

Youth day for the climate in Montreuil mairie



photo: Sean Hawkey/LWF



For more information

Interviews and comment

For interviews and comment contact our media liaison team in Paris:

Susanne Lende and Marcelo Schneider

mobile: + 33754241861

email: media@wcc-coe.org

Photographs

We've made a special site for photographs that are free for media use. These include portraits of WCC speakers, photographs of the WCC pilgrimages and ongoing photography from COP21:

www.oikoumene.org/cop21photos

Media advisories

To get up-to-date media advisories from the World Council of Churches:

www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre

Events

An up-to-date listing of ecumenical events at COP21 is being maintained here:

www.cop21religions.org

WCC Communication Team at COP21

Marcelo Schneider

mobile: +33754241828

email: media@wcc-coe.org

World Council of Churches
P.O. Box 2100
CH-1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland