



World Council of Churches

Stewards Programme



Stewards at the WCC general Assembly in Busan, South Korea 2013

16 – 28 June, 2016

Trondheim, Norway

What is the WCC Stewards Programme?

The stewards programme brings together a dynamic and diverse group of young people from several countries from 16th – 28th June, 2016, (inclusive of travel dates). At the Central Committee meeting, the stewards programme will host 25 young people from different backgrounds and churches in the European Nordic region. Young people from the Nordic region, and particularly from migrant communities, are encouraged to apply. As a community of young people from different churches, countries and cultures, stewards bring their faith, backgrounds and visions to an ecumenical experience of togetherness and friendship. Being a steward will be a challenge, will foster involvement and participation, and may indeed change your life! The stewards programme will be composed of two phases; an on-site ecumenical formation (16th – 21st June); and work at the Central Committee meeting (22nd – 28th June).

1. What is Ecumenical Formation?

Ecumenical formation is both a distinct programme and priority area of the WCC, as well as a learning process aiming at ecumenical formation. Ecumenical formation means being introduced to and learn more about what ecumenism is, about other churches and other cultures, and what the ecumenical movement is, through taking part in ecumenical programmes, work camps, training, seminars and discussions. Ecumenical formation programmes always involve people from different churches and denominations and are intercultural and oftentimes international. The first phase provides dedicated time for stewards to learn about the ecumenical movement, get to know each other and build community.

2. Being a steward: Work, sweat, prayer and laughter

A steward is also a servant, working in teams. After team building and introductions, the stewards in Trondheim will help serve the Central Committee meeting of the World Council of Churches. The Central Committee is the highest decision making body of the WCC and its members come from all over the world. The work done is often exhausting, intense and under pressure of short deadlines. All stewards work in teams led by staff members of WCC. The main areas of tasks to be carried out are: floor management, documentation, communications, interpretation, worship and other tasks such as general administration, sorting mail, delivering messages, etc. The stewards programme is only the beginning of a long process. It encourages young people to continue the journey of being ecumenical and engaging with one another.

Preliminary programme

June 16: Arrivals and introductory programme

June 17: Ecumenical introduction by WCC staff

June 18: Ecumenical introduction by WCC staff

Local introduction to Trondheim and excursion

June 19: Ecumenical introduction by WCC and guests

June 20: Ecumenical introductions and training

June 21: Stewards work introduction and training in teams.

Ecumenical youth event with local youth in Trondheim and young members of the Central Committee

June 22 – 28: Stewards work at the Central Committee meeting

Special stewards' events, safe space and free time will be scheduled.

June 27 and 28: End of Central Committee meeting, tidying up.

Evaluation and celebration of the Stewards programme

Departures

Financing, recommendation, application and travel information

WCC is overall responsible for board and lodging expenses during the programme, however, churches and Christian Councils in the Nordic countries are expected to subsidize travel, board and lodging of their own stewards. WCC is responsible for selecting candidates for the stewards programme. It is therefore advisable that applicants attach a recommendation letter from their parish, church or Christian Council.

Please complete the relevant section of the application form clearly. Specific requests for assistance will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Passport, visas, travel and health insurance and any other personal related expenses are the responsibility of the selected applicant.

Criteria

Stewards have to be between 18 and 30 years old. English is the working language of the programme and sufficient knowledge of English is required from the applicants. Stewards need to be prepared to endure an intensive programme of activities and long, tiring work days. Working hours are irregular, and often special programmes are planned after work for the stewards. Patience, ability to work with people from other countries and cultures, and a willingness to work together as a team, are essential. The deadline for application is March 1, 2016.

Contacts:

Contact your church or the Christian Council in your country for more information or for letters of recommendation. For questions about the youth and stewards programme in Norway, please contact Ms Hege Merete Andersen at the Christian Council of Norway: hea@norkr.no

For more information about ecumenical formation, the stewards programme or information about the application process, please contact the WCC:

World Council of Churches
Youth/Stewards Programme
150, route de Ferney - PO Box 2100
1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 791 6008

Fax: +41 22 710 2057

E-mail: wccstewards@gmail.com

Web: www.ecumenicalyouth.org

STEWARD APPLICATION FORM

Please, type or write clearly (in English). A complete application form may be sent along with the required enclosures by e-mail or printed and sent by post or fax.

Due to the volume of applications normally received we cannot acknowledge receipt of each individual application. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Family name(s) (as in passport) _____

First name(s) (as in passport) _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Town _____

Country _____

Home telephone _____ Mobile number _____
(country code/area code/number) (country code/number)

E-mail _____

Gender Male Female

Marital status (for insurance purposes) Single Married

Indigenous person Yes. If yes, please specify your people/tribe/nation _____

Date of birth (day/month/year) _____

Denomination / church family _____

Name of the (national) church of which you are a member _____

Profession or occupation (if student, which field) _____

Nationality (country issuing your passport) _____ Passport number _____

Date and place of issue of the passport _____ Passport valid until _____
(day/month/year) (day/month/year)

Mother tongue _____

Other languages spoken fluently _____

Special skills _____

Special needs _____

(disability, medical condition, dietary needs, etc.)

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet (200 words maximum for each question):

1. Briefly describe yourself and how you found out about the WCC stewards programme?
2. Why are you interested in the ecumenical movement?
3. What is your involvement in youth work with your church at a local, national or international level?
4. What are the main concerns facing young people in your country? Name three.
5. Give an example of how ecumenism is lived in your local context.

Please enclose:

- a letter of recommendation from your church / national council of churches / ecumenical youth organisation,
- a photocopy of passport, identity card or birth certificate.

Commitment: (Please put "X" next to all of the following statements)

- I confirm that I will stay for the full duration of the stewards programme.
- I understand that the WCC will provide board and lodging for the period of the programme. Any other expenses, including passport and visa(s) costs, local/national travel and related expenses such as vaccinations, luggage insurance or telecommunication costs, are my own responsibility.
- I confirm that I will contribute to the work of my church/National Council of Churches/Ecumenical Youth Organization after the WCC Stewards Programme.

Date _____ Signature _____

<p>Send your application to:</p>  <p>World Council of Churches</p>	<p>World Council of Churches Youth/Stewards Programme 150, route de Ferney - PO Box 2100 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland</p> <p>Tel: +41 22 791 6008 Fax: +41 22 710 2057 E-mail: wccstewards@gmail.com Web: www.ecumenicalyouth.org</p>	<p>Only applications which are fully completed, accompanied by the mentioned enclosures and received on time will be considered. Please do not send your application more than once.</p> <p>Deadline: March 1, 2016.</p>
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