

Norske kirkeakademier  
Årsmøte  
Sanner Hotell, Gran  
20. - 22. mars 2015

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NKA 9/15 Internasjonalt arbeid  
Saksdokumenter.

a Program Gender & Justice Network 2014  
b Report Gender & Justice Network 2014  
c Program Oikosnet Annual meeting 2014  
d Report Oikosnet Annual meeting 2014  
e Flyer Kirchentag 2015

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Forslag til vedtak: Årsmøtet tar informasjonen til orientering.

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## **Programme Oikosnet Network “Gender and Justice”**

Monday 15.09.2014

Up to 17.30 Arrival in Haus Villigst, Schwerte, Germany 18.00 Dinner 19.30 Come together at Haus Villigst, evening- blessing 21.00 Casual time

Tuesday 16.09.2014

8.30 Breakfast 9.00 Devotion in the chapel 9.30 Departure to Soest, Ev. Frauenhilfe in Westfalia 10.15 Information about the Evangelische Frauenhilfe in Westfalen e.V. This protestant organization wants to support women to live a self-determined life with dignity. Since 1890, it has encouraged protestant women to get together in order to help families and people in need. Due to the industrial revolution many people had difficulties in making both ends meet and thus had to fight for survival. This was the starting point of our association Evangelische Frauenhilfe, which was founded in 1906. We will get to know their work, especially the project “Theodora”, a protestant counselling centre for prostitutes. More information: [www.frauenhilfe-westfalen.de](http://www.frauenhilfe-westfalen.de)

13.00 Lunch at the conference site in Soest – time for a walk 14.30 Departure to Hamm 15.00 Visiting the city 15.30 Visiting the Paulus church in Hamm Exhibition and speech about the “History of the Westphalian Female Priests” on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the legal equality between male and female priests in the EKvW 16.30 Walk to the “youth church” in Hamm, More information: [www.jugendkirche-hamm.de](http://www.jugendkirche-hamm.de) 17.30 Welcome and Come together with female priests of Hamm and other interested women of an international women’s group with the method of the World café 18.30 Women’s Dinner and time to talk 20.00 Devotion/Meditation 20.30 Departure to Schwerte, Haus Villigst

Wednesday, 17.09.2014

8.30 Breakfast 9.15 Devotion 9.30 Time for Women’s net coordination 12.30 Lunch 13.30 Arrival of the delegates of the Oikosnet conference

## **NKA 9/15 b**

### **The Gender & Justice Network 15th – 17th Sept 2014**

A group of 10 participants attended the visiting community of the Gender & Justice network. The objective was to learn more about gender issues, specifically how the different European countries deal with prostitution and human trafficking.

A very rich program introduced us to the « Frauenhilfe Westfalen » in Soest. This association exists since more than 100 years with today 70'000 members. It is independent but linked to the church. The professionals of the association run different projects like education for staff in Elderly houses, for young families how to keep households, various seminars, etc. They also lead different additional and independent projects like counselling for human trafficking and for prostitutes.

Prostitution was the main-theme and the group exchanged about it enriched with inputs from the different countries represented by the participants. We heard about the political situation in each country and stories about suffering and big problems coming out of these situations. The Swedish model was discussed : for some this is the only way to go further on in respecting gender issues and justice within a modern society. For others it seems to be a model which gives not enough rights to the sexworkers. What do we need in a contemporary gender compatible society ? That's a question to discuss and reflect.

In the evening the group took part in a special reception prepared by the « Frauenreferat » of the protestant church in Hamm. We had an introduction to the exhibition « Leading women –80 years of women pastors in the church of Westfalia » in the Pauluskirche, followed by a dinner and an office in the same church.

During the worksession on Wednesday morning the Gender & Justice network reflected on different themes :

1. Summing up : Very good feedbacks about this well organized and enriched encounter, helpful for a better understanding. It came out that there should raise a list of best practice.
2. Organisation in view of next Gender & Justice network in Corrymeela from the 7th to the 9th September : Coordination Nicole Richter, Villigst, Shona Bell, Corrymeela, together with a member of the Oikosnet board : Katalin Zoltani, Home of Hope.
3. Planning Corrymeela –themes: The wish was to go on working on gender issues but in the perspective of the issues coming up in Northern Ireland. Other ideas came up : « violence and care » and « low income gender aspects », with concrete inputs from each country : with what each one has to deal. The steering committee will work on the programme in concordance with the board of Oikosnet.
4. Timetable : November 2014 first contacts, April 2015 the programme is finished and sent out together with the invitation for the annual conference. The coordination group stays in contact with the network members : communication from time to time.

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Wishes : Enrich the programme with proposals how to work together (projects between two or three centers)

Finances : The G & J network will work out a budget for the next visiting community and possible projects.

The G & J network is open to men (since several years!). There should be a man in the coordination group. Rüdiger Sachau will ask one of his colleagues.

Presentation of the EPIL-programm 2015 by Geertje: European project of Interreligious Learning. Muslim-Christian-dialogue : walking in one anothers shoes !

Organisation : 4 conferences of one week each during 2 years in 4 countries. In between there are group meetings each in their own country.

Target : Dialogue of life proceeds dialogue of ideas. From particular to the general focus. From practise to learning.

Partners : Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Turkey, Netherlands

Who else can be a partner of this interesting working-programme ?

Participants 2014 : Afia Darkwa-Amanor, Ghana ; Martina Heinrichs, Netherlands ; Geertje de Vries, Netherlands ; Irmgard Ehlers, Bad Boll D ; Katerina Karkala- Zorbas, Crete GR ; Rüdiger Noll, D ; Marielisa von Thadden, Bad Boll D ; Nicole Richter, Villigst D ; Elisabeth Reichen , EREN Neuchâtel, CH ; Katalin Zoltani, Brashov RU; Wednesday : Kristin Gunleiksrud Raam, Norway.

NKA 9/15 d

## Annual Conference in Villigst 17th - 21st Sep



Report by Jaap van der Sar

Europe: where does it begin, where does it end?" This was the main theme of the Annual conference 2014, which took place in Villigst, Germany. We approached this in several ways.

First: Compassion doesn't end in geography. We heard about a colleague in Aleppo, Syria, who wasn't able to attend a meeting of Oikosnet International, our umbrella-organisation. We heard about illness of members, about a car-accident which made it impossible for our treasurer to participate, about a beloved who passed away. And we know about developments in Ukraine, in the Middle East, in .... In this sense Europe doesn't end.

Second: The history of Europe was and is visible in the region where we met. Our colleagues from the Evangelische Akademie Villigst made a wonderful programme on Thursday. As an example: we got an introduction about migration towards and from the area where we had the conference. You don't have to go very far in history for meeting with dozens of different ethnic and national groups,

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immigrating and emigrating all around the place. A careful look at almost each region makes clear that Europe was never a fixed cultural entity. Nor will it be.

From a social perspective this became clear when we had a short visit to some places in the area. Cole mines where, at the beginning of the 20th century, the most modern ones in Europe. Now completely outdated and even dangerous according to our standards. And quite some equipment is now sold to China – 100 years later. Does Europe end with the borders?

Third: Oikosnet Europe made further progress. We had quite some members participating in the Annual Conference, sometimes for the first time. Special emphasis was made on the participation of our members in the eastern part of Europe – with success. When exchanging thoughts for common activities and conferences, new perspectives emerged. Ideas: visit to Brussels, exchange of staff between members (support through the European Union would be possible), demographical trends as challenge, continuation of the project, led by Sigtuna Stiftelsen regarding Democracy, Media and Religion.

During the business session we elected a new treasurer (Kostas Zorbas from the Orthodox Academy Crete), we accepted the proposal regarding common projects (with some seed money available: bring proposals to the Board before 15 November 2014). And more. There will be a report about the decisions and proposals

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