

Joint Message on the Occasion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2012

Dear members, alumni, friends, and supporters,

From 18 to 25 January 2012, many Christians around the world will celebrate the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Others will celebrate this week around Pentecost.

The World Student Christian Federation (WSCF)¹ and the International Movement of Catholic Students – Pax Romana (IMCS Pax Romana)² would like to take this occasion to issue this brief joint message encouraging our member movements to make a special effort throughout this year to build bridges between the two organizations at the national and regional levels.

In the recent years, the International Team of IMCS Pax Romana and the Inter-Regional Office of the WSCF have made concerted efforts to strengthen our collaboration, particularly through the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (ICMYO).

We have focused our representation to the various inter-governmental organizations, such as the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and UNESCO, based on the experiences of our national movements. The multi-layered structures of our organisations, with vibrant interaction between local, national, regional, and global levels have allowed us to bring real stories from Christian students and youth to international fora. This witness has helped greatly in working to ensure that international policy is developed to serve the needs of the people, rather than to strengthen systems of suppression and oppression. And, in the midst of this cooperation, we have been able to re-learn about our historical cooperation of decades past.

It is our hope that by discovering each other at the national, regional and global levels of our respective movements and demonstrating our intention to deepen our collaboration in our work for justice and peace, we, the young people of the Church, will be setting a good example of unity amongst Christians.

United in prayer,

Sincerely,

Christine Housel
General Secretary of WSCF

Charles Ochero Cornelio
President of IMCS Pax Romana



Resources:

- Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (Vatican): http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni/weeks-prayer-doc/rc_pc_chrstuni_doc_20110414_week-prayer-2012_en.html
- World Council of Churches: <http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-commissions/faith-and-order-commission/xi-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-resources/resources/2012/2012-worship-and-background-material.html>

¹ <http://www.wscfglobal.org/>

² <http://www.imcs-miec.org/>