

Heartbeat

Youth and Society in Central and Eastern Europe 29th May – 5th June, 2011 CVJM Boat – Dresden/Germany

We invite you to an ecumenical pre-Kirchentag conference with about 80 young people from different central and eastern European countries. Our goal is to facilitate an encounter for international young people in a forum of discussion and reciprocal learning, shared experiences and group meetings.

What does my heart beat for? What am I committed to? When do I speak up?

We are shaped by experiences of studying abroad and of travelling – where are we at home and how does this change our identity?

What will Europe look like, if we are the future? How do we shape the future?

We would like to discuss with you the topics, themes, and issues in which young people invest their time and energy. Travel and migration, history and identity will be issues to be discussed, as well as different ways of life and values in various contexts.

Our conference in Dresden consists of two parts: The pre-conference takes place from 29th May to 1st June and the 33rd German Protestant Kirchentag from 1st to 5th June, 2011.

The Kirchentag is a platform for intensive discussion, a forum for critical debate about present questions. It is a huge event which takes place every two years in early summer and is joyful festival for everyone. The topic of this pre-Kirchentag conference will be connected to the motto of the 33rd German Protestant Kirchentag "...there your heart will be also" (Mt 6,21).

Schedule

Sunday, 29th May
Get-Together

Monday, 30th May

What shapes my heart?

- Contextual Bible study:
Travel and migration
- World Café: Background, history & identity
- Where do I stand?
- Fishbowl-Method: Ways of life
- What shapes my heart?
- Cultural evening

Tuesday, 31st May

How do we shape the future now?

- Discussion:
When do I speak up? How can I speak up?
- Workshops: Open space:
How do we shape the future?
- How to survive a Kirchentag?
- Networking
- Evening at Frauenkirche

Wednesday, 1 June – Sunday, 5 June

- Participation in the Kirchentag
- Daily meetings and evening de-briefing sessions
- Participation at the International Youth Night (Friday)
- Evaluation at German-Baltic-Café (Saturday)

Participation

Participants should be between 20 and 26 years of age. People from Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Germany, the Baltic States, Russia, Republic Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus are invited to apply for the conference. It's an ecumenical event: All denominations are welcome!

Participants are asked to stay for the entire week from 29th May to 5th June, 2011.

The conference will be held in English.

Participation Fee

Each participant is required to pay a fee per person for accommodation, meals and the ticket to the Kirchentag (international participants: 30 EUR, German participants: 50 EUR).

Travel subsidies: We have limited funds available for supporting your travel costs. Please let us know, if you require any support.

Conference Venue

The conference "Heartbeat – Youth and Society in Central and Eastern Europe" will take place at the following venue: CVJM Jugendschiff, Uferstraße 14, 01097 Dresden. At the start of Kirchentag on 1st June we will move to a communal accommodation in a school.

Organisers

The event is a joint co-operation of the German Protestant Kirchentag and the aeJ (Federation of Protestant youth).

Application

You may apply as an individual or as a group. To apply, please fill the attached application form thoroughly and send it to the following address:

Deutscher Evangelischer Kirchentag,
Elisabeth Krause-Vilmar,
Postfach 1555, 36005 Fulda/Germany
Email: krause-vilmar@kirchentag.de

**Deadline for application:
Friday 18th March 2011**