



## Guidelines for the EFECW 2006 – 2010

### VII General Assembly of Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women

#### **Recommendation for the Guidelines for the EFECW 2006 – 2010**

To carry out the aims of the Forum, as stated in its Constitution, the VII General Assembly adopts the following guidelines.

#### **Preamble**

#### **We are citizens of Europe Daring to overcome frontiers – respecting differences**

This General Assembly theme should give the priorities for our future programme. We have a part in shaping the world in a time of globalization. Our identities are shaped by our differences, our values and our common Christian faith. We should not only try to heal wounds but correct the mistakes of the powerful. In our own organization we must maintain high standards in all Forum activities.

#### **We learn from each other**

Learn how to be good citizens of Europe and understand the European institutions.  
Welcome the new freedom of mobility within the EU. Meet newcomers and learn from them  
Learn about human rights  
Be aware of gender mainstreaming and learn how to keep women's issues to the fore.  
Learn to manage projects and deal with finance.  
Learn about the implications of new biological, medical and reproductive technology.  
Make women aware of ecological realities - continue ecological education.

#### **We give strength to each other**

Train women for leadership and equip women for political involvement  
Give women their voice  
Press for human rights  
Share in defining values and standards in Europe.

#### **We relate to God and respond to God**

Engage in inter-faith dialogue with understanding  
(in cooperation with European Partnership for Inter-religious Learning (EPIL))  
Involve EFECW fully in the Ecumenical Assembly in Sibiu (aim is 40% women)  
Cross confessional borders through ecumenical learning  
Study the example of Jesus Christ who befriended the outcasts  
(the SEE- HEAR- TOUCH Gospel) and give dignity and grace to the vulnerable and needy  
Pray together and especially with the Fellowship of the Least Coin  
Help women to find glorious freedom in Christ.

#### **We work for justice and peace**

Forum Office: Rue de Joseph II, 174, B-1000 Bruxelles, Belgium  
T +32- (0)2-234 6805, F +32-(0)2-231 1413  
E-mail : [forum.oecumenique@skynet.be](mailto:forum.oecumenique@skynet.be), website: [www.efecw.net](http://www.efecw.net)

Pursue issues of inequality in the name of religions and religious laws.  
Continue campaign against trafficking.  
Keep solidarity with asylum seekers, refugees – affirm the right of the NOT US to be different  
Support women of courage stand against injustice and work for peace  
Get involved – Do not stay silent

### **We are part of God's creation**

Integrate creation issues with other themes  
Hope with all creation and hope for all creation  
Accept women's responsibility in caring for the environment, and take action.

### **We communicate with others**

Continue high standards and keep up to date in our own publications.  
Share more news of our national activities through email.  
Make our own timely statements about events and encourage our churches to do so.  
Develop and keep web-site up to date.  
Get our news and messages to the right people and use wider media whenever possible.

### **We maintain and build relationships**

Cross the borders of Forum  
- act jointly with nearby member countries  
- extend into new countries and into new regions of existing members  
- Cooperate with other organizations  
- Build relationships with other faiths  
- Oppose Fortress Europe

### **We have to be practical**

Fundraising – new fundraiser. Find new donors to cover our deficit.  
Training in applying for EU Funds  
Encouragement for the growth of the Ruth Epting Fund  
Review the policy of scholarships and the banding of countries  
Registration of national Forums

### **The VII General Assembly**

**Encourages each member country to focus on one or more of the above issues**