

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS

IFES is a network of national student movements throughout the world. Started in 1947 through the initiative of 10 countries, the vision was, and still is, to see a Christian witness on every university and college campus of the world. And it is happening! Currently there is IFES work in 151 countries around the world (out of 167 countries known to have tertiary education). 136 of these have affiliated member movements – those well enough established to form their own national structures. In the other countries the work is still at a pioneering stage.

Aims of the IFES

Each of these national movements is independent and autonomous but IFES links them together in a fellowship with some common shared aims:

- **Pioneering** – Aiming to begin Evangelical student movements in every country of the world
- **Evangelism** – Proclaiming Jesus Christ as Saviour, Lord and God to students in every country of the world, and leading students to personal faith in Christ
- **Formación** – Promoting a life of discipleship and a growing maturity among students associated with our movements, and equipping them for a life time of service in the family, Church and society. We aim to challenge students to accept the Lordship of Christ in every area of their lives
- **Mission** – Encouraging students to take the gospel to the ends of the earth by fostering a missionary vision

There is a real sense of partnership as movements within the IFES family support one another in prayer and share their resources and ideas with one another. This includes sharing ideas, seconding staff to other countries, financial giving, offering advice, practical help and encouragement.

Our Forum conference this week, organized together with the EEA, is a wonderful sign of this happening in practice in our own continent.

IFES European Region

In Europe we have national structures set up in 34 countries from Iceland to Israel.

These vary considerably from some old well established movements with up to 100 staff workers and some younger more fragile situations with just a few staff. In addition as well as work amongst university students some movements have a strong focus on High School ministry and others have developed a good work amongst graduates.

God has put us in a great family! We have a great calling! It's a big task. But God is at work and things are happening. Let's get on and do it!

Strategic Ministry

'I am convinced that IFES is one of the most strategic Christian missions in the world.'
John Stott

'I warmly commend the work of IFES. It would be hard to imagine a group that is more strategic. Everywhere I go I meet Christian leaders whose lives have been touched by IFES' emphasis on biblical evangelism and discipleship.'
Dr Billy Graham