

# PRAISE & PRAYER

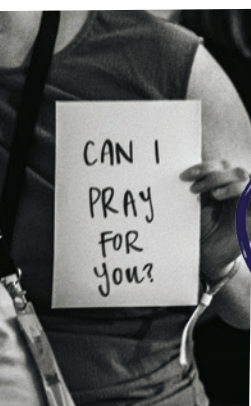


## Sharing the Gospel

Tell Jesus stories  
and offer to pray for them  
(and even with them!)



▲ Students being trained to share their faith at the IFES European Student Festival in 2025



The European Student Festival was one of the projects funded by Global Giving Day 2025



IFES GLOBAL GIVING DAY 2026

*"We taste the sweet bond of the gospel as we show sacrificial generosity to each other. I see Global Giving Day as a beacon that invites us up the pathway of global fellowship. It beckons us to learn from each other's stories and stand together in solidarity."* Annette Arulrajah, IFES Associate General Secretary

Global Giving Day is an annual event when students, staff, and supporters like you, join together in the joy of giving to God's work on campuses around the world. Praise God for his faithfulness: over the last five years we have seen more IFES movements and more people get involved – and more funds raised! Last year, 421 donors – including IFES student groups and movements, individual staff, students, churches, and supporters – in 104 countries and territories raised more than \$243,500 to help fund 25+ leadership initiatives across the Fellowship.

Thank you so much to all who gave so generously! Your heart for student ministry has helped train student leaders in Eurasia, grow graduate ministry in Latin America, and mentor movement leaders in Africa, and much more.

This year, we're uniting as a Fellowship to resource **radiant witness**.

Why? **Because today's students need Christ's brighter vision for life.** Many in this new generation are tired of materialistic social media posts. They're disillusioned by public scandals and overwhelmed by (mis)information. But they're hungry for real spirituality that's authentically good!

**Thankfully, Jesus says we can point others to the Father through the radiant goodness of our lives – "let your light shine" (Matthew 5:16).** So for this Global Giving Day (16 April), your generosity will support programs that help students, young graduates, and staff follow Jesus in all things and radiantly engage with every aspect of life.

You could help students in the Middle East to offer a narrative of hope to their friends. You could enable young graduates in South Asia to model integrity in their workplaces. You could help staff workers in Africa to show students how the gospel impacts their desires and ambitions.

This year, will you help brighten the shine of student witness? You can find out more and make a gift at: [ifesworld.org/ggd](https://ifesworld.org/ggd)





▲ Thank you for praying! IFES East Asia Student Ministry Consultation and IFES Europe Staff Consultation (photo credit LKSB Lithuania), both held in January.

## SHINING ON CAMPUS

What does it look like to bring hope on campus? How are IFES ministries and movements responding to needs, sharing Christ and equipping Christian students to shine? Recent updates from our movements and ministry teams have included these great examples:

- **Globally:** IFES is helping Christian students understand, love and share Christ with those from other faith backgrounds using new resources, and by gathering and sharing tools from movements around the world. Praise God for a new training curriculum available in Bengali, English, French, Hindi, and Urdu, with Amharic, Hausa, and Swahili coming soon.
- **Lebanon:** An IFES Scripture Engagement team member has been training students to study God's word to equip them to invite seeking friends to study with them. Ask God to inspire them and give boldness to gather friends to open the Bible.
- **Nepal:** Prayer cells, Christian Student Fellowship groups and Bible study groups are launching in new districts. Pray for this expansion to progress smoothly.

- **South Africa:** "Three university groups ran impactful projects assisting students during registration season and providing support during exam time. These initiatives included prayer stations, study support, food assistance, and emotional encouragement making SCO a visible and caring presence on campus." Praise God.
- **USA, Brazil and the Caribbean:** Urbana was held in December in the USA, and missions conferences are planned in July by ABUB Brazil and in August by the IFES Caribbean team. Please ask God to use these events to envision young people for mission on campus and for life.
- **India:** February was "Member Care Month". This initiative seeks to enlist graduates with a God-given passion and clear vision for student mission, to nurture them as servant leaders for UESI and the church and to equip them to uphold and apply the principles of the Word of God and to live responsibly. Praise God for this commitment to invest in those who serve faithfully.

▼ 7000 young people at the Urbana Conference were called to a life of mission. Photo credit InterVarsity/USA



### IFES PERSON: ALYONA BONDAR

IFES ASSOCIATE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR EURASIA

Alyona's involvement with IFES began with CCX Ukraine during her student years, where she met her husband Sasha in an prayer group. What started as a personal calling soon grew into a long-term vocation.

Building on 22 years of student ministry, today Alyona supports national movements' organisational development. She is a trainer for our Indigenous Support Development program in Eurasia and co-leads the training program for Eurasian General Secretaries. Her work strengthens leaders, empowers national movements, and builds sustainable ministry across the region.

Alyona is married with three sons aged 23, 15, and 11. She holds academic degrees in pedagogy, economics, and organisational development. When the full-scale war in Ukraine began, Alyona's world changed dramatically. Forced to leave her home and become a refugee, her family now lives in different countries. Despite these challenges, she continues her ministry with faith and perseverance. She asks for prayer for her ministry, for the end of the war in Ukraine, and for peace and restoration for all who have suffered.

## SERVING A NEW GENERATION

Each generation grows up in a world different to that inhabited by their parents, but in this gap is being accentuated as technology drives cultural change. IFES movements are facing the challenge of discipling and sharing Christ with Gen Z, a generation of digital natives. How is IFES helping them to do this more effectively?

IFES commissioned a report by Peter Dray (former staff with UCCF Great Britain) looking at Gen Z from different global perspectives. Aiming to equip national movement staff to serve this generation effectively. Alongside the report, a series of Bible studies reflect on how to engage with Gen Z and a podcast series in English, French and Spanish, and insights from Francophone movements are available, with more to come.

While these resources were developed for IFES movements, we hope they will provide insight for others too: [ifesworld.org/genz](https://ifesworld.org/genz)



▲ Pete Dray with students in Kenya, just some of those interviewed for the report.

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