

Mobilising Young Disciples for Mission

Not only do we seek to mobilise the next generation to follow Christ but also to mobilise them as disciples to play their part in God's Kingdom worldwide. As we try to understand the next generation, we also need to understand their reality and what makes them give their all for Christ and seek to advance missions. We cannot do this simply for them; we need to do this with them. In mobilising we need to partner as each generation reaches out to collaborate together. Ways of doing this, including some recent case studies, will be presented and discussed.

Evi Rodemann has been involved in creating and organising events for young people and churches locally, nationally, and on the European level since she was a teenager. Mission events have always played a vital part in her own walk with God, but she has also seen how they bring Christians together and mobilise them for a missional lifestyle. As well as receiving training in event management, Evi also earned an MA in European mission with a focus on the impact of conferences. She studied missions in the Netherlands and has worked in India, Africa, and Hong Kong, but her strongest passion remains Europe and helping its young people to find their kingdom role and live missionally wherever God has called them. Until 2016 she directed Mission-Net for nine years and organized four European youth mission congresses. In addition to being engaged in various European networks such as Lausanne and the European Youth Ministry Network, Evi also works part-time in a German aluminium company.

I. Latest research by Youth for Christ, UK, "Rethinking culture" on Generation Z

Where is this generation @?

- What are their hobbies?
- How do they use social media?
- Priorities for them?
- Religion and faith

II. Youth and Missions in Europe

1. Our responsibility

Psalm 78: 4-9

"... but we will tell the next generation... turned back on the day of battle..."

4 We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. 5 He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, 6 so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. 7 Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. 8 They would not be like their ancestors— a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose

spirits were not faithful to him. 9 The men of Ephraim, though armed with bows, turned back on the day of battle... (NIV)

2. What is it that we can offer in missions?

3. Latest best practices in Europe

a) OM Riverboat, Escape Room

b) MOSTY

Suggested Readings/video clips:

Research: Rethinking culture, www.yfc.uk/rethinkingculture

Videos on millennials by Sinus Sinek, for example on workplace:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hER0Qp6QJNU>