



Solidarity Statement on the 43 disappeared students of Ayotzinapa, Mexico

To the Latin America student movement
To the international community and the entire public
To the ecumenical movement and churches
To the Mexican people

In these moments of pain experienced by the Mexican people, the students from Mexico, our Student Christian Movement “Mec por la Equidad” and the World Student Christian Federation in Latin America and the Caribbean, extend their hands and raise their voice in solidarity with the disappeared and killed students from the community of Ayotzinapa.

This past Sept 26, some students of the *Manuel Isidro Burgos Rural Normal School* in Ayotzinapa were intercepted, kidnapped, abused, tortured, assassinated, and many of them remain disappeared, by the municipal police of Iguala, Guerrero. According to newspaper articles, it all counted with the support of Federal Police and hooded individuals presumably from the criminal group *Guerrero Unidos*.

Given these facts which outraged the world, the WSCF LAC as a student federation committed with the struggle of the students in Latin America and the Caribbean and with the prophetic sense that comes from our faith, which calls us to build a world of justice and peace, where life is privileged above all, we want to express our sorrow and indignation and join in solidarity with our movement in Mexico from our Student Christian Movements network (SCMs) in Latin America and the world, in the struggle for justice.

We share the words of the Student Christian Movement “Mec por la Equidad” (Mexico), which through the expression of solidarity, sorrow and indignation, calls us to be attentive, and radically in hope on the God that defends life:

“ Even though our struggle always seems like a retreat, we manifest our solidarity with the families of the dead, tortured, disappeared, and with all the students of the education school in Ayotzinapa. We declare our repudiation of such events and our opposition to these policies of the State, and we join the demands that the disappeared be returned to us alive.

We write, but we do not write because we do not achieve peace. We make a call to Mexico, to the international community and to all the people who profess a faith, to be attentive to the ‘signs of the times’, to act in the precise moment and appropriately in response to the call for justice and peace that the God of life make to us, remaining firm in solidarity and in hope as we face the realities of our society”.

WSCF LAC becomes part of this calling.

We ask the Mexican government to guarantee the live appearance of the missing students. To end all violent practices and wars, which is an excuse of fighting drugs by creating terror policy, disappearances and murders of women.

We ask the international community to be part of the action and to pressure in the immediate resolution of this unfortunate situation.

We ask the Mexican government to bring to justice, begin the trial and punish those who through criminal and abusive practices rape, torture, murder and abduct human beings.

We ask to end rape, persecution and assassination against those who struggle for justice and a decent life.

Fight against the criminalization of protest and militarism!

Support life with dignity of all men and women!

We pray to God of life for our student brothers and sisters in Mexico.

World Student Christian Federation Latin America and the Caribbean.

(Approved on March 5, 2015 by the delegates and participants of the WSCF 35th General Assembly held at ACJ/YMCA Bogota Auditorium, Bogota, Colombia.)