



UK/International Opportunity – report feedback form

Name

Banseok Suh

Based on your trip to:

Starpoint 2019 in Hungary



Please tell us about your experiences:

First of all, I would like to say it was such a privilege to join this international festival in Hungary. From there, I've experienced many things I've never done in my life. I'd like to talk about some things which were impressive for me. It's going to be some experiences about international churches, programs in Debrecen University, and many new friends from various cultures.

On the first day, me, John and Cameron (they're brothers, from Woking URC) have met some staffs of the festival and many new friends from various countries. There were some games prepared to get to know each other. Through those games many of us could get close.

More getting to know each other, more we could talk about. Especially when we talk about each other's church denomination and church context, there were somethings new. I've experienced Presbyterian Church of Korea and United Reformed Church and heard about a bit of churches of Europe. But I've never heard about any churches from Spain, Pakistan, Syria, Taiwan and some others.

Listening about their churches, I found out that there are many things all of the world churches have to go through together. Especially, most of them were interested in social problems as URC is. As far as I know, many of churches are not so interested in that topics but they only care about their churches in terms of the number or size of the churches. But many of us have agreed that churches should be always connected with society. As well known, there're many social problems which are difficult to deal with like about illegal immigrants, climate crisis, wars between nations etc. For those problems, that world churches have to gather together, we've agreed all. Talking about that kind of topics, I felt like all of us are one in Christ and going through together. Sharing each other's experiences was one of my favorite moments there in that way.

And there were some programs in Debrecen University-the main festival location. There were worships, small group meetings, lectures for students of the university, and some other interesting programs. I remember one of the programs in which we share each other's culture in front of international and Hungarian friends. As delegates from URC, we shared some scones with jam, breakfast teas, bakewell tarts and some Cadbury chocolates as well. All of us were enjoying that time. It was a bit nervous to share England's culture in front many people there, but it was definitely exciting moment to feel like every borders and barriers are being collapsed.

Finally, I've got many international friends. We've spent all the way of a week together. I was so happy to have that kind of friends to think together about how is it like to be a Christian in this global age and how to go through together. Personally, after in Hungary, I went to Paris as a trip



and met some friends who I've met in Hungary. Even in Paris, we've talked about churches in France and England. And we enjoyed walking around in Paris.

Through this international festival in Hungary in 2019, I could experience many things like above and even more. I would like to recommend strongly for youth people in URC to take this kind of opportunities as many as possible. So that our generations would be One in Christ all over the world!

What will you do/act upon as a result of your trip?

I would like to search any other opportunities to experience other church's context and share each other. Also I'd like to study about ecumenical movement like how to overcome many of global problems altogether as one of Christian in global age. And definitely I'll keep in touch with the international friends and share each other's stuff and pray for each other.

If you would like a copy of this report feedback form by email, please let us know.

Please send us a photo or two to go with your report.

Declaration

I understand that my written report will be shared with the Children's & Youth Work Committee as part of the opportunity.

** Please sign below as appropriate*

*** I give permission for my report to be published on the Children's and Youth Work pages of the URC website and social media. I confirm that all people featured in any photographs have been informed and have given their written permission for the photograph to be shared in this way.**

Signed: _____ Banseok Suh _____ Date: _____ 17th Aug 2019 _____

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Signed: _____ Date: _____