



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017 VOL. 10 NO. 1

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## World Congress of Families XI Budapest Family Summit, May 24-28, 2017



World Congress of Families is proud to announce that World Congress of Families XI will take place in Budapest, in the Republic of Hungary, May 24-28, 2017. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Viktor Orban, Hungary has a well-deserved reputation as one of the most family-friendly countries in Europe.

The local organizing committee is led by Mrs. Katalin Novak, Hungary's Secretary of State for Youth, Family and International Affairs.

WCF Managing Director Larry Jacobs observed: "World Congress of Families is excited about our Budapest Congress. Budapest is a beautiful, historic city. Hungary has demonstrated its leadership as an advocate for the natural family in Europe. We believe that this Congress will strengthen a new global pro-family alliance of countries dedicated to defending marriage, the family and the sanctity of human life."

The theme of World Congress of Families XI is: "Building Family-Friendly Nations: Making Families Strong Again." Most sessions will take place at the Budapest Congress Center. Plenary sessions will be in The Congress Hall, with a capacity of 3,000. Concurrent sessions will be conducted in one of four rooms.

Congress sessions will be broadcast on an outdoor screen in nearby Chestnut Garden Park. Besides exhibit space in the Congress Center, sponsors will have an opportunity to set up tents in the park.

The Novotel, attached to the Convention Center, is the official Congress hotel. A number of specially discounted rooms have been reserved for those attending WCF XI.



Katalin Novak and Larry Jacobs

# Tentative Schedule for World Congress of Families XI

**May 23-24** – Arrive in Budapest. VIP reception on the evening of May 24.

**May 25** – Budapest Demographic Forum. Prime Minister Victor Orban is expected to open the Forum, along with government ministers, heads of state and political leaders. Presentations by academics and scholars will focus on European demographic issues.

**May 26** – World Congress of Families XI will begin at 9 am.

Exhibits will be located in the corridors of the Budapest Convention Center, along with coffee breaks and catering to assure maximum exposure. There will be a press room and VIP Lounge to accommodate 100, with lunch and coffee breaks served.

A special Global Forum For Political Leaders will take place at the Hungarian Parliament (by invitation only).

In evening, there will be a cultural program with music and dancers.

There will also be a world premiere of a Hollywood movie that reflects the strength and resiliency of the Natural Family, courtesy of Dr. Ted Baehr of the Christian Film and Television Commission (a WCF Partner) and MovieGuide.org.

**May 26-27** – WCF Emerging Leaders Program – 2 sessions Friday evening and a 2 training sessions on Saturday. This is being organized in collaboration with the European Large Families Confederation.

**May 27** – second day of WCF XI in the Budapest Convention Center.

A One of Us conference will run concurrently with the second day of WCF XI, at a venue to be announced.

A Global Forum and dinner for business leaders (by invitation only) will be held in the evening.

**May 28 (Sunday)** – WCF Viva Familia Family Festival and Parade celebrating the Natural Family, will take place in the streets of Budapest starting at Lajos Kossuth Square.

Addresses from Prime Minister Victor Orban, Minister Zoltan Balog, Katlin Novak and WCF Founder Allan Carlson will inspire the crowd.

The parade will be led by the heads of WCF, Hungarian state representatives, representatives of public organizations, children and young people in traditional folk costumes (foreigners are encouraged to wear their traditional folk costumes too) Participants are asked to bring signs, national flags, the logo/flag of their organization; country signs and balloons provided by the organizers. The crowd will march to the Basilica where families and participants will receive blessings and release the balloons with a cry of “Viva Familia!”

The first World Congress of Families was held in Prague in 1997, two years after WCF was founded. Subsequent Congresses have been held in Geneva (1999), Mexico City (2004), Warsaw (2007), Amsterdam (2009), Madrid (2012), Sydney (2013), Salt Lake City (2015) and Tbilisi in the Republic of Georgia (2016). Each Congress is unique, with its own theme and focus. The program is devised by and speakers are selected by the Local Organizing Committee, in conjunction with World Congress of Families.

Each World Congress is both a celebration of the Natural Family and a discussion of challenges facing families today, at the national, regional and international levels. Speakers include a wide range of leaders, activists, scholars, researchers, clergy and officials. For more information, contact WCF Managing Director Larry Jacobs at or 815-964-5819 or [larry@worldcongress.org](mailto:larry@worldcongress.org).



*WCF IV Warsaw*



*WCF VI Madrid*



*WCF V Amsterdam*



# The Cape Town Declaration: Universal Declaration on the Family and Marriage

On December 10, 2016, a group of leaders gathered in Cape Town, South Africa to officially launch “The Cape Town Declaration: Universal Declaration on the Family and Marriage.” The Declaration was launched on the anniversary of the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## The Declaration proclaims:

*Spanning the globe, we have no common tongue, culture, or creed. We are divided by history and geography, by social customs and forms of government. But in foundations, we are united. We are of one mind on the bedrock of civil society, on the basis of that first and primordial community called the family: We affirm the dignity of marriage as the conjugal bond of man and woman. We embrace it not as the parochial practice of any sect or nation or age, but as the patrimony of all mankind. We defend it not as a matter of preference or temperament or taste but as the heart of any just social order.*

*Human beings thrive in communities. And every community finds its foundation where every human being deserves to begin: in marriage. Here a man and a woman commit to join their whole lives as one family and seal their love as one flesh. They show forth the fidelity and unity-in-diversity of any healthy community. Thus do they secure for any children born of their bond, the birthright of all men: to know the faithful love of the man and woman whose union gave them life.*

*Healthy marriages thus make demands of couples; but wounded ones make greater demands of whole societies. A thriving culture will therefore serve marriage—and all society—by promoting purity outside it and fidelity within; by discouraging pornography, adultery and divorce; and by firmly resisting every push to redefine marriage: to include same-sex or group bonds,*

*or sexually open or temporary ones.*

*We rededicate ourselves to honoring, restoring, and protecting these truths. We commit, where possible, to refuse to deal with corporations that deny them. We pledge to resist the rising cultural imperialism of Western powers whose governments seek nothing less than the ideological colonization of the family.*

*Together we join in common cause, East and West, North and South, to stand for a truth that no government can change. Bowing to no earthly power, using every just measure, we shall not falter or flag until the truth about marriage is embraced in our laws and honored in our lands.*

National leaders who’ve endorsed the Cape Town Declaration to date include: **Theresa Okafor** (Foundation for African Cultural Heritage, Nigeria), **Katharina Rothweiler** (Alliance Defending Freedom International, Mexico), **Austin Ruse** (Center for Family and Human Rights, U.S.), **Lyle Shelton** (Australian Christian Lobby), **Leonor Tamayo** (Professionals for Ethics, Spain), **Silvio dalla Valle** (In Defense of Christian Values, Italy), **Egidijus Vareikis** (Lithuanian Parliament), **Andrea Williams** (Christian Concern, U.K.), **Nemanja Zaric** (Dveri, Serbia), **Branislav Skripek** (European Parliament), **Francisco Tatad** (former Majority Leader of the Philippine Senate), **Robert George** (Princeton University), **Pastor Lawrence Khong** (Faith Community Baptist Church, Singapore), **Ann Kioko** (African Organization for Families, Kenya), **Gwendolyn Landolt** (REAL Women of Canada), **Sonia Crespo** (Family and Future Foundation, Ecuador), **Bob McCoskrie** (Family First, New Zealand), **Errol Naidoo** (Family Policy Institute, South Africa), **Ryan Anderson** (The Heritage Foundation, U.S.), **Bishop Emmanuel Badejo** (The Catholic Church in Nigeria) **Levan Vasadze** (Georgian Demographic Institute, Republic of Georgia), **Christine Vollmer** (Latin American Alliance for the Family, Venezuela), **Natalia Yakunina** (Sanctity of Motherhood Foundation, Russia), **Brian Brown** (National Organization for Marriage, U.S.) and **Babette Francis** (Endeavour Forum, Australia).

To sign The Cape Town Declaration click here,

<https://profam.org/>

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MARRIAGE

  
Introducing:  
the International Organization  
for the Family (IOF)



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**February 10, 2017** – 25th Anniversary MovieGuide Awards.  
[www.movieguideawards.com/](http://www.movieguideawards.com/)

**March 23** – Endeavour Forum NGO Parallel Event at the UN Committee on the Status of Women Meeting in New York City.  
[babette@endeavourforum.org.au](mailto:babette@endeavourforum.org.au)

**March 27-29** – African Regional Conference on the Family (Lagos, Nigeria). [okafortessy@hotmail.com](mailto:okafortessy@hotmail.com)

**April 19-21** – Heartbeat International Annual Conference (Chicago, IL).  
[www.heartbeatinternational.org/](http://www.heartbeatinternational.org/)

**April 27-28** – Second Transatlantic Summit (Personhood, Family, Society: Global Challenges, Global Responses), at the European Parliament in Brussels.  
[www.politicalnetworkforvalues.org/](http://www.politicalnetworkforvalues.org/)

**May 24-28** – World Congress of Families XI in Budapest.  
[larry@worldcongress.org](mailto:larry@worldcongress.org)

**June 15-17, 2017** – Black Conservative Summit/WCF Regional Conference, Washington, D.C.  
<http://freedomjournalinstitute.org/calendar-item/black-conservative-summit/>

**June 21-22** – IV Caribbean Regional Conference in Antigua.  
[r.aligouveia@gmail.com](mailto:r.aligouveia@gmail.com)

**August 17-19** – International End Sexual Exploitation Summit (Cape Town, South Africa).  
[enaadoo@familypolicyinstitute.com](mailto:enaadoo@familypolicyinstitute.com)

**September** - African Regional Conference on the Family (in Lilongwe, Malawi) at the Capitol Sunshine Hotel.  
[annmtave@yahoo.com](mailto:annmtave@yahoo.com)

## 2017 Regional Conferences, Will Include Lagos, Antigua, Cape Town and Malawi

Regional conferences are an increasingly important part of World of Families. They're a way to train and educate local leaders and activists, generate media coverage and to bring the natural family message to the grassroots.

Previous regional conferences have included those in Canada, Barbados, Trinidad, Argentina, the U.S., Kenya, Nigeria, Serbia, Moldova, Russia, Australia and New Zealand. Attendance ranged from fewer than 100 to more than 500 (for the Moscow Demographic Summit).

To date, four regional conferences are planned for 2017, in Lagos, Antigua, Cape Town and Lilongwe (Malawi).



Theresa Okafor

**March 27-29 – Lagos, Nigeria** – The organizer is Theresa Okafor, WCF African Representative. The conference will be held at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs on Victoria Island, Lagos. Besides international speakers, African speakers to be invited will include the President of Nigeria, Members of Parliament, clergy, activists and academics.

Topics will include: large families a blessing – protection of marriage – pregnancy, maternal care and maternal mortality – surrogacy – adolescent sexuality – sexual health and sexual freedom.

Theresa previously organized a highly successful conference in Abuja (Nigeria's federal capital) in June 2009. There were more than 200 leaders and activists in attendance. Speakers included the then-First Lady of Nigeria and WCF Coordinator of Regional Conferences, Don Feder.

Organizers are looking for co-sponsors at several levels, ranging from \$2,500 (platinum) to \$500 (bronze), as well as organizations willing to sponsor members of parliament and other officeholders (\$800 per person).

You can reach Theresa at: [okafortessy@hotmail.com](mailto:okafortessy@hotmail.com)

**June 21-22 – The 4th WCF Caribbean Conference** – The organizer is Rebekah ali-Gouveia, WCF Regional Coordinator in the Caribbean.



2011 Nigerian Regional Conference

## 2017 Regional Conferences, Will Include Lagos, Antigua, Cape Town and Malawi

Rebekah has organized three other successful WCF regional conferences – two in Trinidad and one in Barbados last year.

Local organizers include Sean Bird (the grandson of Antigua's first prime minister after independence), and a retired minister, Rev. Rolston Jeffrey. Sean owns a radio station which will be useful in publicizing the conference. He plans to invite the

prime minister and attorney general to participate. Organizers expect between 100 and 200 to attend, based on past experiences. The venue is yet to be finalized but could be a conference hall outside the capital of St. Johns. The



Rebekah Ali- Gouveia

organizers are considering a registration fee that's the equivalent of \$40 US.

Topics: Natural Marriage, Marriage as a Public Good, The Family and Sustainable Development Goals, Values and Virtues Education, Risk Avoidance Versus Risk Reduction in "Intimacy Education," Child Protection in the Caribbean, The Sexual Revolution and Demographic Winter, Upholding the Sanctity of Human Life, Fatherhood, Motherhood, Pornography, Domestic Violence, and Attachment and Sexual Behavior.

Confirmed speakers to date include Rebekah, Adrian Alexander (leader of a prison ministry), Christine Vollmer (Latin American Alliance for the Family), Pastor Scott Stirm (Belize), Sarah Flood-Beaubrun (Minister of External Affairs, St Lucia), Katharina Rothweiller (Mexico, with the Alliance Defending Freedom International), Stephanie Luck (a Colorado-based attorney dedicated to exposing the

dangers of legalized marijuana), Denise Koylass (a clinical psychologist with the ELPIS Centre, Trinidad), Dr Godfrey St Bernard (Caribbean demographer), Jor-El Godsey (President, Heartbeat International) Don Feder (WCF Coordinator of Regional Conferences) and Richard Cohen (psychotherapist). Other speakers are expected from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad.

Click here, [r.aligouveia@gmail.com](mailto:r.aligouveia@gmail.com), to contact Rebekah



Errol Naidoo

**August 17-19 – International Summit on Sexual Exploitation, Cape Town, South Africa –** Organized by Errol Naidoo of the Family Policy Institute of South Africa, a WCF Partner. The theme is: "Exposing the Seamless Connections Between All Forms of Sexual

Exploitation" [enaidoo@familypolicyinstitute.com](mailto:enaidoo@familypolicyinstitute.com)

**September – African Regional Conference on the Family in Lilongwe, Malawi at the Capitol Sunshine Hotel.** Organizer: Ann Kioko with the African Organization for Families, a WCF Partner [anmtave@yahoo.com](mailto:anmtave@yahoo.com) .

*If you'd like information and ideas about hosting a World Congress of Families Regional Conference in your country, contact Don Feder (WCF Coordinator of Regional Conferences) at [dfeder@profam.org](mailto:dfeder@profam.org) .*



## New Normal Conference in London

On November 11-12, 2016, Christian Concern hosted the New Normal conference to explore and discuss changing attitudes on sexuality and gender and how to offer a Christian response.

Over the course of two days, around 200 delegates gathered at the Emmanuel Centre in London to be equipped and encouraged from experts across a range of fields.

The conference opened with introductions from Christian Concern CEO Andrea Williams and Professor Bobby Lopez, who was raised by his mother and her same-sex partner. Professor Lopez is also the co-author of "Jephthah's Children," available from Wilberforce Publications.

Speakers examined how society has moved away from a Christian worldview and why this "New Normal" is so damaging, particularly for children and families.

The conference heard a sobering presentation from Anglican Mainstream's Dr Lisa Nolland on the kind of explicit sex education being taught to our children. The conference included the premiere of "Sunlight," written by Bobby Lopez and Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Michelle Shocked. This original play is the poignant true story of a man who was brought up by a same-sex couple, the problems this led to, and the hostile treatment he received from the LGBT community.

The conference included a variety of seminars, among them *"I'm Gay: How to Respond."* and *"I'm Transgender: How to Respond."* The conference closed



with a lively Q&A session, where speakers offered final thoughts on how we can move forward, responding with Biblical truth, love and compassion.

To help you further explore these issues, Christian Concern has created The New Normal Hub, [www.christianconcern.com/the-new-normal-hub](http://www.christianconcern.com/the-new-normal-hub) featuring academic studies, personal accounts and comment pieces. Bobby Lopez reminded the audience that confusion over sexuality and gender is part of a spiritual battle, and that, most importantly, we must pray into this confusion. Its resource hub also offers prayer points to help guide your prayers.

Click here, [www.christianconcern.com/](http://www.christianconcern.com/), to contact Christian Concern, a World Congress of Families Partner.

## Endeavour Forum Parallel Event at UN Committee on the Status of Women Meeting

On March 23 at 4:30 pm, Endeavour Forum will hold an NGO Parallel Event, during the annual meeting of the United Nations Committee on the Status of Women, on the 10th floor of the Church Centre, opposite the UN building in New York City. The session is titled "The Reproductive Health of Asian Women."

The speakers are Dr. Angela Lanfranchi (president of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute), Professor Joel Brind (endocrinologist, Baruch College, New York), Mrs. Denise Mountenay of Canada's Silent No More and Reggie Littlejohn of Women's Rights Without Frontiers.

Endeavour Forum's Babette Francis explained: "NGO Events are also known as 'Parallel Events,' as opposed to Side Events, those organized by U.N. member states. It is important for pro-family activists to organize Parallel Events. If they don't, the UN scene will be dominated by pro-abortion and population-control lobbyists. The UN already has the United Nations Population Fund – dedicated to promoting abortion and involved in China's compulsory abortion program. The International Planned Parenthood Federation is also very active at the UN."

For more information on the upcoming parallel event, contact Babette Francis:

[babette@endeavourforum.org.au](mailto:babette@endeavourforum.org.au) .

Endeavour Forum, which celebrated its 38th. birthday on February 4, is a World Congress of Families Partner.



2016 Event

## Life Training at Heartbeat International's Caribbean Conference

Pro-life leaders from five Caribbean nations met in Puerto Rico, Jan. 11-13, for the region's first-ever pregnancy-help summit, pooling insight and preparing for a new season in the battle for life.

Coordinated with Heartbeat International, the meeting took place in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, where the Cree Women's Center established its second pregnancy help center in 2016—just a mile away from three of the island's seven abortion clinics.

Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Lucia and the Bahamas were all represented by individuals dedicated to rescuing both women and children from the scourge of abortion. The number of abortions in the Caribbean and Latin America increased by 50% since the mid-1990s.

According to estimates by the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, 4.4 million unborn children were aborted each year from 1990 to 1994 in Latin America and the Caribbean. That number increased to 6.5 million a year from 2010-14, prompting many pro-life Christians to respond by establishing pregnancy help centers and ultrasound-equipped medical clinics.

In Trinidad and Tobago, Rebekah Ali-Gouveia and her husband, Colin, founded Elpis Centre in 2009 to provide life-affirming options, pro-life education and help with abortion recovery.

"This gathering helped to further knit together the leaders in the Caribbean and to refuel, reignite and



*Daisy Pardo, Director of Cree Woman's Care (center to right)*

anchor the matters we must commit to in the year ahead," said Ali-Gouveia, an attorney and Caribbean Coordinator for World Congress of Families. "There was an overflow of love, trust, laughter and tears, all of which converged into a weekend ripe with expectation and hope for our region."

Three leaders from Heartbeat International—who all served in leadership roles at local pregnancy centers before joining the staff at the network's headquarters in Columbus, Ohio—participated in the summit, along with Sol Pichon, a long-time leader of a local network of Florida pregnancy-help medical clinics.

In addition to its Annual Conference, which is expected to draw over 1,000 leaders to Chicago on April 19-21, Heartbeat International (now in its 46th year) fosters similar regionally based pregnancy help efforts on every inhabited continent, including Europe, where the organization hosted leaders from 10 nations in October of 2016.

"There continues to be a great need for pregnancy help leaders to build strong relationships," said Jor-El Godsey, President of Heartbeat International. "Heartbeat is privileged to serve as the unifying network for so many faithful and faith-filled champions of life in the Caribbean and around the globe."

Click here, [www.heartbeatinternational.org/](http://www.heartbeatinternational.org/), to contact Heartbeat International is a World Congress of Families Partner.



*Carrie Beliles (Heartbeat International), Daisy Pardo and other Panelists*



## NEW PARTNER PROFILE

### Kenya Christian Professionals Forum

The Kenya Christian Professionals Forum (KCPF) brings together Christian professionals from various denominations who share common values on life, family, religion and governance. Its mission is to provide professional support in influencing the development of a legal and social environment that is supportive of biblical values. KCPF membership is drawn from various churches, church groups and denominations.

KCPF recently partnered with the Kenyan government – through the Ministry of Labour, East Africa Community Affairs and Social Protection – to celebrate the International Day of the Family and to host a national conference. The Government is currently developing a Family Promotion and Protection Policy, and KCPF is playing a key role in the process. In September 2016, the organization convened a conference bringing together legislators from Kenya and other African countries, church leaders and professionals to deliberate on the global challenges facing the institution of the family, and effective responses to the same.

KCPF has also joined several pending court cases on the LGBT and abortion as interested parties, so as to articulate the Christian perspective in a bid to protect family and life.

Legislation that KCPF has been involved in includes the Marriage Act of 2014 and the Matrimonial Property Act of 2014. It has actively campaigned against the Reproductive Health Bill and In-Vitro-Fertilization Bill.

Its vision is a society that respects life, family, religion, social justice and good governance.

Its mission is to provide professional support in the development of a social and legal environment that promotes

Biblical values in Kenya and beyond.



Its core values are:

*Accountability* – being responsible and transparent in its actions, conduct and management of resources

*Professionalism* – adherence to standards, conduct, methods, levels of excellence and competence that is expected of a professional

*Courage* – being bold, steadfast, firm and consistent about our Christian faith and doctrinal basis and standing for what is right

*Integrity* – commitment to virtuous, moral, ethical and Biblical principles for the good of all. This includes cultivating honesty, truthfulness, consistency and moral character both in private and public life.

*Stewardship* – prudent management of people, resources, finances, talents and skills

On May 15, 2015, KCPF organized the first family conference in Kenya – and the first to be designated a World Congress of Families Regional Conference in Kenya. The Conference was held in Nairobi and attended by more than 300 delegates. Her Excellency, Margaret Kenyatta, Kenya's First Lady, was the Guest of Honor. The theme was "Family, Hope of the Nation." Other organizers included Kenya's Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Services.

Click here, [www.kcpf.or.ke/](http://www.kcpf.or.ke/), for the Kenya Christian Professional Forum

## NEW PARTNER PROFILE

### African Organization for the Family

The African Organization for Families (AOFF) is an NGO based in Nairobi, Kenya, with branches in many African counties.

The organization was founded in 2015 by Ms. Ann Kioko, a young woman who has been a pro-life and pro-family activist since her campus days. She realized there was a need to defend the natural family from various pressures, especially from Western countries which were intent on imposing same-sex unions, abortion and a destructive comprehensive sexuality education agenda, among other outcomes of sexual radicalism.

Ann attended the World Congress of Families Emerging Leaders Conference in Salt Lake City in 2014, where she was challenged to do more for Africa. Thereafter, she spoke with Newton Tsenyange (a managing accountant in Uganda), Joshua Nwachukwu (an advocate of the high court in Nigeria),

Sinethemba Sholwana (a South African nurse), Clare Kerubo (a counseling psychologist in Nairobi) and Richard Kakeeto (an advocate to the High Court of Kenya). Together, they formed AOFF's first board of directors.

AOFF has organized an Annual Chastity Conference, targeting Millennials, to promote sexual responsibility in youth; 40 Days for Life campaigns, which involve praying at the Marie Stopes headquarters to stop it from carrying out illegal abortions; The March for Families, aimed at creating awareness of attacks on the African family; Annual World Congress of Families African Regional Conferences; work at the United Nations; advocacy in African parliaments; and working with churches of various denominations.

The African Organization for Families takes pride in having organized an African Regional Conference on Families in Nairobi in September 2016, attended by more than 200 pro-family experts from across Africa and other parts of the world to defend the Natural Family. Themed "The Future of



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# WCF – PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

This continues our regular feature celebrating the women and men who have contributed to the growing success of the international pro-family movement.

## Moira Chimombo

Since January 2009, Moira Chimombo has been Executive Director of Sub-Saharan Africa Family Enrichment (SAFE), a local faith-based NGO in Malawi. Previously, she was Director of Education (2003 to 2008) and Director of Curriculum Development, the last as a volunteer. She is the major contributing writer to the SAFE Education Program, WHY WAIT?, which has an eight-year Bible-based life skills curriculum for primary and secondary schools, as well as a six-session course for college students. She has helped train trainers and teachers to implement the curriculum in Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, South Africa, Lesotho, and Rwanda.



Moira is a retired professor of education at the University of Malawi, where she lectured in the area of Language Teacher Education. She has an Ed.D. in TESOL (Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages) from Teachers' College, Columbia University. She has published internationally on applied linguistics, teaching language and life skills education. Her current research focus is the impact of HIV&AIDS on the family. She has also lectured internationally in the United States, United Kingdom, Sweden and Germany, as well as in several African countries.

She has served as an external examiner and curriculum consultant in several southern African countries. She has been a member of the primary and secondary curriculum review panels in Malawi, having served at different times as a consultant on reading, language teaching methods, and cross-curricular AIDS education.

Moira has been involved with World Congress of Families since 2009, having presented in Amsterdam on a family approach to HIV prevention.

From 2012 to 2015, Moira served as the first chairperson of the newly established National Council for Higher Education in Malawi, which

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## Bogdan Stanciu

Bogdan Stanciu was born in 1974 and raised in Bucharest. He's a graduate of the Politechnical University of Bucharest with an engineering degree in organic chemistry.

In 2007, he developed an interest in photography, graduated from a short course, and soon began making a living as a freelance photographer. Bogdan takes mostly black-and-white photographs, which he believes strips a subject to its essentials to send a bold message. He's now working on his first solo exhibition.

Eventually, Bogdan found that his greatest passion was doing full-time pro-life work.

He became involved as the result of a traumatic experience. As he explains it: "The girl I was dating as a teenager got pregnant. It ended with an abortion which deeply traumatized both of us and filled me with deep regret. When I was 26 or 27, I felt that God called me to show my repentance by helping save children and women from this scourge."

In 2005, Bogdan founded a local branch of the largest pro-life charity in Romania, PRO VITA, and has led it ever since. Also in 2013, together with a few colleagues, he started the Coalition for Family which seeks to be an umbrella-like network of pro-family, pro-life and pro-religious freedom NGOs in Romania.

He also managed the Coalition's recent petition drive that collected over 3 million signatures for a marriage amendment to the Romanian Constitution. The measure is currently awaiting ballot status.

He and his wife, Diana, have one child, a girl who is hearing-disabled. "I am happy God chose us to raise Sofia and I feel humble before His grace, every time I see my very gifted and loving



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## Sanctity of Motherhood Conference in St Petersburg

The Fifth Forum of the Sanctity of Motherhood Foundation was held on November 24-25, 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia. The focus was "Prosperity of the Family as the Most Important Indicator of the Maturity of Russian Society."

Among the speakers were representatives of the government, health authorities, social organizations, public-service institutions, research scientists, public figures, and representatives of Russian Orthodox Church and Islam, including:

Olga Epifanova (Vice-Chairman of the Russian State Duma) – Anatoly Antonov (Head of the Department of Sociology, Moscow State University, Editor-in-Chief of "Population Studies" Journal) – Dr. Oleg Fillipov (physician, professor, Deputy Director of the Department of Children's Medical Care and Obstetrics, Russian Federation Ministry of Health) – Ravil Pancheev (Chairman, Mufti of Theological Muslims' Department of St Petersburg and the Northwestern Region of the Russian Federation) – Alessandro Fiore (a spokesman for ProVita Association, based in Italy) – Shizhen Lu (Vice President of the China Youth Research Association) – Xiaomei Sun (Deputy of the National People's Congress, Director of the Center for Family Studies of China Women's University) – Tinatin Korbaladze (Executive Director of World Congress of Families X in Tbilisi, Georgia in 2016) – and Marina Karachaeva (the director of Gogebashvili State University in Georgia)

The Forum covered a wide range of problems and topics. In the framework of Forum there were

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## African Organization for the Family



Ann Kioko of the African Organization for Families signing the Cape Town Declaration

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*Natalya Yakunina, Chair, Sanctity of Motherhood Program in center*

parallel sessions on:

1. "Family Studies – from the Kindergarten to Maturity, the Unity of Conception and Diversity of Methods and Practices"
2. Understanding the Humanity of the Unborn Child and Bringing Others to an Understanding of its Uniqueness.
3. "To be a Father"
4. "The Regional Experience in Developing Family Policy"
5. "The Collaboration of Social Organizations and State Agencies in Assisting Pregnant Women in Difficult Situations."
6. "Family Policy – Information, Experience and Perspectives"

Click here, [www.st-andrew-foundation.org/en/programmes/sanctity\\_of\\_motherhood\\_programme/](http://www.st-andrew-foundation.org/en/programmes/sanctity_of_motherhood_programme/), to reach the The Sanctity of Motherhood Program, a World Congress of Families Partner.

The Family in Africa" the three-day conference also brought in expert speakers in the fields of demography, comprehensive sexuality education, marriage, life issues, and the population-control agenda,

The impact of the 2016 World Congress of Families Regional Conference in Nairobi was huge and received widespread media coverage locally and abroad. AOFF is planning another WCF Regional Conference in Malawi, in collaboration with Bishop Kawalala of the Word Alive Ministries. The fall conference will take place at the Capitol Hotel in Lilongwe.

The Africa Organization for Families, in a bid to provide family-based solutions to African problems, is also planning to launch a Regional Crisis Pregnancy Center and introduce a hotline number to offer counseling to those dealing with crisis pregnancy and "same-sex attraction" issues.

AOFF's long-term vision is to have offices in every African country and have a robust secretariat to execute its mandate. Click here, [www.facebook.com/FamiliesAfrica](https://www.facebook.com/FamiliesAfrica), for the African Organization for the Family.



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## Moira Chimombo

oversees all private and public universities and institutions of higher education, except for vocational schools.

Moira's late husband, Steve Chimombo, was Professor of English, University of Malawi, and one of Malawi's best-known writers. His retelling of numerous Malawian/African folk stories provided the framework for the WHY WAIT? curriculum for grades 5 through 8. Moira and Steve have three children and five grandchildren.

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## Bogdan Stanciu

daughter," Bogdan says.

Bogdan describes himself as "a son of the Romanian Orthodox Church, both by baptism and by belief."

Bogdan is in charge of networking with foreign groups for the Coalition for the Family. In that capacity, he travels extensively and attended World Congress of Families V (Amsterdam), WCF VI (Madrid) and WCF X (Tbilisi), which he says was "invaluable for networking, getting to know people and experiences in other countries and working together to achieve common goals." His organization is also a member of European Christian Political Foundation.

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## Natural Family: An International Journal of Research and Policy

The latest issue of *The Natural Family: An International Journal of Research and Policy*—the flagship publication of the International Organization for the Family—includes insightful contributions by colleagues around the globe.

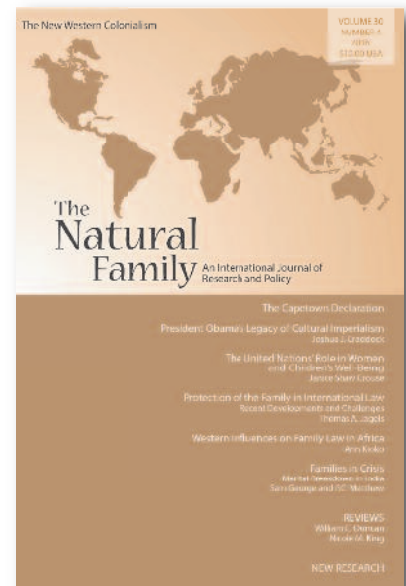
The theme of this issue is "*The New Western Colonialism*." Joshua J. Craddock of Personhood USA opens with "President Obama's Legacy of Cultural Imperialism," detailing how, during his administration, Obama managed to carry the gospel of birth control, abortion, and the LGBTQ agenda to the far corners of the globe. Covering the good and the bad of the UN's involvement in women's and children's well-being over the past decades is long-time WCF Director Janice Shaw Crouse, and Thomas Jagles of Alliance Defending Freedom International reports on the ways that international governing bodies have attempted to promote Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity mandates worldwide.

Also in this issue are glimpses of the harm inflicted by this radical agenda. In "*Western Influences on Family Law in Africa*," Ann Kioko of the African Organization for Families details some of Obama's more aggressive moves, and how various African nations have tried to withstand the pressure

to promote abortion and LGBTQ "rights" in their lands. And Drs. Sam George and P.C. Matthew highlight how rapid urbanization and Westernization have already gone a long way in destroying traditional marriage and the family culture of India.

Perhaps the best summary of this issue overall appears in Mr. Craddock's article in the opening pages of the journal: "Multiculturalism, pluralism, diversity, and tolerance: these were once the watchwords of liberalism. When it comes to issues like abortion and sexuality, however, modern liberalism has no room for such things. . . . Today's social liberals want to colonize foreign souls rather than foreign bodies."

For more information on *The Natural Family*, or to subscribe, please call (815) 964-5819.



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