

NEWS RELEASE

Kristiansand, 20 May 2007

Programmes from France, the Netherlands, Great Britain and Ireland were the prizewinners today at the WACC/SIGNIS European Television Festival of Religious Programmes, held at the Gimlekollen Institute in Kristiansand, Norway.

The winning programmes were: Semeur de Gospel (Presence Protestante, France); Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht (IKON, the Netherlands); Every Parent's Nightmare (BBC, UK) Last Judgement (RTE, Ireland).

The President of the international jury, Rachel Viney, said: "in a competition, in which the overall quality was high, four programmes stood out. What they have in common is their relevance to the way we live today in Europe. We believe that it is an excellent sign for the future of religious broadcasting."

Special mentions were given to two programmes : Words of Wisdom (NCRV, the Netherlands) and The TV Pastor (TV Inter, Norway).

A special prize for the best website linked to a programme in the competition went to Faith, Sex and Hope(lessness) from the Dutch broadcaster, IKON. The prize was awarded by a jury of members of the European Christian Internet Conference (ECIC).

The audience prize, chosen by the festival participants, went to Every Parent's Nightmare from the BBC.

Sixty programmes from 14 countries were originally submitted to the competition, of these, 19 were chosen for screening in Kristiansand.