



PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

Lost Peoples and Places of Europe

MULTIPLE CULTURES, RACES, RELIGIONS, AND WORLDVIEWS MAKE EUROPE A COLLAGE OF HUMAN IDEALS AND PERSPECTIVES. EVERY EXPRESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH HAS BEEN REPRESENTED IN EUROPE, WHICH WAS ONCE THE BASTION OF CHRISTIANITY AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION. THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL IS THE HERITAGE OF EUROPEAN CHRISTIANITY. BUT WHAT IS THE REALITY IN EUROPE TODAY?

In Cities Where the Gospel Once Flourished, Revival Is Now Needed

European cities like Paris, Rome, St. Petersburg, Hamburg, and London stir the imagination with their old-world charm, beauty, and history as well as their modern-day vibrancy. Their visitors will find the Eiffel Tower, the Coliseum, Westminster Abbey, and many other world-famous tourist destinations. Many cities in Europe are regularly listed among the best places to live, resulting in phenomenal diversity as people from every corner of the globe move to Europe.

Every Christian expression of faith has been practiced here. The Catholic Church began in Rome, took root in French cities, and spread from there. The Orthodox church started in Constantinople, Turkey (now Istanbul), and spread throughout Russia and the



London, England is a tapestry of cultural diversity.

Balkans. Protestants trace their beginnings to Germany. Anglicanism began in London and became a dominant religion. Christians all over the world are indebted to the missionary work and spiritual heritage of European Christians. However, the current reality is completely different. Today, just over 1 percent of Europeans are evangelical Christians, and multitudes die daily without knowing Christ.

Pray that the 1 percent will courageously witness to the lost and disciple them. Pray for revival across Europe and for a harvest of equipped leaders to lead reproducing churches. Pray for the vast variety of people groups represented in the cities of Europe.

1 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Team Krakow in Poland hosts a summer camp for orphans, caring for them and teaching English while shining the light of Jesus. The team also builds relationships with Polish volunteers. Pray that this ministry brings honor to the Lord and bears fruit for His Kingdom.

2 LABA OF CHINA. The Laba people of China have access to numerous Christian resources, yet less than 1 percent of them follow Christ. Ask the Lord to unveil their eyes to see the futility in their repeated animal sacrifices and accept the sacrifice that Jesus made.

3 QUILOMBOLAS OF BRAZIL. Quilombolas, descendants of runaway African slaves, formed villages in remote areas of Brazil to escape racial oppression. Their religion and rituals have been syncretized with Catholicism. Ask God to draw them away from the oppression of sin and into His freedom.

4 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Many people in Cardiff, Wales are seeking asylum from war-torn countries or are serving as slaves. But God is working to call people to salvation in Jesus Christ. Pray for more to trust in Him. Ask that new disciples will overcome past trauma and grow in their faith.

5 IMB MISSIONARIES. A new missionary worried that her son who has a disability would miss out on the healthcare he needed. “But God provided and used our child to draw people to Himself,” she said. Pray for missionary families who have children with disabilities.

6 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Praise the Lord for how He is opening doors for people to hear the gospel in East Asia. This is done through many activities run by Christians. Pray that they will find favor in the eyes of officials, continue to meet, and share about Jesus.



7 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Is the Spirit at work in ancient cities? Yes! A missionary couple in Belgium is working with partners to plant a church in Bruges, a city picturesque in beauty but numb to spiritual reality. Pray for this fledgling church and for the church planting team in Bruges.

8 BADHAI OF INDIA. The Badhai of India believe they come from a Hindu god who is a carpenter to the other gods, so Badhai often work as carpenters and make idols for worship. Ask God to prepare the hearts of the Badhai to hear and receive the gospel, and that believers will share it.

9 TUAREG OF THE SAHARA DESERT. When Dan* openly announced faith in Jesus, his brother dug deeper into the family’s belief system, his father feared public embarrassment, and his mother rejected him and Jesus. Pray for Daniel’s family and for other unsaved families of new believers to trust in Jesus.

10 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Teams in Armenia and Georgia are delivering food baskets to vulnerable families. Also included in the baskets are materials related to stress and anxiety. Pray that people will reach out for help and that this ministry will create many opportunities to share the gospel.

11 MANDAR OF INDONESIA. The 500,000 Mandar people in Indonesia are 99.9 percent Muslim. Although Muslim, many Mandar hold to their animistic beliefs. Ask the King of kings to reveal himself to the Mandar people.

12 NURISTANI PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN. People of Nuristan, the “land of light,” are rugged like the mountainous terrain around them. They’re hard to reach, and most are non-literate. Pray that the gospel will shine into each mountain village and bring life, making the land truly the land of light.

13 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Cologne, Germany is home to over 75,000 college students, 99 percent of whom are lost. Martin, an engineering professor and church planter, wants to reach these students. Pray for Martin and an IMB team as they share the gospel in campus outreaches and disciple students.

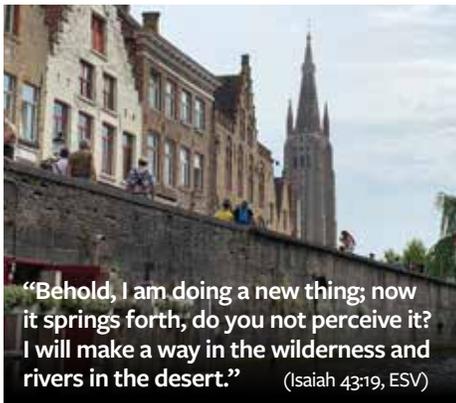
14 SYRIAN SUNNI ARABS OF SYRIA. Millions of Syrian refugees in camps can’t work during the pandemic quarantines and can’t “stock-up” on food. Precautions like washing hands and social distancing are often not possible for them. Pray for God’s protection, provision, and health for Syrian refugees.

15 SOMALI OF MOGADISHU. Mogadishu, Somalia is home to the largest mosque in the Horn of Africa. Extremism cripples the city’s reconstruction, and the darkness of lostness continues to reign. Pray that believers will share God’s light and that many Somalis will discover the gospel online.

16 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. A church is growing in Assisi, Italy. They are taking the gospel to four surrounding

cities that have no evangelical churches. Pray for God's protection and edification over the pastor and other church leaders. Ask that this will be a season of genuine growth in Italy.

17 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. Sri Lanka is home to 21 million people, mostly Buddhist. It's a picturesque place but has much inner turmoil and suffering. Most have no idea that they can be forgiven of their sins. Ask that Sri Lankans will hear and believe the gospel.



18 IMB MISSIONARIES. Particularly during the pandemic, missionaries are waiting for God to provide and open doors for ministry or travel. Pray that missionaries who are waiting on God will be faithful to reach out to people around them even while they wait. Pray that God will be glorified.

19 ZIGUA OF TANZANIA. The Zigua of Tanzania are a rural people, primarily Muslim. Islam has spread there and brought much confusion and resistance to the gospel. Pray that the few Zigua believers will boldly share the gospel with the lost. Pray for those who hear it to believe and grow.

20 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. The Northern Portugal Baptist Association consists of 17 churches. Pray that in their training events, churches grow passionate to see new churches planted. Pray that U.S. churches that are connecting with Portuguese churches will encourage and mentor them.

21 CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES. No people groups in Central Asia are more than 2 percent evangelical Christians. But stories of salvation among the most marginalized show God's faithfulness. Pray boldly that the gospel will reach the deepest valley, the highest mountain, and the hardest heart.

22 PEOPLES OF THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS OF LAOS. The mountains, while beautiful, limit access to more than 20 unreached people groups who live there. Pray for them to see Jesus in dreams and visions and want to know more about Him. Ask for local believers who speak similar languages to have a heart to go reach them.

23 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Pray for a church plant in the fastest growing city in Russia. Though still a young church, they intend to open another church in the fall in a new area of town. Due to government restrictions, finding a place to meet is difficult. Pray for grace in this search.



24 DEAF PEOPLES. Less than 1 percent of the 7 million Chinese Deaf are Christians. But they are very open to learning Bible stories that have been translated into Chinese Sign Language. Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare their hearts and for the gospel to reach them.

25 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. London is one of the most diverse cities in the world. Of its 8 million people, 40 percent are born outside the U.K.! This multi-cultural tapestry is an opportunity to share the gospel with many people

groups. Ask the Father to bring more workers into this harvest.

26 TUCANO OF COLOMBIA. The Tucano in Brazil and Columbia, like many Amazonian people groups, trust in the power of spirits. They often think they can add Jesus to the other spirits they seek to appease. Ask that their fears and bondage will be overcome by the love, truth, and power of Jesus.

27 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES. The pandemic halted tourism in East Asia's mountain regions. People there whose livelihoods depend on tourism are in great financial crisis. Pray for their physical wellbeing and that workers will wisely and faithfully respond to this crisis.

28 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. Less than 0.5 percent of the 1 million people in a Balkan city are evangelicals. For three years, workers have held evangelism training events to help local believers grow in sharing their faith. Ask God to embolden believers and send workers into the harvest fields.

29 DEAF OF PAKISTAN. The 2.2 million Deaf in Pakistan experience extreme prejudice. Most don't attend school or work in well-paying jobs. There is no local church for them. Pray for more Bible stories to be translated and to reach them. Ask that they'll find hope and love in Jesus Christ.

30 IMB MISSIONARIES. Even without the extra stress of a pandemic, it's hard for missionaries when their children leave for college. Pray for friends and mentors to help these students adjust to college life in the U.S. Pray for the parents and siblings still on the field to adjust as well.

31 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. A core group is being trained for a second-generation church plant in a fast-growing, diverse area of Sydney, Australia. Pray for IMB personnel as they seek a location, find a local church planter, and develop partnerships for this future church.

Poles of Brazil Are Now the Largest European UUPG

Polish immigrants began arriving in Brazil during the mid-1800s, fleeing political turmoil in Poland. Their population increased, now estimated at 1.9 million, and they've adapted well to life in Brazil, mostly settling in the state of Parana's capitol city, Curitiba.

The Poles of Brazil purposely maintain their Polish culture and language. One way they hold onto their heritage is through loyalty to the Catholic Church, which supports the Polish churches in Brazil and sends priests and missionaries. Catholic leaders are gatekeepers to the Polish communities in Brazil. Anyone who leaves the Catholic Church suffers being shunned by their community.

No one is currently working to share the gospel with the Poles of Brazil. This people group is less than 0.5 percent evangelical and is the largest unengaged unreached people group (UUPG) of all European UUPGs.

Pray for God to make a way for Baptists to engage this region. Ask Him to open the hearts of Poles in Brazil to His gospel.

Children perform a traditional Polish dance in Brazil.

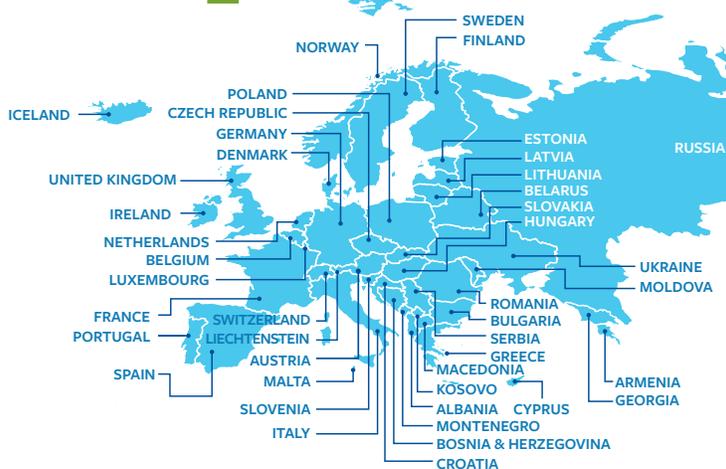


EUROPEAN PEOPLES AFFINITY

Living Behind Europe's Landmarks

1% EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN

11% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION



AFGHANISTAN | SYRIA | SOUTH SUDAN

55% of refugees worldwide

come from three nations: South Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria. Of all displaced peoples, **17 PERCENT** of them are being hosted in

EUROPE

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