

Monday 4th November

The Balkans is a mountainous region in Southeastern Europe that boasts a rich, though often turbulent history. Surrounded by the Adriatic, Mediterranean, Marmara and Black seas, the countries of the Balkans are dotted with charming towns, scenic valleys and peaceful lakes. It owes its name to a Turkish word meaning ‘wooded mountain range.’



and the civil wars of the 1990s.

Nearly a dozen countries make up the Balkans. Kosovo and Albania are Muslim-majority nations. Bosnia and Herzegovina and also North Macedonia have significant Muslim populations. The names of some of its countries, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, are synonymous with ethnic strife and civil war. In this ethnically, culturally, and spiritually diverse region, generations of peoples have lived divided in a past marked by unrest.

The countries of the Balkans continue to heal from decades of communist rule

Watch this 90-second video to learn about the Muslim peoples of the Balkans:

<https://vimeo.com/250158868>

Frontiers workers report that the region is poised for a harvest. More workers are needed to reach some of the Muslim people groups with almost no gospel witness in their midst. Yet, praise God, hundreds of Muslim men and women are choosing to follow Jesus.

- Pray for all people in the Balkan region to have access to the good news of the kingdom.
- Let's pray for the forgiveness and unity that comes from the power of Christ to be experienced by key leaders and politicians.
- Pray for more workers to go to this region.
- While we thank God that many Muslims are choosing to follow Jesus, let's pray for spiritual strongholds to be broken and for many other families to find their true identity in Jesus.

Tuesday 5th November

Three-day prayer event for the Balkans



The Balkan Call Prayer Conference is a three-day prophetic call to believers around the Balkans who are hungry and desperate to see breakthrough and revival come to this region. The prayer event takes place this week in Greece from the 7th to the 9th November. God's people will come together to seek His presence with one voice, one heart and one people to lift up Jesus.

This is their conference scripture:

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." Colossians 3:12-15

Let's stand in agreement with them and pray:

- that God will find and call those people He has prepared to come;
- that believers from all Balkan nations will attend;
- for protection for the speakers and the worship teams;
- for financial provision of all those who feel called to come and for the gathering itself;
- for spiritual protection over the organisers and their families; and
- for a powerful presence of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide these three days.

Wednesday 6th November

Prayer on the Borders – North Macedonia, Albania and Greece

In the spring of 2018, a group of believers from Macedonia, Albania and Greece gathered at Lake Prespa. This was a significant meeting point, as this lake borders all three countries. The purpose of their gathering was to see healing in their nations from the years of division and strife. Never before

in the history of the Balkans has it been known for one nation to reach out to another and ask for forgiveness for what they have done.



As believers gathered, they felt God say He would bring His blessing, and healing would flow as His church and as His body of believers came together to worship and seek forgiveness from one another and from Him.

This was their conference scripture: "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:8. As believers, although they came from different nations, they were one in Christ.

You can watch a short three-minute video about the Prayer on the Borders event here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20BOgV_NErY&feature=youtu.be

This prayer event was followed in June this year by a Balkan reconciliation workshop and more events are planned.

- Let's thank God for this group of believers who came together to pray and seek God's forgiveness and healing for their three nations.
- Let's ask for significant and lasting fruit from this event that brings the blessing of God.
- Pray for the workshops that are planned for the future; that they have God's leading and anointing upon them to bring transformation to the Balkan region.

Thursday 7th November

North Macedonia (formerly Macedonia)

Pop: 2.1 million

Muslim: 31%

As one of the poorest regions of the former Yugoslavia, the mountainous, landlocked nation of North Macedonia is dependent on agriculture and has high unemployment. As the former Yugoslavia broke apart in 1991, the new nation of Macedonia suffered from a lack of infrastructure and a Greek economic embargo, which hindered growth until 1996. More recently, North Macedonia has failed to attract much foreign investment, create many jobs, or adequately address its high unemployment. With little prospect in their own homeland, many young people leave to make their future elsewhere.

The population is made up of the majority Macedonians as well as large Albanian, Romani and Turkic groups. North Macedonia avoided the inter-ethnic violence that happened elsewhere in the Balkans following the break-up of Yugoslavia, but came close to civil war. Rebels staged an uprising in early 2001, demanding greater rights for the ethnic-Albanian minority. After months of skirmishes, EU and NATO support enabled the authorities to strike a peace deal.

International recognition of the country's split from Yugoslavia in 1991 was held up over Greek fears that its name implied territorial ambitions toward the northern Greek region of the same name. In 2018 the then Republic of Macedonia and Greece agreed on a new name - the Republic of North Macedonia - which came into force in February this year.

Its evangelical church is one the fastest growing in Europe and is reaching across the many boundaries that exist in the nation's society to minister to others. With the nation traditionally Orthodox, it can be difficult for new religious groups to become established. However, there is a growing focus on oneness in Christ, which includes pastors' prayer networks and citywide worship events. We will read and pray about two of these prayer networks tomorrow.

- Pray for an unprecedented movement of the Holy Spirit in the North Macedonian Orthodox church that leads to more outreach and healing across the many boundaries that exist between the different people groups.

- With its new name of North Macedonia, let's pray for this nation to put God first and flow in God's blessings, bringing better lives for all, including its youth.
- Pray for the Balkan Call Prayer Conference beginning today.

Source: <https://www.prayercast.com/macedonia.html>

Friday 8th November

Places of prayer and outreach in North Macedonia

We know that every movement of Muslims to Christ has begun as a result of fervent, intercessory prayer. Frontiers workers in this country have asked for prayer for:

MakHOP - The Macedonia House of Prayer, known as MakHOP, was established in 2011 to raise up a people who would worship Jesus in a region where He is not well known or understood. They have weekly prayer times to seek and worship Jesus and times of intercession to pray for unreached peoples in the nation and region.

Watch a powerful three-minute video by MakHOP [here](#)

You can find out more at their website: www.makhop.org and can follow them on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HouseOfPrayerSkopjeMAKHOP/>

- Pray for North Macedonian national believers to join in prayer and leading prayer at MakHOP.
- Pray for more Houses of Prayer to be raised up around North Macedonia.
- Pray for a current effort to start up a house of prayer in Ohrid.
- Pray for more financial partners to invest in MakHOP.
- Pray for more prayer teams and interns to join other believers at MakHOP.
- Pray for the church in North Macedonia to become a dwelling place for God, so that believers can go out and reach people with His love and compassion.

The Qeriazi Centre is a meeting place to serve and minister to Albanians in North Macedonia who are open to the gospel and want to learn more. Several meetings are scheduled each week, some are for music or English language and others to teach the scriptures and for discipleship.

- Pray for spiritual protection over this centre and all who are leading and attending.
- Pray for more Albanians to find their way to the centre.
- Pray for guidance for those who are working there, to know how to minister to people.
- Pray for more workers to come from the churches in Albania and Kosovo to join in with this work.
- Pray for the Balkan Call Prayer Conference today.

Saturday 9th November

Albania

Population: 2.9 million

Muslim: 59%

Albania, a mountainous state on the Adriatic Sea, won its independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1912 but was then conquered by Italy in 1939. The Communist regime that ruled from 1944 until the early 1990s left Albania economically, morally and spiritually demoralised.

Today, Albania remains one of Europe's poorest countries; hindered by inadequate energy and transportation infrastructure, corruption and high emigration rates.



Albania is still struggling to transition from Communism's closed market to a more open, modern economy. Agriculture accounts for half of all employment, but is primarily limited to subsistence farming and small family plots that lack modern equipment. Energy shortages, due to reliance on antiquated hydropower, contribute to Albania's poor business environment and failure to attract foreign investors.

The majority of Albanians are Muslim - a legacy of its centuries of Ottoman rule. Approaching 20% of the population are Christians, divided mainly between the Orthodox and smaller Catholic denominations. Religious freedom granted by the government in 1998 has helped the Albanian church to mature. Due in part to more strategic ministry, in recent years the number of evangelicals has miraculously grown from zero to several thousand.

Earlier this year, Mission Network News reported on an initiative where children's Bible stories translated into Albanian (and Macedonian) are being put onto solar-powered MP3 devices ready to distribute. Demand for them from Albania is already outstripping supply. You can read the article [here](#).

- Pray for Christians to seize opportunities available through religious freedom to minister to Muslims, both there and in neighbouring North Macedonia.
- Pray for Muslim background believers to be good witnesses to fellow Muslims.
- Today Albanians struggle for hope and a future. Let's ask God to bless this country and bring prosperity to this land.
- Let's pray for sufficient resources to meet the demand for children's devotionals in Albania.
- Finally, pray for this last day of the Balkan Call Prayer Conference.

Did you know? Albania's nickname is 'Land of the Eagles'.

Sources: <http://prayercast.com/albania.html> and mnonline.org/news/connecting-hearts-in-albania/