



Dear young people,

We are still receiving many inquiries about who can attend the upcoming Global Youth Leadership Congress in Germany. I understand that many of you are disappointed because you were looking forward to this event, only to learn that the focus has changed, and it is now only for youth leaders. For this I am deeply sorry! We know the reasons for the change will not diminish your disappointment you deserve some answers so here are a few of them.

First, most divisions and some unions already hold Youth Congresses in their region, so, opportunities for young people to experience a congress are already in place. Does this mean we will never have another Global Youth Leadership Congress? No, it simply means that we felt this need was already being well met by the divisions and unions.

Second, the IMPACT event that will take place during the General Conference Sessions will be organized for youth and young adults, so, the GC IMPACT is a global youth congress that meets every five years. The next GC IMPACT will be held in Indianapolis in 2020.

Thirdly, what we do not have but desperately need is a Congress for Youth and Young Adult Leaders! Our youth leaders around the world also needs to be encouraged, equipped and empowered to lead youth more effectively.

Again, while we know this does not make it any easier, we wanted to offer you an explanation and let you know we are going to do everything in our power to protect you from this kind of disappointment in the future.

May God bless each of you! On behalf of the General Conference Youth Department and the 13 Divisions around the world, we love you and are praying daily that God will raise up an army of Adventist young people to finish the work of proclaiming the Three Angels Message around the world!

Sincerely,
Pastor Gary Blanchard
World Youth Director