

## WITTENBERG 2017

29. Internationales Seminar für Interkulturelle Seelsorge und Beratung

### **MENSCHENWÜRDE.**

**Herausforderungen für Seelsorge in interreligiösen und interkulturellen Kontexten**



29<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Intercultural Pastoral Care and Counselling

### **HUMAN DIGNITY.**

**Challenges for care and counselling in interreligious and intercultural contexts**

**Ort / Venue: Leucorea; Collegienstraße 62, 06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany**

**2 - 7 September 2017**

## ISSUES AND PROCESSES OF THE SEMINAR

When Martin Luther 500 years ago in the small university town of Wittenberg fought against religious paternalism, dependency and exploitation, he put a reformatory movement in transition. He stood up for personal self-determination in a trusting relationship to God. In his theological reflection, the freedom of humans and of service to others belonged together.

With this International Seminar in Wittenberg we would like to join the renewed impetus of the Reformation and ask what challenges we face in today's time for intercultural and interreligious care and counselling.

There is growing evidence that the world's problems can no longer be isolated to specific regions. All states and societies are involved, no matter where the problems appear. The more closely we mankind is connected economically and technologically, the more connected are the issues and problems: climate change; digitization; social and demographic changes that lead to, among others, to refugee flows; unresolved political problems that cause violence, terror, unrest and wars - nobody can escape from all that in a globalized world. It is also evident that these problems can be addressed and contained only in a joint effort across borders. But this will only succeed if common values are being established for responsible political and ethical action across cultures, ideologies and religions,.

After the enormous catastrophe of World War II the Charter of Human Rights of 1948 was proclaimed, hoping to give the international community and individual states mandatory values for more peaceful living together. As a central value the Charter refers to the "inherent dignity" of each human being.

Is still the idea of human dignity a common value beyond the borders of states, cultures and religions? How can dignity be described and executed that it becomes concrete in current social, economic and political actions? Anyway human dignity belongs not only to the people who "we" are, but above all to the others, the strangers. Human dignity is characterised by dissolving borders and demands recognition and respect for every and each human being and emphasizes that each person has to be protected. Thus human dignity is shown in relationships – and gets the value in caring for others.

Human dignity is also a challenge for pastoral care, especially for intercultural and interreligious pastoral care which always has to deal with the others and the stranger. Personal encounters of pastoral counselling are always processes of mutual recognition and appreciation – even if these people are completely different. No matter in what situation people are involved, no matter which pictures of themselves they have and what stories they tell, the process of recognition and appreciation remains fundamental. Pastoral relationship in difference is an example, how to live together and how to learn living together in variety and diversity. When pastoral care and counselling takes its task to respect the dignity of human beings and to promote dignity, it appeals into the public space of society.

Pastoral care and counselling as "promotion of becoming humane" is always asking, from which anthropological, spiritual and religious sources human dignity is fed and how it communicates with the ethical convictions and one's own belief and faith..

**The languages of the Seminar are English and German.  
Translation will be provided.**

## WORKING METHODS OF THE SEMINAR

**Worship - prayers - devotions** give the Seminar a spiritual frame. The participants will experience common expressions of faith and the differences of faith communities.

Worship, prayers and devotions offer the opportunity to go into relationship to yourself, to others and to the divine power beyond ourselves. They are designed by members of different denominations and religions. Through openness of the participants for foreign traditions, rituals and symbols, through sensing the own spiritual need and through the willingness to be irritated, spaces for spiritual experiences will be opened. (Responsible: *Ursula Harfst*)

**Intercultural Forum:** The forums open the daily content-related work. They form an open space (similar to a "marketplace") for exchange of experiences, opinions and ideas using a narrative biographical manner. The core is telling about oneself. Some group-members introduce their personal experiences and opinions to the day's topic in the form of an interview. That will stimulate the plenary to talk about their own experiences, to express opinions and to get into contact to each other. The main focus will be to reflect on different aspects of human dignity (Moderator: *Helmut Weiss*).

**Lectures and presentations** give impetus to the respective topics of the day in the plenum.

### Workshops

The workshops are accompanied and moderated by moderators.

The **individual workshops 1-5** will present specific issues related to human dignity and discuss them in depth. Please notice: These workshops take place only once.

**Workshop A:** *The practice of pastoral care and counselling:* This continuous workshop (three sessions in the same group) will reflect pastoral case work and reflect and discuss, how the value and the dignity of persons was supported in this specific situation. The aim is to learn for practice in care and counselling. Invited are persons who are interested in pastoral *practice*. (Moderation: N.N.)

**Workshop B:** Meditation – Exercising Human Dignity

If feasible the workshops are invited to write down the results of their work and to pass them on to the Seminar organisers so that they may be able to extract a substantive evaluation.

### Reflection Group

The reflection groups have the task of looking at the respective day with the following questions and discussing them:

- What was new, meaningful and important for me today?
- Were the contributions today helpful for my own work in care and counselling?
- At the end: Were the working methods of the Seminar helpful for my own learning?

All group members are invited to participate in the discussion. The moderators will take care, that all participants have enough space for their contributions.

As the groups work process-oriented, it is essential that the participants stay in the same group. The composition of the groups will be done by the organisers before the Seminar. The following persons are invited as moderators / facilitators: *Klaus-Dieter Cyranka; Hildegard Hamdorf-Ruddies; Christa Weiß*

**Guided tours: Inspiring places in Wittenberg**

**Watching the film „Luther“ – discussion of the film**

### Poster-Presentations

A poster presentation is a visual display of completed or in-progress work. Posters will be on display during the whole Seminar to offer attendees enough time to interact. But there will be dedicated poster sessions. Presenters are asked to be available for the hour designated in the Seminar schedule for Poster Viewing. During the Poster Session the presenting author is expected to stand by the poster and present it or answer to the questions coming from the Seminar participants. Posters



should be taken down at the end of the Seminar. (See further information in the appendix to the registration.)

**General Assembly of SIPCC:** elections - activities – plans – publications

### **SEMINAR MONITORING AND EVALUATION: SIPCC-STUDY GROUP**

*Dr. Dominiek Lootens, B / Ursula Harfst, D / Franziska Boury, D / Hannelore Deichmann, D / Ursula Hecker, D / Archiboldy Lyimo, Tanzania / Bernd Kähler, D / Dr. Daniela Majercakova, Slovakia / Prof. Brenda Ruiz, Nicaragua / Klaus Temme, D / Sabine Temme, D*

### **SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD OF THE SEMINAR: SIPCC RESEARCH NETWORK**

*Prof. Dr. Mary Esperandio, Brazil / Dr. Karl Federschmidt, D / Prof. Dr. Kathleen Greider, USA / Prof. Dr. Emmanuel Lartey USA – Ghana / Prof. Dr. Daniel Louw, South Africa / Prof. Dr. Daniel Schipani, USA – Argentina / Prof. Dr. Ronaldo Sathler-Rosa, Brazil / Prof. Dr. Solomon Victor, India / Prof. Dr. Cemal Tosun, Turkey / Prof. Dr. Martin Walton, Netherlands / Helmut Weiß, D*

### **LUTHERSTADT WITTENBERG – THE LOCATION OF THE SEMINAR**

Wittenberg is located in the eastern part of Germany, directly on the Elbe River, about halfway between Berlin and Leipzig. The small town with about 2,000 inhabitants at that time was in the 16th century an important place in Germany. From there emanated important political, cultural, historical, artistic and especially theological impulses and activities. At the University of Wittenberg Martin Luther, Philipp Melanchthon and others promoted the reform of the Catholic Church and initiated a major new faith movement from 1517 on.

After a turbulent history a number of buildings of the city still bear witness of the new spirit of that time and invite to reflect anew Christian faith and religion. Today Wittenberg has about 46,000 residents. In 2017, the city is at the center of the commemoration of the events 500 years ago that led to the Reformation.



Market place in Wittenberg

## LEUCOREA – THE VENUE OF THE SEMINAR

The ancient Wittenberg university "Alma Mater Leucorea" (lat .: white mountain) was founded in 1502 and in its time surpassed all other universities in Germany. The most important scholars of this time studied and taught in the University of Leucorea. Today, the Leucorea Foundation is part of the University of Halle - Wittenberg.

Since 1994, the Leucorea has cultivated scientific work at the historic site of the University of Wittenberg. It uses the former university buildings as a modern research and conference center. Scientific conferences and seminars find an excellent place here: the seminar and conference rooms offer space for exchange and intensive learning. Participants will find accommodation and meals in the house.

Leucorea encourages and organizes research into the history of the Reformation and the cultural effects of the Reformation to the present day. Other events attract many visitors.

The foundation performs its tasks in cooperation with other institutions as well as with partner universities and other scientific institutions.



## Programme of the Seminar

### THURSDAY, 31 August; 2017

Arrival of the Executive Committee (EC) of SIPCC

### FRIDAY, 1 September, 2017

Meeting of the EC

### SAMSTAG, 2. September 2017

- 9.00 – 12.00 Continuing: Meeting of the EC
- Arrival of the participants – registration in Leucorea, assignement to the hotels
- 14.00 Meeting of the presenters, moderators and the steering committtee  
Information and last details
- 15.00 – 16.00 Coffee / Tea / Cake
- 16.30 **Opening**  
Welcome by the organisers and co-operating partners  
Welcome by the members of the SIPCC Executive Committee
- 17.00 The venue is introduced – The participants encounter each other  
(*Dominiek Lootens* and *Ursula Harfst*)
- 18.30 Dinner
- 20.00 **Intercultural Forum:** Faith and Human Dignity

### SUNDAY, 3 September: 2017

**Theme of the day:**  
***The Dignity of each human being***

#### **Breakfast in your hotel!!**

- 8.30 – 8.50 Devotion
- 10.00 **Visiting the service in the „Schlosskirche“ - the place of Martin Luther’s grave**
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Reflections on the service**  
in the reflection-groups (the first meeting of the reflection-groups)
- 12.45 Lunch

15.00 –16.30 Presentation and discussion

*Prof. Dr. Anne Steinmeier, University Halle/Wittenberg*

Human Dignity – God's un-ending history with us

16.30 Coffee / Tea

17.00 - 18.30 **Workshops**

- 1) Sources in Christianity for Human Dignity and Human Rights – *Dr. Hartmut Ruddies*, lecturer at the University Halle/Wittenberg for Systematic Theology
- 2) Human Dignity of women: *Prof. Brenda Ruiz*; Nicaragua
- 3) Human Dignity in a secular context:- *Reinhard Feuersträter* – Hildegard Hamdorf-Ruddies, Halle/Saale
- 4) Human Dignity of migrants – *Dr. Astrid Giebel*, Diakonie Deutschland, Berlin
- A) The practice of intercultural and interreligious care and counselling I
- B) Meditation –Exercising Human Dignity

18.30 Dinner

20.00 Poster Presentations

## MONDAY, 4 September, 2017

**Theme of the day:**

***Human Dignity and Human Rights as global challenges***

**Breakfast in your hotel!!**

8.30 – 8.50 Devotion

9.00 – 10.00 **Interreligious Forum:**

Coffee / Tea

10.30 -12.30 **Presentation and discussion:**

*Prof. Dr. Ulrike Wagner Rau*, University of Marburg

*N.N.*

12.45 Lunch

15.00 –16.30 **Workshops:**

- 1) Sources of Human Dignity in Judaism
- 2) The Human Dignity of aging people: *Rev. Ute Rohkar*, Göttingen, Germany
- 3) Human Dignity in the context of the Cast system in India
- 4) *Prof. Dr. Mary Esperandio*, Brasil
- 5) Human Dignity and Human Rights in the context of Africa
- A) The practice of intercultural and interreligious Care and Counselling II
- B) Meditation –Exercising Human Dignity

Coffee / Tea

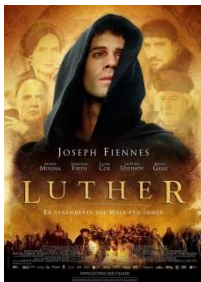
- 17.00 - 18.30    **Reflection-groups**
- 18.30            Dinner
- 20.00            **General Assembly of SIPCC**  
All participants are invited to come

## TUESDAY, 5 September, 2017

**Theme of the day:**  
***Violations of Human Dignity – Care and counselling and social commitment***

### Breakfast in your hotel!!

- 8.30 – 8.50      Devotion
- 9.00 – 10.30    **Intercultural Forum**  
Rev.Dr. Schneider, regional Bishop of the Evangelical Church of Central Germany)
- 11.00 – 12.30   Commitment for Human Dignity:  
                      *Shaun Grech*, founder and Director of the „Critical Institute“ in Guatemala.  
                      *N.N.*
- Coffee / Tea
- 12.45            Lunch
- 15.00            Guided tours in Wittenberg for smallgroups  
                       Schlosskirche –            Beginning of the Protestant Reformation  
                       Stadtkirche –            A new understanding of preaching and Holy Communion  
                       Melanchtonhaus –      The importance of education  
                       Lutherhaus –            Luther and his friends  
                       Lutherhaus –            New images of women  
                       Cranachhaus –          New images of seeing humans  
                       *(preparation and coordination: Klaus-Dieter Cyranka and Hildegard Hamdorf-Ruddies)*
- 18.30            Dinner in venue
- 20.00            Film „Luther“ and discussion



Luther – a US – German – British coproduction by Eric Till (2003)  
 "Despite relatively modest production means an atmospheric, largely differentiated look in a century of spiritual-religious as well as social upheavals that manifest themselves in the teachings of Luther. Dramatically, sometimes a bit bumpy, the solid photographed, rigorously staged and to the supporting roles convincingly interpreted film stimulates for discussion. "[LEXIKON DES INTERNATIONALEN FILMS](#)



## WEDNESDAY, 6 September; 2017

**Theme of the day:**

***Care and counselling: Encountering each other in Dignity***

**Breakfast in your hotel!!**

8.30 – 8.50 Devotion

9.00 – 10.00 **Interreligious Forum:** Kunst und Menschenwürde

Coffee / Tea

10.30 – 12.30 **Presentations and discussion:**

*Prof.em. Dr. Ottmar Fuchs, University Tübingen, Germany*

*N.N.*

*N.N.*

12.45 Lunch

15.00 – 16.30 **Workshops:**

- 1) Sources of Human Dignity in Islam
- 2) Human Dignity in South Africa
- 3) Dying with Dignity: *Rev. Dr. JP Sabbithi, USA / Hawaai*
- 4) Anti-racism training. The "Black lives matter" movement in the USA:: *Dr. Jane Heckles, Claremont, California, USA*
- 5) Islamic, Christian and Russian Telefoncrisis Line in Berlin
- A) The practice of intercultural and interreligious Care and Counselling II
- B) Meditation – Exercising Human Dignity

16.30 Coffee / Tea

17.00 - 18.30 **Reflection-groups**

19.30 Dinner- Celebration - Thanksgiving

## THURSDAY, 7 September; 2017

**Theme of the day:**

***Human Dignity as Challenge for care and counselling***

**Breakfast in your hotel!!**

8.30 – 8.50 Devotion

9.00 – 10.30 **Interreligious Forum:** Reflections on the Seminar

Coffee / Tea

11.00 - 11.45 **Reflection-groups:** Individual evaluation of the Seminar

12.00 – 12.45 **Plenum:** Evaluation of the Seminar

Invitation Seminar 2018  
Spiritual closing

12.45 Lunch and Ending of the Seminar

## VENUE

### LEUCOREA

Foundation of the  
Martin-Luther-University Halle–Wittenberg  
Collegienstraße 62, 06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg  
[www.leucorea.de](http://www.leucorea.de)



## COSTS

**Per person** (fee, accommodation, food, rooms etc.):

<input type="checkbox"/> Two bed room	650,00 €
<input type="checkbox"/> Single room	700,00 €

Accommodation is reserved in  
Leucorea  
Hotel Acron am Bahnhof  
Hotel am Schwanenteich

The way from the two hotels is about 7 min. from the venue by foot.

Daily visitors per day 100,00 €

- ☐ Sunday, 3 September / ☐ Monday, 4 September  
☐ Tuesday, 5 September / ☐ Wednesday, 6 September

**Please register with the registration-form**

**Donations for sponsoring participants are welcome!**

**The registration is valid only after transferral of the full payment.**

Refunding for payed costs is not possible.

If you need fiancial support, please apply in written form.

## ANMELDUNG / REGISTRATION

29. Internationales Seminar für Interkulturelle Seelsorge und Beratung

### **MENSCHENWÜRDIGKEIT.**

Herausforderungen für Seelsorge in interkulturellen und interreligiösen Kontexten

*29<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on Intercultural Pastoral Care and Counselling*

### **HUMAN DIGNITY.**

*Challenges for care and counselling in intercultural and interreligious contexts*

**Ort / Venue: LEUCOREA**, Stiftung des öffentlichen Rechts an  
der Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg  
Collegienstraße 62, 06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg

**2 - 7 September 2017**

- ☐ Bitte senden Sie mir weitere Informationen / *Please send me further information*
- ☐ Hiermit melde ich mich für das 29. Internationale Seminar 2017 in Wittenberg, Deutschland verbindlich an (bitte deutlich schreiben)  
*Hereby I register for the 29th International Seminar 2017 in Wittenberg, Germany (please print)*

.....  
Name

Rufname / *First Name*

.....  
Straße / *Street*

PLZ - Ort / *Zip-Code- City*

Land / *Country*

.....  
Telefon / *Telephone*

Fax

e-mail

.....  
Beruf / *Occupation*

Arbeitsgebiet / *Working Field*

.....  
Datum / *Date*

Unterschrift / *Signature*

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Bitte diesen Bogen ausgefüllt zusenden: / *Please send this form to:*

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