

**sipcc**  
society  
for *intercultural*  
pastoral care  
and counselling  
  
Gesellschaft  
für *interkulturelle*  
Seelsorge  
und Beratung e. V.

  
**SEELSORGE SEMINAR**  
Evangelische Kirche in Mitteldeutschland  
  
Seminary for Pastoral Care  
Evangelical Church in Central  
Germany

  
**EVANGELISCHE KIRCHE  
IN MITTELDEUTSCHLAND**  
  
Probstsprengele Halle-Wittenberg  
Evangelical Church in Central Germany  
Diocese Halle-Wittenberg

## 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 the 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 emphasises 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*).

**Interreligious Forum:** The forums continue the day and introduce to the theme of the day. They form an open space (similar to a "marketplace") for exchange of experiences, opinions and ideas using a narrative biographical approach. 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, roundtable talks 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 1-4** will present specific issues related to Human Dignity and discuss them in depth. Please notice: These workshops take place only once.

**Workshop A: Intercultural Exercises:** This ongoing workshop (three sessions in the same group) will provide interactive exercises, in which Human Dignity of oneself and of others will be practiced. Since this workshop is process oriented it is important to participate on all three days. (Moderation: *Niomi Kelly* and *Dominiek Lootens*).

### Reflection Group

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

- What was new, meaningful and important for me today concerning "human dignity"?
- Were the contributions today helpful for my own work?

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.

Moderators / facilitators:

#### **Gruppe 1)**

*Klaus-Dieter Cyranka + Jochen Schmachtel*

#### **Gruppe 4)**

*Frank Mächt + Helmut Weiss*

#### **Gruppe 2)**

*Hildegard Hamdorf-Ruddies + Christa Weiß.*

#### **Gruppe 5)**

*Greet Scheers + Herman Vanarwegen*

#### **Gruppe 3)**

*Margret Noltensmeier + George Melel*

**Afternoon in Wittenberg:** Find the details in the programme Tuesday, 5 September, 2017

### Poster-Presentations

**All participants are invited to present posters.**

A poster presentation is a visual display of completed work or work in-progress. The posters give the viewer the chance to deal with the presented theme. Posters will be on display during the whole Seminar to offer the participants enough time to interact. The participants of the Seminar will be invited to approach the authors and to start a discussion with them.

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

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

*Ursula Harfst, D \* / Dr. Dominiek Lootens, B \* / Archiboldy Lyimo, Tanzania \* / Prof. Dr. Brenda Ruiz, Nicaragua \* / Klaus Temme, D \* / Julius Pudule, South Africa \* / Margret Noltensmeier, D \* / Greet Scheers, B \* / Herman Vanarwegen, B \* / Rhoda Chamshana, Tanzania \* / Franziska Boury, D / Jan Michels, B / Immad Haddad, Palestine / Daniel Smith, England / Dr. David Ito, Japan*

\*will be present

### 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 Larthey USA – Ghana / Prof. Dr. Daniel Louw, South Africa / Prof. Dr. Daniel Schipani, USA – Argentina \* / Prof. Dr. Ronaldo Sathler-Rosa, Brazil / Prof. Dr. Cemal Tosun, Turkey / Prof. Dr. Solomon Victus, India / Prof. Dr. Martin Walton, Netherlands / Helmut Weiß, D\**

\*will be present

### 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.



### 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

## SATURDAY, 2 September; 2017

- 9.00 – 12.00 Continuing: Meeting of the EC
- Arrival of the participants – registration in Leucorea, assignment to the hotels
- 14.00 Meeting of the presenters, moderators and the steering committee  
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  
The venue is introduced (Dr. Schröter)
- 17.00 The participants encounter each other (*Dominiek Lootens* and *Ursula Harfst*)
- 18.30 Dinner
- 20.00 **Interreligious Forum:** Faith and Human Dignity

## SUNDAY, 3 September: 2017

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

### Breakfast in your hotel!!

- 10.00 Service in the „Schlosskirche“
- 11.30 **Guided tour of the Schlosskirche:** the grave of Martin Luther – the door of the 95 Theses and the beginning of Reformation
- 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 in the context of the cast system in India: *Arul Dhas*. Vellore, India
- A) Intercultural exercises I: *Niomi Kelly*, Lecturer in education for teachers, Antwerp and *Dr. Dominiek Lootens*, lecturer at UCSIA, Antwerp, Belgium

18.30 Dinner

20.00 - 21.30 Reflection groups

## 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:**

10.00 Coffee / Tea

10.30 -12.30 **Presentation and discussion:**

*Prof. Ulrike Wagner Rau*, University Marburg  
Human Dignity in Christian perspective and the meaning for care and counselling

12.45 Lunch

15.00 –16.30 **Workshops:**

- 1) Sources of Human Dignity in Judaism : *Rabbi Daniel Amnon Smith*, London
  - 2) Women dignity in the Maasai society: Female Genital Mutilation, *Rev. Rhoda Chamshana*, Tansania
  - 3) Anti-racism training. The "Black lives matter" movement in the USA:: *Dr. Jane Heckles*, Claremont, California, USA
  - 4) The Human Dignity of aging people: *Rev. Ute Rokahr*, Göttingen, Germany including students from Uni Göttingen
- A) Intercultural exercises II: *Niomi Kelly*, Lecturer in education for teachers, Antwerp and *Dr. Dominiek Lootens*, lecturer at UCSIA, Antwerp, Belgium

Coffee / Tea

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

## TUESDAY, 5 September, 2017

**Theme of the day:**  
***Human Dignity and the demand for self-determination***

### Breakfast in your hotel!!

- 8.30 – 8.50 Devotion
- 9.00 – 10.30 **Intercultural Forum:** self-determination – challenges for the churches  
*Rev. Dr. Johann Schneider*, regional Bishop of the Evangelical Church of Central Germany
- 10.30 Coffee / Tea
- 11.00 – 12.30 **A Dialogue:** Self-determination and Human Dignity as challenges  
*Shaun Grech*, founder and Director of the „Critical Institute“ in Guatemala.  
*Jan Steel*, Deacon and Assistant to the bishop of Brügge, Belgium
- Coffee / Tea
- 12.45 Lunch
- 14.30 – 15.30 Three places in Wittenberg (in small groups)  
Lutherhaus – Luther - his friends - the self-determination of Käthe von Bora  
  
Stadtkirche – A new understanding of the Holy Communion – the self-determination of the believers  
  
Melanchtonhaus – self-determination of persons through education
- 16.00 – 17.30 **360° - Panorama LUTHER 2017 by Yadegar Asisi**

Yadegar Asisi, born in Vienna as son of Persian parents. He grew up in Saxony, lives in Berlin. He has worked as an artist in many places of the world. He describes himself as an atheist, but has intensively occupied himself with the figure of Martin Luther and the effects of reformation. "For me the meaning of the legacy of Martin Luther is his demand for self-determination." The panorama wants that the viewer becomes immersed into the events of that time. The scenes want to challenge each person to discover oneself and his/her reactions in the present.

*(Preparation and coordination: Klaus-Dieter Cyranka and Hildegard Hamdorf-Ruddies)*



- 18.30 Dinner in venue
- 20.00 - 21.30 Reflection groups

### 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:**  
 Coffee / Tea
- 10.30 – 12.30 **Presentations and discussion:**  
*Prof.em. Dr. Ottmar Fuchs, University Tübingen, Germany*  
*Rochelle Robbins; California*  
*N.N. The Islamic Faith Community in Austria*
- 12.45 Lunch
- 15.00 –16.30 **Workshops:**
- 1) Sources of Human Dignity in Islam, *N.N. The Islamic Faith Community in Austria*
  - 2) Counselling in a Buddhist context: practice of Human Dignity in Myanmar; *Nant Thazin Htwe and Su Myat Htet, Counselling Centre Yangon, Myanmar*
  - 3) Human Dignity of migrants: *Dr. Astrid Giebel, Diakonia Germany, Berlin*
  - 4) About the cooperation of Islamic, Christian and Russian telephone crisis line in Berlin: *Imran Sagir, director of Muslim telephone crisis line (MuTeS); Tatjana Michalak, Telephone Doweria; Rev. Uwe Müller, Telephone crisis line, all in Berlin, Germany.*
- A) Intercultural exercises II: *Niomi Kelly, Lecturer in education for teachers, Antwerp and Dr. Dominiek Lootens, lecturer at UCSIA, Antwerp, Belgium*
- 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 – evaluation and future activities**

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

- 8.30 – 8.50 Devotion
- 9.00 – 10.00 **Interreligious Forum:** Reflections on the Seminar
- 10.00 Coffee / Tea
- 10.30 - 12.00 **Reflection-groups:** Individual evaluation of the Seminar
- 12.00 – 12.45 **Plenum:** We go into the future –Human Dignity and care and counselling
- Invitation Seminar 2018  
Spiritual closing
- 12.45 Lunch and Ending of the Seminar

## **E N U E**

### **LEUCOREA**

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



## **C O S T S**

**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 € |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 3 September / <input type="checkbox"/> Monday, 4 September     |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 5 September / <input type="checkbox"/> 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 financial support, please apply in written form.

## ANMELDUNG / REGISTRATION

29. Internationales Seminar für Interkulturelle Seelsorge und Beratung

### **MENSCHENWÜRDE.**

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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