

Bonner Querschnitte

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Phone: +49 / 4106 / 804806; Fax: +49 / 4106 / 804807

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BQ 459 – No. 64/2016

The World Evangelical Alliance introduces its new leadership structure to global denominations in Rome

Rolf Hille honored for his ecumenical efforts



The General Secretaries with Pope Francis; in the center: The Pope greets Thomas Schirmacher © L'Osservatore Romano

(Bonn, 20.12.2016) The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) has introduced its new leadership structure to heads of global denominations in the course of the annual meeting of the *Conference of Secretaries of Christian World Communions (CSCWC)*.

In a document from the General Secretary of the WEA, Bishop Efraim Tendero (Manila), which Thomas Schirmacher presented within the body of his report, the new WEA structure was described. According to the new structure, the executive branch

now consists of eight people, namely the general secretary, four deputies, and three "chief officers." Each of the latter is responsible for structure and organization, public relations work, or for finances, respectively. The deputy general secretaries are no longer generalists as the general secretary has been. Rather, they are specialists in the area for which they are responsible, namely in the following four areas: 1. theology, theological training, ecumenism, dialogue and religious freedom; 2. mission and education; 3. social and public engagement; and 4. contact to the 124 national alliances.

At the annual meeting, which included a meeting with Pope Francis, the WEA was represented by Thomas



Schirmacher and Johnson (at the right) during the report to the General Secretaries

A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwoonline.com

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

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Text & Technology:

Titus Vogt (ViSdP)

Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau

Phone: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06

Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07

E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de

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Schirmmacher, the Deputy General Secretary, who is also responsible for relationships with other churches, and by Thomas K. Johnson, the WEA Ambassador to the Vatican. In addition, Rolf Hille, the longstanding Ecumenical Director of the WEA, and Martin Warnecke, Thomas Schirmmacher's personal assistant, were also present.

At a dinner for promoting Christian unity, to which the Papal Council had extended an invitation, the General Secretary of the CSCWC, Ganoune Diop (Senegal), and the Chairman of the CSCWC, Martin Junge (Chile), honored departing and longstanding participants of the annual meeting, including the German theologian Rolf Hille. Hille received a plaque (Certificate of Recognition) with an acknowledgment of his many years of contributing to Christians' faithfully working together.



Tribute for Hille: from the left, Thomas Schirmmacher, Ganoune Diop, General Secretary of the CSCWC and of the Adventists, Martin Junge, President of the CSCWC and General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Kurt Cardinal Koch, Delegate of the Ecumenical Patriarch, Rolf Hille

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www.vkwonline.com

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www.hilfe-weltweit.de

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www.bucer.de/ilfw

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www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirmmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

Original text of the acknowledgment for Rolf Hille:
The Conference of Secretaries of the Christian World Communions
Recognizes with deep appreciation the lasting contributions of Prof. Dr. Rolf Hille
Who participated in the work of the Conference for many years
Bringing the voice insights and gifts of the World Evangelical Alliance
Expressing his faith and values
Sharing convictions while maintaining friendly relations and
Building bridges between himself and other traditions,
Displaying a Christ-like demeanor and attitude.
A persevering spirit in his work of cementing enduring ties within the body of Christ
has been noted with gratitude.
His life work is in itself a fulfillment of the prayer of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Downloads and Links:

- Reports and report by the WEA General Secretary Bishop Efraim Tintero and the CSCWC ([PDF](#))
- [Photo 1](#): The General Secretaries with Pope Francis; in the center: The Pope greets Thomas Schirmmacher © L'Osservatore Romano (Photo 00011_12102016)
- [Photo 2](#): Taking leave © L'Osservatore Romano (Photo 00124_12102016)

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Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau
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E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de

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- [Photo 3](#), [Photo 4](#): Schirmmacher and Johnson (at the right) during the report to the General Secretaries © BQ / Warnecke
- [Photo 5](#): Schirmmacher in conversation with Rainer Maria Cardinal Wölki (Cologne) © BQ / Warnecke
- [Photo 6](#): Tribute for Hille: from the left, Thomas Schirmmacher, Ganoune Diop, General Secretary of the CSCW and of the Adventists, Martin Junge, President of the CSCWC and General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Kurt Cardinal Koch, Delegate of the Ecumenical Patriarch, Rolf Hille © BQ / Warnecke
- [Photo 7](#): Pope Francis greeting Martin Warnecke © BQ / Warnecke
- Welcoming address by the Pope and CSCW: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2016/10/12/161012a.html>
- Members of the CSCWC: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conference_of_Secretaries_of_World_Christian_Communities / <https://berkleycenter.georgetown.edu/programs/conference-of-secretaries-of-christian-world-communities>
- History of the CSCWC: <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/church-families> (outdated)

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