

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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Schirmmacher makes his speech at the Global Christian Forum publicly available

(Bonn, 06.07.2018) Due to the criticism, that he had abandoned the doctrinal foundations of the Christian faith in favour of a purely experiential religion in a speech given in Bogotá at the Global Christian Forum, the Associate Secretary-General for Theological Concerns of the World Evangelical Alliance, Thomas Schirmmacher, has now made his speech available to the public in German and in English language.

Schirmmacher said, that therein, to be sure, he actually holds, that no theology exists without experience and that God often leads us on the right track through experiences. But that does not mean that therefore experience supercedes and governs revelation. After all, said Schirmmacher, he had led a Bible study and rested his views on Scripture and underlined, that Scripture is the highest authority in the church. In his speech in Bogotá Job and Peter



Thomas Schirmmacher during his speech © BQ/Warnecke

had been his principal witnesses, for both had only learned by God-given experiences, what had been right all along, but what had been, without the experience, concealed from them. “Job’s words, which by the way are entirely in accordance with the Evangelical cause, are my guiding principle: ‘So far my ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you as you really are.’”

Downloads and Links:

- The speech of Thomas Schirmmacher in English ([pdf](#))
- The speech of Thomas Schirmmacher in German ([pdf](#))
- [Photo 1](#): Thomas Schirmmacher during his speech (with plenary) © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 2](#): (from right to left) The Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II and Bischof Thomas Schirmmacher © BQ/Warnecke

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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.vkwonline.com

Department of Theological Concerns of World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf

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

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

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) of the World Evangelical Alliance (International Headquarter, German Branch Tübingen, EU-Office Brüssel)
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary (Bonn, Linz, Zürich, Prague, Tirana, Istanbul, São Paulo, Delhi)
www.bucer.org

missiotop – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance)
www.missiotop.org

Office of Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations of the World Evangelical Alliance

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance
www.europeanea.org

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

UN Bonn liaison for inter-religious concerns of WEA

World Evangelical Alliance – Office Bonn

SOS World (Brussels)
www.sosworld.be/page-daccueil/

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- [Photo 3](#), [photo 4](#), and [photo 5](#): Thomas Schirmmacher during his speech © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 6](#): (from right to left) Dr Frank Hinkelmann, Secretary of the International Council of WEA, and Thomas Schirmmacher © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 7](#): Lorena Rios, the Colombian governments spokeswoman on religious freedom, Edgar Castano, President of the Evangelical Alliance of Columbia (Confederación Evangélica de Colombia), Thomas Schirmmacher © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 8](#): Christine MacMillan introduces Ruth Padilla DeBorst, the second speaker for the World Evangelical Alliance © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 9](#): Thomas Schirmmacher with African delegates and the upcoming secretary of the Global Christian Forum, Casely Essamuah, and his wife © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 10](#): The upcoming secretary of the Global Christian Forum, Casely Essamuah, his wife, Thomas Schirmmacher, and his daughter © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 11](#): Thomas Schirmmacher handing an IIRF book to Lorena Rios, the Colombian governments spokeswoman on religious freedom © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 12](#), [photo 13](#), [photo 14](#), [poto 15](#), and [photo 16](#): Thomas Schirmmacher during his speech © Albin Hillert, World Council of Churches

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