

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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BQ 772 – No. 29/2023

Freedom of religion with regard to religious slaughter

Secretary General of WEA testifies in the headquarter of the EU Commission on religious slaughtering and religious freedom

(Bonn, XX.09.2023) The Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), Archbishop Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher, participated in a high-level meeting of the European Commission on the topic “Freedom of religion with regard to religious slaughter”.

The meeting took place at the headquarter of the European Commission in Brussels and was attended by politicians and representatives from Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities.

Mose Apelblat summarized the event in The Brussels Times as follows: “The European Commission organised last Thursday a conference with religious communities in the EU with focus on ritual slaughter, a sensitive issue which involves principles of religious freedom and animal welfare concerns. The conference was held in partnership with the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the UN. It brought together 100 representatives of EU Member States and other national authorities, special envoys and coordinators on combating antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred, representatives of national Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities, international organisations and independent experts.”



Archbishop Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher during his speech © BQ/Martin Warnecke



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

Business Coalition of the World Evangelical Alliance (Bonn, Hamburg)
business.worlddea.org

Evangelical Missiology, Journal of missiopot – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance)
missiopot.org

Evangelical Review of Theology (New York, Bonn)
theology.worlddea.org/evangelical-review-of-theology

Giving Hands – International Charity (Bonn)
gebende-haende.de

Global Theology Department of the World Evangelical Alliance
worlddea.org/what-we-do/global-theology/

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islaminstiute.net

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iirf.eu

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europeanea.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
worlddevangelicals.org/tc/

Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft (VKW) (Culture and Science Publ.)
vkwonline.com

WEA Global Issues Series (Bonn, Manila, New York)
global-issues-series.iirf.eu

WEA Sustainability Center
wea-sc.org

World Evangelical Alliance (WEA)

Yearbook on Religious Freedom of the Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
yearbooks.iirf.eu

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Among the speakers were:

- Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt, United States Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combating anti-semitism
- Miguel Moratinos, High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
- Nicola Beer, European Parliament Vice-President, Special envoy on combating religious discrimination
- Katharina von Schnurbein, Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life
- Judge Mr. Yannis Ktistakis, European Court of Human Rights
- Archbishop Thomas Schirmacher, Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance
- Chief Rabbi of Moscow Pinchas Goldschmidt
- Atik Ali, Chair of the Human Rights Commission of the National Forum for Cooperation of Religions in Finland
- Ariel Muzicant, President of European Jewish Congress
- Mohamed Moussaoui, President of the French Council for Muslim Religion
- Rabbi Michael Schudrich, Chief Rabbi of Poland
- Imam Salahuddin Barakat from Malmö, Sweden
- Khalid Hajji, an expert on inter-religious dialogue
- Rabbi Schlomo Elieser Hofmeister, Senior Rabbi of the Austrian Jewish community
- Fr. Manuel Barrios Prieto, General Secretary of the European Catholics Bishop's Conference (COMECE)



During the meeting © BQ/Martin Warnecke

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wea-sc.org

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Downloads and Links:

- **Photo 1:** Archbishop Thomas Schirmacher during his speech © BQ/Martin Warnecke

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- **Photo 2, photo 3, photo 4 and photo 5:** During the meeting © BQ/Martin Warnecke
- **Photo 6:** The United States Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combating anti-semitism, Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt, with the WEA Secretary General, Thomas Schirmmacher © BQ/Martin Warnecke
- **Photo 7:** Archbishop Schirmmacher with Ruben Vis of the Organization of Jewish Communities in the Netherlands © BQ/Martin Warnecke
- **Photo 8:** Archbishop Schirmmacher with Fearghas O'Beara of the European Parliamentary Research Service © BQ/Martin Warnecke
- The banner of the event: https://bucer.org/fileadmin/dateien/Dokumente/BQs/BQ700ff/BQ772/2022-10-20_FoR_slaughter.jpg
- Opening Remarks at the EU Freedom of Religion and Ritual Slaughter Conference by Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt: <https://www.state.gov/opening-remarks-at-the-eu-freedom-of-religion-and-ritual-slaughter-conference/>
- Speech of COMECE General Secretary, Fr. Manuel Barrios Prieto: <https://www.comece.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/10/COMECE-GS-speech-religious-slaughter-20102022.pdf>
- The Brussels Times, 'Freedom of religion: EU hosts conference on good practices of ritual slaughter' by Mose Apelblat: <https://www.brusselstimes.com/312183/312183>
- The Jerusalem Post, 'Urgent conference on religious slaughter to be held by European Commission' by Zvika Klein: <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-720071>
- Thomas Paul's Week 44 (2022): <https://www.thomasschirmmacher.net/podcast/thomas-pauls-week-no-44-2/>

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