

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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Christine Schirmmacher as speaker at the R20 UDHR Conference in Princeton

(Bonn, 22.01.2025) Prof. Dr. Christine Schirmmacher, an expert in Islamic Studies, took part in a conference entitled “The Future of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. An International Consultation among Senior Religious and Academic Leaders”, the so-called R20 UDHR Conference, at Princeton University (New Jersey/USA), which was held there on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the 1948 UN Charter of Human Rights.

The theme of the conference was a retrospective view of the formulation and implementation of the UN Charter of Human Rights in 1948 and a prospective view of the chances and limits of enforcing its principles in a globalized modern world.

The approximately 50 participants from all parts of the world had come together at the invitation of Princeton University's James Madison Program for American Ideals and Institutions, the Center for Shared Civilizational Values (CSCV), and the largest Islamic organization worldwide, the Indonesian Nahdlatul Ulama, as well as the movement of “Humanitarian Islam”, to discuss obstacles and resistance to the increased enforcement of human rights.

Schirmmacher also signed the “R20 Princeton Declaration” adopted by the participants, which was subsequently published by the International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF), among others. In it, the religious leaders and scholars stand behind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but also urge that its original meaning not be diluted in favor of ever new political agendas.



Christine Schirmmacher during the conference © IIRF/Thomas Schirmmacher

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

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

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

Institut für Islamfragen der Deutschen, Schweizer und Österreichischen Allianz (IfI) islaminstitut.de

International Institute for Islamic Studies (IIS) (Bonn) islaminstutute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) (Bonn, Vancouver, San José – Costa Rica) iirf.global

International Journal for Religious Freedom (IJRF) (Bonn/Toronto) ijrf.org

International Secretariat of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) ishr.org

Islam and Christianity journal.islaminstutute.net

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

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

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance europeanea.org

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

WEA book series: Global Issues Series / World of Theology Series theology.worlddea.org/global-issues
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WEA Sustainability Center wea-sc.org

Yearbook on Religious Freedom of the Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance iirf.global/jahrbuch

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Downloads and Links:

- **Photo 1** and **photo 2**: Christine Schirmmacher during the conference © IIRF/Thomas Schirmmacher
- **Photo 3**: Prof. Dr. Christine Schirmmacher and Prof. Dr. Mary Ann Glendon, Harvard Law School © IIRF/Thomas Schirmmacher
- **Photo 4**: Participants of the conference © IIRF/Thomas Schirmmacher
- **Photo 5** and **photo 6**: Princeton University © IIRF/Thomas Schirmmacher
- Report of the conference: <https://civilizationalvalues.org/?p=15603>
- The R20 Princeton Declaration: <https://bonner-querschnitte.de/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/R20-Princeton-Declaration.pdf>
- IIRF Report 2024/9: „Christianity and Humanitarian Islam: Together for Universal Norms and Rights?": <https://iirf.global/?p=4583>

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