

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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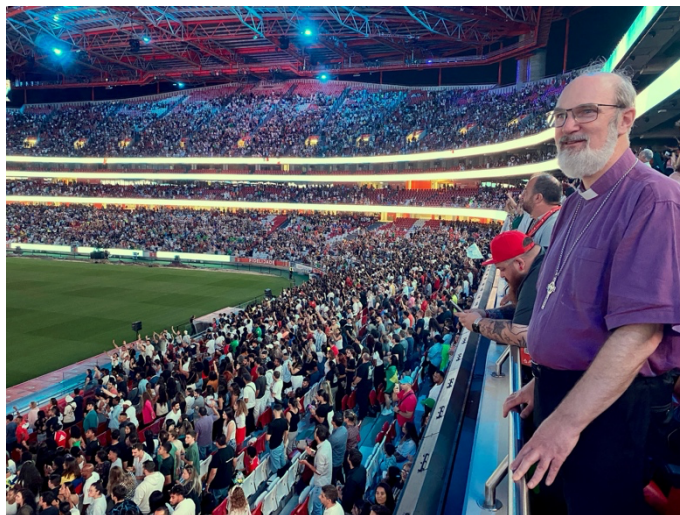
Thomas Schirmmacher Joins Heartbeats International as Official Grand Patron

Press Release by Heartbeats International

(Bonn, 20.02.2025) Heartbeats International is honored to announce that Archbishop and Professor Thomas Paul Schirmmacher, a distinguished global leader in faith-based diplomacy, theological scholarship, and religious freedom advocacy, has officially accepted the role of Grand Patron of Heartbeats International, effective November 9, 2024. This historic appointment signals a new era of global impact for the organization, which is dedicated to inspiring and reaching secular teenagers worldwide through evangelistic events, music festivals, and initiatives rooted in Christian values.

With a renowned career spanning decades in theological leadership, ecumenical engagement, and human rights advocacy, Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher brings unparalleled expertise to Heartbeats International. He served as Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) from 2021–2024, helping connect churches and ministries representing over 600 million members of various Protestant traditions. Stepping out of his role at WEA, Schirmmacher now joins Heartbeats International to further advance its mission of unifying next-generation believers, encouraging personal faith experiences, and fostering inclusive communities shaped by the Gospel.

In his capacity as Grand Patron, Prof. Dr. Schirmmacher will represent Heartbeats International in public forums, engage with global church leaders, provide strategic guidance for large-scale evangelistic efforts, and serve as a key spokesperson to



Thomas Schirmmacher overlooking the Lisbon stadium from the VIP lounge during World Youth Day 2023 © BQ/Martin Warnecke

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

Bonn Abrahamic Center for Global Justice, Peace and Sustainability

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

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

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

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

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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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strengthen the organization's worldwide network. His appointment aligns with Heartbeats International's commitment to ecumenical unity, cultural relevance, and unwavering dedication to the transformative message of Jesus Christ.

"Thomas Schirmmacher's appointment as Grand Patron of Heartbeats International marks a significant milestone," said Lucian Mustață, President and CEO of Heartbeats International. "His global perspective, academic rigor, and passion for religious freedom and human rights will amplify our efforts to connect with secular youth, inspire authentic faith, and encourage collective engagement in the world's social, cultural, and spiritual challenges. Archbishop and Professor Thomas Schirmmacher's, extensive background includes leadership roles at prestigious international institutions and churches, as well as advisory capacities with governments, religious bodies, and human rights organizations worldwide. He has authored over 100 books translated into multiple languages, developed groundbreaking documents that shape Christian witness, and received numerous honors for his commitment to theological clarity, ethics, and freedom of religion. As Heartbeats International expands its global footprint, Schirmmacher's guidance as Grand Patron will further solidify the organization's position as a leading force in non-denominational evangelistic outreach, spiritual education, and unity-building initiatives."



Lucian Mustață © Heartbeats International

This is what Conf. Univ. Dr. Cornel Boingeanu, Chairman of the Board of Heartbeats wrote to Thomas Schirmmacher:

"Dear Profesor Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher, I want to express my deep gratitude for accepting the role of Grand Patron of Heartbeats International. For me this is a Divine appointment since we been praying for many years to find



Heartbeats Festival © Heartbeats International

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someone as skillful and passionate for the young generation as you are. Heartbeats International is indeed extremely honored to have such a visionary leader with such an amazing background. As a chairman of Heartbeats in Romania, I totally support you in your role and I am open to learn from you how we can spread the truth of the Gospel especially to our young generation.

With deep appreciation, Conf. Univ. Dr. Cornel Boingeanu”

Downloads and Links:

- **Photo 1:** Thomas Schirmmacher overlooking the Lisbon stadium from the VIP lounge during World Youth Day 2023 © BQ/Martin Warnecke
- **Photo 2:** Lucian Mustață © Heartbeats International
- **Photo 3:** Heartbeats Festival © Heartbeats International
- Heartbeats International Logos: <https://bonner-querschnitte.de/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/LogoHeartbeats.zip>
- Certificate of Appointment: <https://bonner-querschnitte.de/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/BQ0836-Heartbeats-International-Certificate-of-Appointment.pdf>

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