

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Phone: +49 4106 804806 • Fax: +49 4106 804807
Email: info@bonn-profiles.net • <https://bonn-profiles.net/>

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IIRF Director teaches at the UN University for Peace on “Perspectives of Religion and Society”

(Bonn, 17.12.2025) The International Director of the International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF), Dr. Dennis P. Petri, was appointed as a Visiting Professor at the UN University for Peace (UPEACE) to teach the postgraduate course “Perspectives of Religion and Society”.

The University for Peace was established in 1980 by the United Nations General Assembly in Costa Rica. It was created to promote education, research, and training for peace, conflict resolution, and human security worldwide. UPEACE has since developed graduate programs and global partnerships focused on building sustainable peace.

The course “Perspectives of Religion and Society” is part of the 2025–2026 program of the Master of Arts in Religion, Culture, and Peace Studies. It is sponsored by the Pontifical Lateran University, the World Jewish Congress and the Muslim World League and it is the first and only program of UPEACE that has a focus on religion.

Dennis P. Petri is a political scientist, researcher, and international consultant, with extensive experience in Latin America, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. He has worked in academic and policy roles for various universities, international NGOs, and multilateral organizations. Currently, he is Professor in International Relations and Humanities at the Latin American University of Science and Technology of Costa Rica. He also lectures at the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO-UNESCO) and The Hague University of Applied Sciences. He has been a visiting scholar at the University of Amsterdam (The



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Text & Technology:
Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, 25479 Ellerau
Tel.: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06
Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07
E-Mail: info@bonn-profiles.net



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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 missiotop – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (Evangelical Alliance in Germany) missiotop.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 (IIIS) (Bonn) islam institute.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.islam institute.net

Martin Bucer Seminary (Munich, Zürich, Tirana, São Paulo, Helsinki, Istanbul) 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 Persecution and Discrimination of Christians and Yearbook Religious Freedom iirf.global/jahrbuch

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Netherlands), the Interamerican Center for Social Security Studies, Bar-Ilan University (Israel), and Regent's Park College, University of Oxford (UK). Furthermore, Petri holds the position of International Director at the International Institute for Religious Freedom, where he leads two major data collection projects: the Violent Incidents Database and the Global Religious Freedom Index (in partnership with the Religion and State Project at Bar-Ilan University). He is also the Executive Director of the Foundation Platform for Social Transformation and the founder and scholar-at-large of the Observatory of Religious Freedom in Latin America.

Downloads and Links:

- **Photo:** Dr. Dennis P. Petri © private
- Website of the University for Peace (UPEACE): <https://upeace.org/>
- Master of Arts in Religion, Culture, and Peace Studies program at UPEACE: <https://upeace.org/religion-culture-and-peace-studies/>
- Website of the International Institute for Religious Freedom: <https://iirf.global>

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