

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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BQ 419 – No. 24/2016

The Advisory Board of the Central Council of Oriental Christians in Germany elects new Leadership

(Bonn, 27.06.2016) The advisory board of the Central Council of Oriental Christians in Germany (Zentralrat für Orientalische Christen, or ZOCD) has elected new leadership in a meeting in Fulda.

The acting Chairman, Thomas Schirmmacher was elected to the position of chairman, while Volkmar Klein was elected to the position of deputy chairman.

The ZOCD advisory board includes representatives of non-Oriental churches, which assists the board of the ZOCD in an advisory capacity in legal, canonical, and content-related

questions, and the members represent the board in public. The advisory board consists of *politicians* such as Martin Neumeyer, the Commissioner for Integration for the Bavarian Government, church representatives such as Petra Bosse-Huber, the Bishop of Ministries Abroad for the Evangelical Church in Germany (Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, or EKD), and scholars such as Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Schwaigert, Honorary Professor for Islamic Studies and Eastern Churches, the University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd.

Thomas Schirmmacher is the Director of the International Institute for Religious Freedom and Moderator for Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations for the World Evangelical Alliance and as such is personally known to practically all heads of Oriental churches.

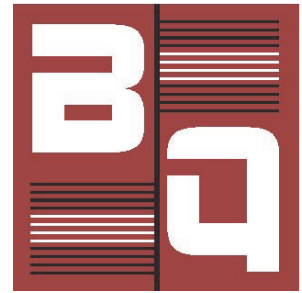
Volkmar Klein is a Member of the German Parliament (Bundestag) for the Siegen-Wittgenstein electoral district and is the Rapporteur for Developmental Policy in the Budget Committee of the German Parliament, Chairman of the Germany-Australia-New Zealand Friendship Group and is on the German Society for International



Advisory board meeting in Fulda: Advisory Board meeting in Fulda: standing, the Chairman of the ZOCD, Mike Malke, seated second and third from the left, Volkmar Klein and Thomas Schirmmacher

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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

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

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

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

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
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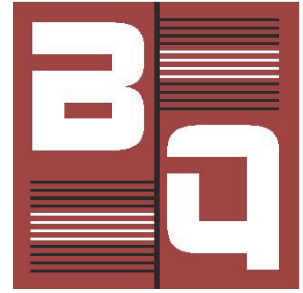
Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirmmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

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Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, or GIZ) Supervisory Board in Bonn, Germany.

Since the last meeting the following individuals have been called into the advisory board: Ute Granold, former Member of Parliament and Speaker for the Working Group on Persecuted Christians for the CDU party in Germany and the founder of the Stephen's Working Group within the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, and church council member Hans-Martin Gloel, who represents the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria in the advisory board as an advisor for ecumenism and world responsibility. His predecessor, Pastor Thomas Prieto Peral, remains a member of the advisory board as Gloel's deputy.

Members of the Advisory Board of the ZOCD

- Prof. Dr. phil. Dr. theol. Thomas Schirrmacher, Director of the International Institute for Religious Freedom, Moderator for Interchurch and Interreligious Relations for the World Evangelical Alliance (Advisory Board Chairman of the ZOCD)
- Volkmar Klein, Member of the German Parliament (Deputy Chairman of the Advisory Board)
- Hilmar Baumgarten, attorney and journalist, Albrecht Daniel Thaer-Institut für Agrar- und Gartenbauwissenschaften der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Institute for agricultural and horticultural sciences at Humboldt University in Berlin)
- Bishop Petra Bosse-Huber, Bishop of Ministries Abroad for the Evangelical Church in Germany (Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, or EKD), Head of the "Ecumenism and Ministries Abroad Department"
- Church council member Hans-Martin Gloel, who represents the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche in Bayern) in the advisory board as an advisor for ecumenism and world responsibility.
- Ute Granold, former Member of Parliament, Speaker for the German CDU party's "Persecuted Christians" Working Group
- Pastor Ernst Herbert, retired from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria
- Pastor Michaela Köger, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wuerttemberg (Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Württemberg), Specialist for Egypt
- Stephan Näder, Forum of German Catholics (Forum Deutscher Katholiken)
- Martin Neumeyer, Integration Commissioner for the State of Bavaria Government, Member of the Bavarian Legislative Assembly (Bayerischer Landtag)
- Pastor Thomas Prieto Peral, advisor for church planning issues with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria

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www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwonline.com

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

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Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
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www.islaminstitute.net

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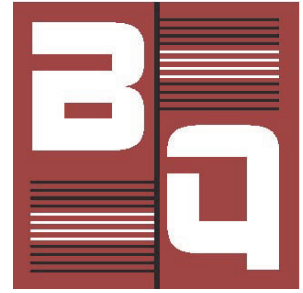
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- Pastor Gottfried von Segnitz, Chairman of the Consortium of Christian Churches in Bavaria (Arbeitsgemeinschaft christlicher Kirchen in Bayern, or ACK Munich)
- Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Schwaigert, Honorary Professor for Islamic Studies and Eastern Churches, the University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd, retired pastor

Downloads and Links:

- ZOCD Committees: <http://www.zocd.de/der-zentralrat/gremien/>
- Thomas Schirmmacher:
 - www.iirf.eu
 - www.thomasschirmmacher.info
- Volkmar Klein:
 - https://www.bundestag.de/bundestag/abgeordnete18/biografien/K/klein_volkmar/258598
 - https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volkmar_Klein
 - <http://www.volkmarklein.de>
- **Photo:** Advisory Board meeting in Fulda: standing, the Chairman of the ZOCD, Mike Malke, seated second and third from the left, Volkmar Klein and Thomas Schirmmacher

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