

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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German expert on human trafficking and freedom of religion re-elected as President of the International Society for Human Rights

(Bonn, 04.07.2016) The International Council of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) unanimously re-elected Thomas Schirmmacher for a second term as president at its two-day session in Bonn, Germany.

Karl Hafen was elected as treasurer, following long term treasurer Henriette Baroness de Payreburne, who did not run again due to her age. Schirmmacher thanked Lady de Payreburne for overseeing the finances in troubled water of the last years and for a lifelong investment into the International Society for Human Rights in different leadership positions.

The International Council accepted the ISHR Montenegro, represented by its Chair Ilir Lleshi, as a new member. It welcomed representatives of new national groups in progress in Iraq, Kurdistan and Turkey.

The renowned German human rights activist specialising on human trafficking and religious freedom Schirmmacher holds four earned doctorates, is a professor of ethics in Germany and Brazil, and holds chairs in International Development in India and in Sociology in Romania. He has given guest lectures worldwide at universities on all continents and has testified on human rights in many parliaments. His commitment to human rights protection has brought him into personal contact with presidents, prime ministers, and cabinet ministers from many countries, as well as with religious leaders such as the Pope, the Ecumenical Patriarch, and several grand muftis. The World Evangelical Alliance, which he has served for many years, represents 600 million Protestant Christians. He is the author of 98 books translated into 18 languages.

The General Secretary, the Chair of the section in Uzbekistan, Prof. Dr. Marat Zakhidov, was reappointed in a following first board meeting. Schirmmacher said that Zakhidov is the living evidence for the fact that many national sections of the ISHR



Thomas Schirmmacher in discussion with the plenary speaker Michael Brandt, Chair of the Human Rights Commission of the German Federal Parliament



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
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirmmacher.net

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

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

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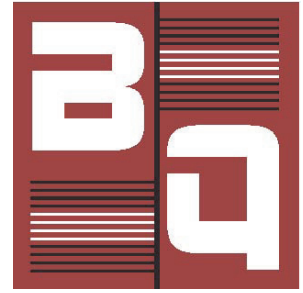
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grew out of illegal underground organizations in the era of the Soviet Union and were founded in the follow-up states of the Soviet Union after 1990. As a human rights

activist who was active and suffered under communism, and who is still active in a country where it is not without danger to speak up for *all* human rights, Zakhidov is a fitting representative for ISHR.

The International Council is made up of representatives of the national sections. The term of office is four years, with the new term running 2016-2020.

The ISHR has consultative ECOSOC-status with the UN, associate status at the Department of Public



Thomas Schirmmacher thanks Henriette Baroness de Payreburne for decades of service in leadership positions of the ISHR (right: Edgar Lamm, Chair of the German Section)

Information of the UN, and consultative status at the European Council in Strasbourg and the African Union.

The new board of the International Council of the ISHR:

President:

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher

Treasurer:

Karl Hafen (Germany)

Vice-Presidents:

Dr René Gomez (Cuba)

Marie Gerrard (Australia)

Dr Haydee Marin (Latin Committee, USA)

Dr Liubov Nemcinova (Moldavia)

Simone Schlegel (Switzerland)

Consultants to the Board:

Prof Dr Andrey Sukhorukov (Ukraine)

Dr Saadat Benanyarli (Aserbaidshan)

General Secretary:

Prof. Dr. Marat Zakhidov (Uzbekistan)

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Downloads:

- [Photo 1](#): Thomas Schirmmacher in discussion with the plenary speaker Michael Brandt, Chair of the Human Rights Commission of the German Federal Parliament

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- [Photo 2](#): Thomas Schirmmacher thanks Henriette Baroness de Payreburne for decades of service in leadership positions of the ISHR (right: Edgar Lamm, Chair of the German Section)
- [Photo 3](#): Thomas Schirmmacher welcomes the Chair of the new working group in Montenegro, Ilir Lleshi
- [Photo 4](#): Section presidents in confidential discussion
- [Photo 5](#): Some members of the newly elected international board
- [Photo 6](#): The Chairs and leaders of the Balkan Sections



Thomas Schirmmacher welcomes the Chair of the new working group in Montenegro, Ilir Lleshi

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