

## CONFIRMATION WORK IN ECUMENICAL AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May

- 14.00 **Welcome**  
Friedrich Schweitzer  
University of Tübingen/Germany  
Birgit Sandler-Koschel  
EKD, Hannover/Germany
- 14.30 **Research on Confirmation Work and its Meaning for the Practice**  
Friedrich Schweitzer
- 15.30 **Coffee Break**
- 16.00 **Does Confirmation Work Matter?**  
Kati Niemelä  
University of Helsinki/Finland
- 17.00 **The Studies on Confirmation Work: A Perspective from General Research on Youth Work**  
Wibke Riekman  
Fresenius University Hamburg/Germany
- 18.30 **Dinner**
- 19.30 **Statements from the Churches**  
Landesbischof Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm  
Chair of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany  
Prof. Dr. Michael Weinrich,  
Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)

### Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> May

- 8.45 **Morning Prayer**  
Birgit Sandler-Koschel
- 9.15 **Results from the US-Project on Confirmation Work**  
Richard R. Osmer  
Princeton Theological Seminary/USA
- 10.30 **First Round of Workshops**
- 12.00 **Lunchtime and Break**
- 14.00 **Second Round of Workshops**

### Topics of the Workshops

#### Adolescents' Religious Attitudes and their Relationship to the Church

Ida Marie Høeg Norway  
Dagmar Lagger Austria  
Kati Niemelä Finland

#### Voluntary Work

Jouko Porkka Finland  
Friedrich Schweitzer Germany  
Henrik Simojoki Germany

#### Confirmation Work and Congregations

Katherine Douglass USA  
Richard R. Osmer USA

#### Adolescents' Experience of Worship Services

Ida Marie Høeg Norway  
Muriel Koch Switzerland  
Bernd Krupka Norway

#### Workers' Perspectives

Leise Christensen Denmark  
Georg Hardecker Germany  
Thomas Schlag Switzerland

#### Confirmation Work and Youth Work

Thomas Böhme Germany  
Wolfgang Ilg Germany

#### Experiences in Central-Eastern Countries

Balázs Siba Hungary  
Eźbieta Byrtek Poland

#### Confirmation Work in Germany

Thomas Ebinger Germany  
Herbert Kolb Germany

#### A New Self-Evaluation Tool for Confirmation Work

Wolfgang Ilg Germany  
Jouko Porkka Finland

#### Swedish Young Leaders

Andreas Sandberg Sweden

### Confirmation Work in the United Methodist Church

Achim Härtner Germany  
Tobias Beißwenger Germany  
Kate Obermueller-Unruh USA

- 16.00 **Camps in Confirmation Work: The Finnish Experience**  
Jouko Porkka  
Diakonia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki/Finland
- 17.15 **Guided Tour: Reformation History in Erfurt**
- 19.30 **Reception by the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) in Cooperation with the Evangelische Kirche in Mitteldeutschland (EKM) Words of Welcome and Perspectives from the local Church**  
OKR Dr. Birgit Sandler-Koschel EKD, Hannover  
OKR Martina Klein EKM, Erfurt

### Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> May

- 8.45 **Morning Prayer**  
Finnish Team
- 9.15 **Confirmation Work and the Future of the Church**  
Thomas Schlag  
University of Zürich/Switzerland
- 10.30 **Panel: Looking Back – Looking Ahead: Reflections on International Research on Confirmation Work**  
Leise Christensen Denmark  
Achim Härtner Germany  
Bernd Krupka Norway  
Dagmar Lagger Austria  
Richard Osmer USA  
Henrik Simojoki Germany  
Moderator: Peter Schreiner  
Comenius-Institute, Münster/Germany
- 12.30 **Lunch and End of the Conference**

The year 2017 is not only of special importance for Protestantism in general but also for confirmation work. A major international research project carried out in nine European countries will make available its final results. A parallel project on confirmation work in the United States of America will also present results from their research.

The Erfurt international and ecumenical conference brings together researchers and representatives from the field of confirmation work from the different countries. Results and new insights will be presented and discussed and practical consequences will be developed in dialogue between theory and practice, academic research and church leadership, practitioners and other specialists.

Prof. Dr. Friedrich Schweitzer    Dr. Birgit Sandler-Koschel  
University of Tübingen/Germany    EKD, Hannover/Germany

Dr. Peter Schreiner  
Comenius-Institut, Münster

## International research on confirmation work



[www.confirmation-research.eu](http://www.confirmation-research.eu)

### Registration and Contact

The *registration form and detailed information* you find on [www.confirmation-research.eu](http://www.confirmation-research.eu)

Conference Costs:

140€ + Lodging (approx. 140€-200€, depending on your choice)

Contact and information:

[info@confirmation-research.eu](mailto:info@confirmation-research.eu)

### Venue and Booking Accomodation

The conference will take place in the *Augustinerkloster*, Augustinerstraße 10 in Erfurt.

You can choose between different hotels in the local area, which you have to contact yourself, e.g.,

<i>Hotel Augustinerkloster</i> 0049/(0)361/57660-0 <a href="http://www.augustinerkloster.de">www.augustinerkloster.de</a>	<i>Hotel Krämerbrücke</i> 0049 (0) 361 / 674 00 <a href="http://www.ibbhotelerfurt.com">www.ibbhotelerfurt.com</a>
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Details on the hotels and information for the booking procedure can be found on [www.confirmation-research.eu](http://www.confirmation-research.eu)

### Travel

Major Airports: *Berlin, Frankfurt and Leipzig*

Then by Train to Erfurt:

From *Berlin* by ICE in appr. 2,5 hours.

From *Frankfurt* by ICE in appr. 2,5 hours.

From *Leipzig* by ICE in appr. 1 hour.

From *Erfurt Hauptbahnhof* to the *Augustinerkloster* by *Taxi* (appr. 10 €)

May 2017

Confirmation Work in Ecumenical and International Perspectives



Evangelische Kirche  
in Deutschland

EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN



Comenius-Institut  
Evangelische Arbeitsstätte für  
Erziehungswissenschaft e.V

in Cooperation with the International  
Network for Research and Develop-  
ment of Confirmation and  
Christian Youth Work

# Confirmation Work in Ecumenical and International Perspectives

## Research Results and Practical Innovations

Representatives, Researchers and Results  
from Austria, Denmark, Finland,  
Germany, Hungary, Norway,  
Poland, Sweden,  
Switzerland  
and USA

3<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
in Erfurt/Germany  
[www.confirmation-research.eu](http://www.confirmation-research.eu)