

CALL FOR PAPERS, WORKSHOPS, POSTERS, RESEARCH GROUPS

12th - 14th
September 2018
Berlin

REDI Conference »Beyond Services – Towards Justice«

Questions on the issue of justice are posed by challenging developments in many parts of the world. Inequality and injustice are growing. In the Global South exploitation of resources, the truth about climate change and globalization continue to impact social, economic and democratic developments. In the Global North we continue to see increasing consumption, individualism and wealth inequalities. As a result, responses to phenomena such as global migration are often based on self-preservation and the protection of identity and belonging.

Globally, the 2008 financial and economic crisis has led to increased precarity in societies which has resulted in growing mistrust of democratic institutions and leadership. Yet despite the increasing disparities, we have never been more able to develop global connections than we are today. Technology allows us to understand 'the other' faster than ever before and we can become more aware of the impact of our actions and decision in all parts of the world.

Both on global, regional and local level, we still see ethnic and gender injustice as well as economic, educational, environmental and social injustice. There is an increasing body of research that points at the conditions of injustice such as the link between ethnicity, discrimination and underrepresentation in the labour market, as well as the impact of material deprivation on both health and civic participation.

The practice of Diaconia and Christian social service seeks to contribute to the combat of these global challenges. However, in many countries diaconal practice and the organisations who provide services are bound to state programs and refinanced by state schemes. How can we strive to get beyond services towards justice? What contribution can theology make to the development of social justice and Diaconia from both national and global perspectives?

Where can the intersection of research and praxis shed light on the future perspectives of Diaconia in addressing social injustice?

Keynote speakers will highlight the most pressing questions, working groups and paper sessions will give ample opportunity to discuss and look for answers together with a shared purpose.

The main themes of the conference are:

- Globalisation and Justice from a Theological Perspective
- Economics of Solidarity
- Welfare, Gender and the Crisis of Care
- Diaconal Science in Current Academic Curricula

INVITATIONS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Invitation to submit a research paper

Submissions to present papers on the conference themes are welcome. Deadline for submissions of abstracts for the paper sessions (max. 200 words) is **29 April 2018**. Abstracts should be submitted to Eurodiaconia's Research Officer Florian Tuder at florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org. Full texts of the papers should be submitted to the same address by **29 August 2018**.

Beyond the main themes, also papers, workshops and poster sessions relating to the following topics are welcome:

- Is the prophetic tradition a source for public Diaconia?
- Active citizenship as contribution to Diaconia
- Diaconia and intercultural dialogue
- The status of women in Diaconia
- Gender-based violence and Diaconia
- Racial inequality and Diaconia
- A global right to basic income?
- What is the role of personhood and identity in justice and sustainability?
- How can churches and ecumenical partners critically engage with the political space that is characterised by economic and social inequalities?
- How to effectively engage in public discourse of social policy?
- What is the place of churches and Diaconia in the public space?
- Effective engagement of people experiencing injustice
- Concepts of political power – who holds power, who are the beneficiaries of power?
- How does a prophetic voice become a political voice? What are the challenges to our identity?
- Digitalisation and Diaconia
- Service and Justice - biblical and theological perspectives
- Diaconal answers to migration
- Community development as local work for justice

Invitation to organise a workshop

REDI invites researchers and/or practitioners to join together and apply for hosting workshops during the conference. The purpose of the workshops could either be to focus on emerging research activities or to explore a specific narrower theme. Within the framework of the conference there will be time and location for groups to host a workshop of 1.5 hours. Submissions should be sent to Eurodiaconia's Research Officer Florian Tuder at florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org by **29 April 2018**. The application should include the following information:

- Name, address and email address of the main contact person
- Names and email addresses of the persons (2-4 people) responsible for the workshop
- A short introduction (max. 1 page) about the core topic of the workshop and a description of the current research related to the theme.

Invitation to organise a poster session

REDI invites young researchers and PhD students to organise a poster presentation during the conference. The purpose of the poster presentations is to present current and evolving research. Within the framework of the conference there will be the opportunity for PhD students to present a poster within a timeslot of about 1h15min. Submissions should be sent to Eurodiaconia's Research Officer Florian Tuder at florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org by **29 April 2018**. The application should include the following information:

- Name, address and email address of the person responsible for the presentation
- Names and email addresses of any other persons presenting the poster
- A short summary (max. 1 page) about the topic of the poster and a description of the current research related to the theme.

Invitation to present a research group

REDI invites researchers to organise a research group meeting during the conference to bring together researchers working on similar topics. This can be an already established group or a group to be established around a certain topic. Within the framework of the conference there will be the opportunity to meet for about 1h15min. Applications for hosting/facilitating a research group meeting should be sent to Eurodiaconia's Research Officer Florian Tuder at florian.tuder@eurodiaconia.org by **29 April 2018**. The application should include the following information:

- Name, address and email address of the main contact person
- Names and email addresses of participating persons (for established groups)
- A short introduction (max. 1 page) about the core topic of the group and a description of the current research related to the theme.