

»BEYOND SERVICES TOWARDS JUSTICE«

12th - 14th
September 2018
Berlin

The Seventh Conference for Research in Diaconia and Christian Social Practice (ReDi)

INVITATION

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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.

Globally, we still see ethnic and gender injustice as well as economic, educational, environmental and social injustice. There is an increasing body of research that proves such 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 outcomes and civic participation.

The practice of Diaconia and Christian social service seeks to combat these global challenges. However, in many countries such practice and the organisations who provide services are bound to state programs, refinanced by state schemes and thus somewhat limited in scope and outreach. 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
- The Economics of Solidarity
- Welfare, Gender and the Crisis of Care
- Diaconal Science in Current Academic Curricula

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1:00 PM **Registration and coffee**

2:00 PM **Opening of the conference**

[Ulrich Lilie](#), President Diakonie Deutschland (Germany)

[Prof. Dr. Ninna Edgardh](#), Chairperson of ReDi, University of Uppsala (Sweden)

[Prof. Dr. Johannes Eurich](#), on behalf of the conference organising team, DWI Heidelberg (Germany)

2:15 PM **Keynote lecture**

Globalisation and Justice from a Theological Perspective

[Dr. Isabel Apawo Phiri](#), Associate General Secretary for Public Witness & Diakonia at the World Council of Churches, Geneva (Switzerland)

Response

[Prof. Dr. Stephanie Dietrich](#), VID Specialized University, Oslo (Norway)

4:00 PM **Coffee Break**

4:30 PM **1st Round Workshops & paper sessions**

6:00 PM **End of academic programme**

7:30 PM **Dinner at Berlin City Mission**

Welcome and insights into the work

[Pastor Joachim Lenz](#), Director, Berlin City Mission (Germany)

Berliner Stadtmission

Lehrter Str. 68

10557 Berlin

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- 8:30 AM** **Morning prayer**
- 9:00 AM** **Keynote lecture**
- Precious and precarious: Tensions and possibilities in diaconal economics**
[Prof. Dr. Sturla Johan Stålsett](#), Professor of Diakonia, Religion and Society, Norwegian School of Theology, Oslo (Norway)
- Response**
[Prof. Dr. Ignatius Swart](#), Cape Town, University of the Western Cape (South Africa)
- 10:30 AM** **Coffee Break**
- 11:00 AM** **2nd Round of Workshops & paper sessions**
- 12:30 AM** **Lunch**
- 1:30 PM** **Poster presentations and research groups**
- 2:45 PM** **Coffee Break**
- 3:15 PM** **General Meeting of ReDi**
The International Society for the Research and Study of Diaconia and Christian Social Practice
- 4:45 PM** **Panel discussion: What is the study of Diaconia? What are key challenges for the development of Diaconia? What does the study of Diaconia do in this context (critical remarks on »Beyond service towards justice«)**
- Panellists:
[Dr. Isabelle Phiri](#), Associate General Secretary for Public Witness & Diakonia at the World Council of Churches, Geneva (Switzerland)
[Heather Roy](#), Secretary General of Eurodiaconia, Brussels (Belgium)
[Regine Buschmann](#), Head of the public relations department of the v. Bodelschwingh-Foundation, Bielefeldt (Germany)
[Mikko Malkavaara](#), Principal lecturer of Diaconia and education at Diak, Helsinki (Finland)
- Moderation: [Stephen Sirris](#) (Norway)

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5:45 PM **End of academic programme**

7:00 PM **Conference Dinner at the Evangelical Church in Germany at Gendarmenmarkt**

Welcoming Address

[Dr. Stephan Iro](#), Deputy of the Representative of the Council of the Protestant Church in Germany to the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Union

Dinner Speech

[Ulrich Lilie](#), President Diakonie Deutschland (Germany)

Award Ceremony Anders Bäckström Prize

[Dr. Annette Leis-Peters](#), VID Specialized University (Norway)

Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD)

Charlottenstr. 53/54

10117 Berlin

PROGRAMME

14th September 2018

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8:30 AM	Morning prayer
9:00 AM	3rd Round of Workshops & paper sessions
10:30 AM	Coffee Break
11:00 AM	Keynote lecture Welfare, gender and the Crisis of Care Prof. Dr. Helma Lutz , Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main (Germany) Response Prof. Dr. Ninna Edgardh , University of Uppsala (Sweden)
12:30 AM	Closing remarks Heather Roy , Secretary General of Eurodiaconia, Brussels (Belgium) Closing Prayer Prof. Dr. Ninna Edgardh , Chairperson of ReDi, University of Uppsala (Sweden)
1:00 PM	End of Conference

REGISTRATION

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Registration

Please register for the conference through the following link <https://goo.gl/forms/XzAN3swlwZiATg2C3>.

The registration deadline is 31 July 2018. Your registration will only be completed upon transferring the conference fee (see below).

Questions

For general questions please contact conference@diaconiaresearch.org

Conference Fee

The conference fee of 200 € (150 € for members of ReDi), and 50 € for students and people from the Global South includes all conference material and meals. Travel and accommodations costs need to be covered by the participants. Participants need to arrange their travel and accommodation themselves. Attached you will find a list of hotels close to the venue as well as an area map.

Please transfer the conference fee upon registration to the following account:

Universitätskasse Heidelberg

IBAN: DE 69 6005 0101 7421 5004 36

BIC: SOLADESTXXX

BW-Bank Stuttgart

The property order 78 15 633 must necessarily be specified as the purpose of the transfer.

There is a limited number of bursaries available, if you want to apply for financial support, please contact the organisers for an application form at conference@dw.uni-heidelberg.de

Venue

Diakonie Deutschland, Caroline-Michaelis-Straße, 10115 Berlin, Germany

