



INVITATION FOR THE CEC 5TH SUMMER SCHOOL ON HUMAN RIGHTS

FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF AND POPULISM

8-12 JULY 2018, LOS RUBIOS, MALAGA, SPAIN

«There shall be one standard for you; it shall be for the stranger as well as the native, for I am the LORD your God » Leviticus 24:22

The 5th CEC Summer School on Human Rights will take place from 8-12 of July at Spanish Protestant Centre Los Rubios in Malaga, Spain. This year will discuss religious freedom and populism and interlinked between rights. The project is organized in partnership with the Spanish Protestant Federation (FEREDE), the Spanish Evangelical Church and the Ecumenical Centre Los Rubios. The objective of this school is to help the participants coming from the CEC member churches pastors, priests, young theologians from churches and other religious communities to improve their skills and attitudes, help their personal and professional development when advocating for Human Rights especially Freedom of Religion or Belief in the public sphere, but also vis-a-vis the international organizations like UN, Council of Europe, OSCE and EU. This training may also help participants coming from CEC member churches and other religious organizations to be a resource for experts drafting new legislation and amendments to the legislation. The program is designed to offer different argumentation to the future religious leaders to combat populist ideas in the public sphere and create solidarity among churches and religious communities in Europe promoting their own values. As Human Rights are designed to protect human dignity of every individual and community, not particularly religion, it is also an excellent tool for the development of interreligious dialogue on the local ground. This summer school presents a non-formal way of learning and is based on academic and practical examples coming from various religious communities. By this program European churches wants to give contribution by providing the knowledge and skills to the theologians to combat violations of the rights of religious minorities and attitudes in the area of anti-Semitism and islamophobia, christianophobia, combating populism via religious structures which can lead to the major historic atrocities like genocides.

Course objectives and learning outcomes

Overall goal of the program is to understand Human Rights principles like universality of Human Rights, interlinkage between rights, read interdependence and interrelatedness, equality and anti-discrimination, rule of law and inclusion. The program will try to foster good internal communication, respect, teambuilding and strengthen interreligious and ecumenical cooperation after the course. The participants will receive the information about Human Rights and religious freedom or belief principles, values and norms, international legal instruments and mechanisms and help the participants to respect the rights of the others.



GOALS for the participants is to achieve the understanding of

- a) the importance of universality of Human Rights, what are the state obligations and the root causes of Human Rights violations (the emphasis is on Freedom of Religion or Belief)
- b) Raising awareness of theological links between religious freedom Bible, Tora and Quran and the way theology is used to increase populism (raise of anti-Semitism, islamophobia, christianophobia)
- c) Gain the knowledge about international and regional Human Rights systems
- d) Understand the Complaint procedures at UN, CoE, OSCE, EU, ECHR, ECJ when Human Rights violations occur
- e) Learning how to write complains for the above mechanisms like UN
- f) What to do on the ground when the violations of religious freedom or belief occur and how to create compassion and solidarity with the victims who experienced Human Rights violations.

If you would explore more about religious freedom before coming to the Summer School you may find the learning material in the human rights section on the CEC website and Freedom of Religion or Belief learning platform <http://www.forb-learning.org/>.

Summer School methodology

This course is designed in a way that it has 3 components:

- a) Theological
- b) Legal
- c) Practical

The material for the Summer School on Human Rights will be provided by some lecturers and practitioners in advance and after the summer school the material will be available on the CEC website. The lectures will provide the material for various sessions where the practical and theoretical knowledge will be offered in the blended course. Active engagement and participation of the participants is expected during the course. Every participant sponsored by CEC is requested to write a report when s/he is back home on how s/he applies on the ground this knowledge and the information provided during the course. Participants in receipt of subsidy funding who participate for less than 95% of the total duration will not be reimbursed, except in cases of emergency or illness. According to the well establish practice one day of the summer school, the participants won't consume the animal products as contribution to the care of creation. The coordinator for the morning prayers during the summer school is the Very Reverend Archimandrite Father Aimilianos Bogiannou from the Ecumenical Patriarchate fr.aimilianos@yahoo.com. If you wish to contribute to the prayer life during the summer school program, please get in touch with him. The fee for the summer school is 310e and it includes board and lodging only during the summer school program.

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