

## Who we are

The Conference of European Churches (CEC) is a fellowship of some 115 Orthodox, Protestant, Anglican, and Old Catholic Churches from all countries of Europe, plus 40 National Council of Churches and Organisations in Partnership. CEC was founded in 1959 and has offices in Brussels and Strasbourg.

In its commitment to Europe as a whole the Conference seeks to help the European churches to renew their spiritual life, to strengthen their common witness and service and to promote the unity of the Church and peace in the world.

CEC works on a number of issues of common concern for European churches. These include dialogue with the European political institutions, ecclesiology and theological dialogue, peacebuilding and reconciliation, human rights, economic and ecological justice, employment and social issues, bioethics, education for democratic citizenship, migration and asylum issues, and EU policy and legislation.

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# Reformation and the making of Ecclesial Identities

**A seminar organized by the Conference of  
European Churches**

**21 - 22 November 2017**

at the Ecumenical Center in Brussels



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conference of european churches



**Conference of European Churches**

Rue Joseph II 174  
1000 Bruxelles

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## Notes:

Rev. Dr Anne-Cathy Graber



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

**17:00 – 18:00 Session 6**

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*Being a Peace Church: from 16th Century Anabaptist Identity to a 21st Century Mennonite Identity - Ecumenical Dialogue as a Necessity for Ecclesial Identity*

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Anne-Cathy Graber is a member of the Chemin Neuf community (a Roman Catholic community with an ecumenical vocation/orientation) and ordained as an itinerant Mennonite pastor. She is a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and serves on the committee of the Global Christian Forum as a representative of the Mennonite World Conference.

She is also a member of the “Groupe des Dombes” and affiliated with the Paris Mennonite Centre. She holds a Doctorate in Theology (Theology and Religious Studies) from the Protestant Faculty of Theology of the University of Strasbourg, and is the author of numerous articles, essays and the book: “Marie. Une lecture comparée de ‘Redemptoris Mater’ (Jean-Paul II) et du ‘Commentaire du Magnificat’ (Luther) à la lumière des dialogues œcuméniques”, Paris, Cerf, 2017.

## Programme

**Tuesday 21 November 2017**

**14:00 Welcome** by Fr Heikki Huttunen, General Secretary of CEC

**Opening Prayer**

**14:30-16:30 Session 1**

Prof. Martin Friedrich, Study Secretary, Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)

*A common Protestant understanding of the Church. The CPCE study "The Church of Jesus Christ" and its roots in the ecclesiological thinking of Luther, Zwingli and Calvin*

Rt Rev. Dr Martin Lind, Church of Sweden, The Lutheran Church in Great Britain  
*The Hidden and the Visible God – A Lutheran Ecclesiology*

**16:30-17:00 Coffee Break**

**17:00-18:00 Session 2**

Rev Dr Valentin Wendebourg, Theological Advisor, EKD office in Brussels  
*Reformation and Ecclesial Plurality in Germany today*

**18:00 Closing Prayer**

**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

**9:15-9:30 Prayer**

**9:30-10:30 Session 3**

Prof Anne-Marie Mayer, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, KU Leuven  
*From divisive identity markers to ecumenical milestones: A Catholic Perspective*

**10:30-11:00 Coffee break**

**11:00-13:00 Session 4**

Rev Dr Jack McDonald, President of the Central Committee of the Anglican Church in Belgium  
*Richard Hooker: Anglicanism and (Non-)Ecclesiology*

Dr Arto Hämmäläinen, Chairman of the World Missions Commission/Pentecostal World Fellowship (WMC/PWF), Senior Advisor/Pentecostal European Fellowship (PEF)

*Reformation – Fostering or Impeding World Missions?*

**13:00-14:00 Lunch**

**14:00-16:00 Session 5**

Ms. Harkovich Natallia, Head of Historical Department, Cultural and Educational Centre *Ecumena*, Belarus

*The “provoked” Reformation: the process inside the Orthodox Church in the Polish-Lithuanian State (end of 16<sup>th</sup> – beginning of 17<sup>th</sup> century)*

Dr Tamara Grdzeldze, Ambassador of Georgia to the Holy See

*How we interpret one another: Orthodox and reformed in Ecumenical Dialogue*

**16:30-17:00 Coffee break**

**17:00-18:00 Session 6**

Rev Dr Anne-Cathy Graber, Mennonite World Conference

*Being a Peace Church: from 16th Century Anabaptist Identity to a 21st Century Mennonite Identity - Ecumenical Dialogue as a Necessity for Ecclesial Identity*

**18:00-18:30 Conclusions and Closing Prayer**

**Dr Tamara Grdzeldze**



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

**14:00 – 16:00 Session 5**

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*How we interpret one another: Orthodox and reformed in Ecumenical Dialogue*

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Tamara Grdzeldze is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Georgia to the Holy and Sovereign Order of Malta. She holds a D. Phil (University of Oxford), a Ph.D. (Tbilisi State University), and a Doctorate honoris causa (University of Bern).

Until becoming Ambassador to the Holy See (September 2014) and the Sovereign Order of Malta (December 2014) she worked as an Orthodox theologian at the World Council of Churches, 2001 – 2013 (Geneva, Switzerland) at the Secretariat of Faith and Order Commission for the promotion of Christian unity. In Georgia she did research in Georgian Hagiography at Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature and taught Georgian language and literature at school.

She published widely on Georgian hagiography and church history, inter-confessional dialogue, ecclesiology, hermeneutics, orthodoxy and the contemporary world. As an Orthodox theologian she has taught and written on Christian unity, Climate Change, Gender, War, Human Rights. She runs a blog in the Georgian language on current matters of the Holy See.

## Ms. Natallia Harkovich



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

14:00 – 16:00 Session 5

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### *The “provoked” Reformation: the process inside the Orthodox Church in the Polish-Lithuanian State (end of 16th – beginning of 17th century)*

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Natallia Harkovich is Director of the Cultural and Educational Centre *Ecumena* in Minsk, Belarus. She was born in Pinsk, Belarus, in 1984. She studied at the European Humanity University at Minsk, Theology Faculty, then at the Belarusian State University, Institute of Theology (graduated from it at 2007). At the same University she successfully completed a Master's on religion science, philosophical anthropology, philosophy of culture. Her next academic period included PhD courses at the National Institute of Higher Education of Belarusian State University, the Department of the National-Cultural Heritage of Belarus, with specialization in history. During that time she followed a number of scientific courses and obtained a scholarships in Poland studying the history of theology of the Orthodox Church at Rech Pospolitaya (16th century). She is currently completing her PhD research.

Among her scientific interests are: history of the theology, the units of laymen in the 16th century (Orthodox Church), personality of Stefan Zizanij, historical anthropology, religious polemic on the land of Rech Pospolitaya at the end of 16th – beginning of 17th centuries; The influencing of the Reformation on the Orthodox Church in Polish-Lithuanian State.

## Very Rev. Protopresbyter Heikki Huttunen



**Tuesday 21 November 2017**

14:00 – 14:30

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### Welcome and opening prayer

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Fr Heikki Theodoros Huttunen took up his post as Secretary General of the Conference of European Churches in January 2016. He is a member of the Orthodox Church of Finland. From 2006-2015 he was Secretary General of the Finnish Ecumenical Council. At the same time, he was a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches (WCC) from 2006-2013 and represented his church at the last four WCC General Assemblies. His other ecumenical experiences include his time as the director of the youth department of the WCC from 1985-1989, as well as head of Syndesmos, the youth organization of the Orthodox Church.

For many years he served as a priest in a new, multi-cultural community, Espoo, near Helsinki. He holds a Master of Theology from the University of Helsinki where he studied Orthodox Church law, Finnish Church legislation and systematic theology. He was born on 1.12.1960, is married with 2 children and speaks a number of European languages including: Finnish, Swedish, French and Russian.

## Prof. Martin Friedrich



**Tuesday 21 November 2017**

14:30 – 16:30 Session 1

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*A common Protestant understanding of the Church. The CPCE study "The Church of Jesus Christ" and its roots in the ecclesiological thinking of Luther, Zwingli and Calvin.*

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Martin Friedrich works as Study Secretary of the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe since 2002. He was born in 1957 in Dortmund, and is a pastor of the Evangelical Church of Westphalia, Germany after being vicar in Witten/Ruhr and Stockholm, in congregations in Ennepetal and Hiddenhausen. From 1982 to 1986 he worked at the Faculty of Protestant Theology at the Ruhr University Bochum. At that time he wrote a thesis (*Zwischen Abwehr und Bekehrung. Die Stellung der deutschen evangelischen Theologie zum Judentum im 17. Jahrhundert*), with which he obtained his Doctorate of Theology in 1986. From 1993 to 2002 he worked again at this faculty, in the edition project on Philipp Jakob Spener's letters. In 1996 he was awarded the habilitation for church history (Thesis: *Die preußische Landeskirche im Vormärz. Evangelische Kirchenpolitik unter dem Ministerium Eichhorn (1840–1848)*). Since 2003 he holds the title of Adjunct Professor.

As Study Secretary of the Community Protestant Churches in Europe he is responsible especially for the inner-Protestant doctrinal work and for the interconfessional dialogues.

## Dr Arto Hämäläinen



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

11:00 – 13:00 Session 4

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*Reformation – Fostering or Impeding World Missions?*

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Arto Hämäläinen is Chairman of the World Missions Commission of Pentecostal World Fellowship (PWF) as well as a member of the Advisory Committee of PWF.

He is the International Representative of the Pentecostal Church of Finland, and Senior Advisor of Pentecostal European Fellowship (PEF). He serves as Adjunct Professor of Global University (based in USA), and has a Chair of Mission Studies in Continental Theological Seminary in Belgium. He is also the Lead Team member in the World Missions Commission of World Assemblies of God Fellowship (WAGF) as well as a member of the Executive Council of WAGF.

Dr. Hämäläinen is a Mission Associate of the World Missions Commission of World Evangelical Alliance (WEA). He serves on the Global Council and Western Europe Cabinet in the Empowered21 movement. He is Executive Director Emeritus of Fida International (Finnish Pentecostal Mission), and served as Secretary (15 years) and Chairman (3 years) of PEF, and as chairman of its mission branch PEM (24 years). He still works as an Advisor for Pentecostal Asia Mission (PAM). He is the author of several missiological books, and his teaching and training ministry has taken place in about 60 countries. He is married with Sirkka, and has 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

## Rev. Dr Valentin Wendebourg



**Tuesday 21 November 2017**

17:00 – 18:00 Session 2

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### *Reformation and Ecclesial Plurality in Germany today*

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Rev. Dr Valentin Wendebourg works as a Theology Adviser at the Representation of the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD) to the EU in Brussels.

He studied theology, history and philosophy at the universities of Tübingen, Göttingen, Berlin and Kyoto, where he specialized in East Asian culture and religion. Afterwards he served as a Lecturer at the Department for the studies of Church History at the University of Göttingen, where he obtained a doctorate degree for a study on historical criticism of the bible in debates among European intellectuals during the enlightenment. He worked as a research associate at the Modern European History Research Centre at the University of Oxford.

Valentin Wendebourg is an ordained pastor of the Lutheran Church, having spent his curacy in Berlin and at the theological seminary in Wittenberg. He has been a member of several ecumenical dialogues forums especially with the Anglican and the Russian-Orthodox Church.

## Prof. Anne-Marie Mayer



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

09:30 – 10:30 Session 3

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### *From divisive identity markers to ecumenical milestones: A Catholic Perspective*

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Annemarie C. Mayer is professor of Systematic Theology and the Study of Religions at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. A member of the faculty's Centre for the Study of the Second Vatican Council and the Louvain Centre for Eastern and Oriental Christianity, she is also a member of the Cardinal Willebrands Research Centre at Tilburg University. In addition to inter-religious dialogue today and in the Middle Ages, her research interest focusses on ecumenism, ecumenical hermeneutics and ecclesiology in an ecumenical context.

She was a member of the fourth *Reformed-Catholic International Dialogue* commission and the *Joint Working Group* during its ninth mandate. Currently she is the Catholic co-coordinator of the *Joint Working Group's* subgroup on "Peace building in situations of violence" during its tenth mandate and a co-opted member of the *Commission Nationale Catholique pour l'Œcuménisme* of the Belgian bishops' conference. She was on the Catholic delegation to WCC's General Assembly in Busan, Korea, in November 2013. Until September 2013 she held the post of Catholic Consultant to the World Council of Churches, working in Geneva but being employed by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. She taught Fundamental Theology at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and until 2010, at the Institute for Ecumenical Research in the Catholic Faculty of Tübingen University, Germany.

## Rev. Dr Jack McDonald



**Wednesday 22 November 2017**

11:00 – 13:00 Session 4

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*Richard Hooker: Anglicanism and (non-)Ecclesiology.*

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Jack McDonald is Canon Theologian and Associate Chaplain at Holy Trinity Church in Brussels. He was born in 1966 and is both Belgian and British. He studied theology at the University of Cambridge and philosophy at King's College London before writing his PhD at the Université de Strasbourg on the influence of Leibniz on religion during the French Revolution.

He is an Anglican priest who worked as Dean of Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge and (through the Anglican-Huguenot Reuilly Accords) *pasteur du Temple Neuf de Metz* before coming to Belgium. He now occupies the Napoleonic post at the helm of Belgian Anglicanism alongside a canonry at Holy Trinity, the Anglican cathedral in Brussels. He looks after the Anglican parish in Leuven. He also teaches church history both at FPG Brussel and KU Leuven.

His most recent books are "*De Anglicaanse Kerk*" (2016) and "*De Kerk en de Verlichting*" (2017) and he is currently writing a book on the Anglican influences on Voltaire.

## The Right Rev. Dr Martin Lind



**Tuesday 21 November 2017**

14:30 – 16:30 Session 1

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*The Hidden and the Visible God – A Lutheran Ecclesiology*

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Martin Lind serves as the Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Great Britain since 2014. He was born in 1944. He became Bishop of the Diocese of Linköping in the Church of Sweden in 1995 and retired in 2011. Before that he served as an Assistant Professor (docent) of systematic theology at the University of Lund; Professor at the faculty of Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, Madurai, India; parish priest; Principal at the Pastoral Institute in Lund and as Dean of the Cathedral of Uppsala 1990-1995.

Between 1991-2006 he held the chair of the research council of the Church of Sweden. He became Doctor of Theology in 1975 with a dissertation on "Christianity and National Socialism" and has since then been committed to work against racism and political oppression. He has written and lectured on the life and thinking of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. He was appointed as the president of the XI International Bonhoeffer Congress in 2012.

He also became involved with the rediscovery of the pilgrimage tradition for modern Christians. He substantially contributed to the foundation of the Pilgrim Centre in Vadstena, the first of its kind in the Nordic countries after the Reformation.

He has written several books including a pilgrim theology "Salt, bread and wine" (2011) and a book with Bonhoeffer- reflections "With God we live without God" (2017).