

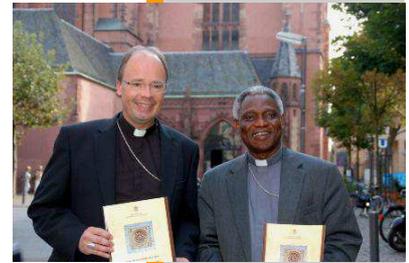
Contents

- ◆ "Vocation of the business leader" presentation
- ◆ Creation of a Round Table for Decent Work in Uganda
- ◆ JP and DGB: "Decent income in the globalised world"
- ◆ "Human rights and human dignity" dialogue with African partners
- ◆ Situation in Syria
- ◆ Colloquium with the Pontifical Council on reforming the global financial system
- ◆ GKKE Executive Committee talking to Federal Minister Niebel
- ◆ Task Force Tropical fruit
- ◆ Symposium on arms export control
- ◆ Spheres of action for civil society, GKKE expert meeting

"Vocation of the business leader" presentation with Cardinal Turkson

On 18 September 2012, Cardinal Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, and Bishop Ackermann presented the publication "Vocation of the business leader. A Reflection" at a press conference in Frankfurt together with Prof. Habisch (co-author) and Michael Bommers, chairman of La mer Cosmetics AG, both members of the Federation of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU). A social market economy strongly depends on the ethical judgement of its actors said Bishop Ackermann and stated that there is need for action in business ethics training and education in Germany.

BKU is co-editor of the German version of "Vocation of the Business Leader". In an evening event with an audience of more than 100 guests representing science, economy and education, Cardinal Turkson discussed about this reflection of the Pontifical Council on the vocation and responsibility of business leaders with Prof. Wallacher and other persons.



Peter Cardinal Turkson with Bishop Dr Stephan Ackermann in front of the Frankfurt Cathedral on 18 September

Creation of a Round Table for Decent Work in Uganda

'Decent Work in Uganda's Informal Economy' – With a significant effect, the German Commission for Justice and Peace together with its partners Justice and Peace Uganda, Kolping Uganda and the Ugandan trade union UMMOGAWU (Ugandan Metal, Mine, Oil, Gas and Allied Workers Union) organized a three-day conference on the implementation of the new Ugandan national programme for decent work in Kampala in July 2012.

The conference gathered Ugandan social partners, government and parliament, church institutions and associations, human rights experts, scientists, security forces and the national ILO office. Participants of the Ugandan Catholic Church were the president of the Ugandan Justice and Peace Commission, Bishop Guiseppe Philippi, the vice-president and the secretary general of the Bishops' Conference of Uganda, Bishop Robert Muhirwa and Msg. John Baptist Kauta as well as Cardinal Wamala.



Participants of the conference in Kampala, Cardinal Wamala in the middle, Mr. Tintelott to his left

Among the German participants were the outgoing secretary general of Kolping International, Hubert Tintelott, a representative of the Catholic Workers' Movement (KAB), Ernst Bodenmüller from the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart as well as Dr Hildegard Hagemann from JP Germany. The result of this conference was the establishment of a joint action committee for decent work in the informal economy in Uganda. This new committee will be headed by Justice and Peace Uganda, and among its members will be Kolping Uganda, UMMOGAWU, KAB-Uganda, the Ugandan employers' association, the association of informal entrepreneurs and the government through its ministry of planning and gender affairs.

JP and DGB published their guideline "Decent income in the globalized world" in Berlin

On 30 August 2012, the German Confederation of Trade Unions (DGB) and Justice and Peace published their new guideline. The recommendations for action addressed to the international community of nations, the German federal government, companies as well as to civil society and church institutions were presented and explained in an expert discussion with journalists in Berlin.

The guideline was prepared by the 'organisational freedom in the informal economy' discussion group of trade unions and Justice and Peace. It can be downloaded from our website and is also available as a printed version.

Reforming the global financial system

"Towards reforming the international financial and monetary systems in the context of global public authority", this note was published by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace on 24 October 2011 and has sparked off a controversial debate. JP president Bishop Ackermann publicly supported it for example in its request to create a global steering mechanism to control the international financial and monetary markets.

On 19 September 2012, this document of the Pontifical Council on a financial reform was discussed during a Joint Colloquium held at the "Haus der Deutschen Bundesbank" in Frankfurt with Cardinal Turkson as well as with experts of the financial, industrial and political sector, of the Churches and science. The Colloquium was organised by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, UNIAPAC and BKU, the Oswald von-Nell-Breuning Institute, the Wittenberg Zentrum and the German Commission for Justice and Peace.

Bishop Ackermann commenting the sentence on the Russian Punk Band "Pussy Riot"

In a press statement released on 22 August 2012, Bishop Dr Stephan Ackermann criticized the sentence on the Russian Punk Band as "exaggerated and inappropriate", though the performance of this band in the cathedral was not acceptable. He emphasized that the conviction for inciting religious hatred was incomprehensible. Already on 1 August 2012, Justice and Peace at the suggestion of Renovabis in an intervention addressed to the competent Russian public prosecutor pointed out that "accusation of inciting religious hatred [...] is unjustified" and should be dropped.

"Human Dignity and Human Rights" Dialogue with African partners

A workshop organized by the working group on 24/25 May 2012 in Berlin with African partners coming from ten different countries addressed and discussed questions where an intense dialogue is likely to promote the international protection of human rights. Among the many very openly addressed human rights problems which seem to be contentious or misapprehended in the present dialogue between Europe and Africa, the following points were particularly emphasized: protection of human rights defenders, dealing with migration, relationship of socio-cultural to civil and political rights. The connection of cultural traditions with human rights was a matter of discussion. Furthermore the lack of imparting experiences of excellent church work to international bodies, e.g. to regional or UN levels, was criticized. The appearance of the Church in UN bodies is considered to be one-dimensional and only focussed on a few subject matters whereas the range of Church work is considerably wider. In view of an extensive Catholic Code of social ethics this



Ingrid Sehrbrock, DGB vice-president (2nd from right) with Gertrud Casel, Hildegard Hagemann from JP and J. Menge, INEF (left) at the presentation of the guideline



Cardinal Turkson at the opening session, Burkhard Leffers, UNIAPAC, and Georg Fahrenschoen (left to him)

is all the more regrettable. In addition, it was stated that church experiences of a successful work at the grass-roots level were not sufficiently linked with the respective civil society.

As the partner workshops were approaching, political talks between the Southern partners and the Catholic Liaison Office, representatives of the government and members of parliament were organized in Berlin from 21 to 24 May. Among other people, Günter Nooke, the German Chancellor's G8 Personal Representative for Africa talked about the work at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and Markus Löning received the delegation in his capacity as Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy.

Important contributions and results are compiled in the brochure "Human Dignity and Human Rights – a Rights-based Perspective in Intercultural Dialogue".

Panel discussion on religious freedom at the Katholikentag

Together with Missio Aachen, Justice and Peace prepared a panel discussion on the right to religious freedom as a current political challenge which was held at the Mannheim Katholikentag on May 17, 2012. Prof. Dr Gerhard Robbers, University of Trier and President of the Kirchentag, discussed with Markus Löning, the Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy. Both underlined that this right is also exposed to many risks in Europe and that it can only be kept alive and valued in open discussions.

Volker Kauder, leader of the CDU/CSU parliamentary faction, talked with Bishop Kyrillos of Assiut (Upper Egypt) about the situation of Christians in Egypt. He explained the complexity of the problems and underlined the necessity of taking a closer look at the situation in the respective countries. During the Mannheim Katholikentag Justice and Peace offered participants of the commission, the working groups, the dioceses and national and international cooperation partners the opportunity to meet, to create networks and to make arrangements. The programme at the Justice and Peace tent at the Schillerplatz as well as the different guests were readily accepted.

The circumcision of boys for religious reasons

On the occasion of the deliberations of the German National Ethics Council on the question of whether the circumcision of boys for religious reasons is a punishable act, Bishop Dr Ackermann has warned to carefully consider the different human rights demands, also for future debates. "Justice and Peace welcomes the public deliberations of the German National Ethics Council on the circumcision of boys", explained Bishop Ackermann. The best interests of the child are the most important factors in the current debate. This is realized in the right of the child to bodily integrity. "Nevertheless the best interests of the child are also determined by the religious education the children receive by their parents." Professional consultations and performance are necessary, if circumcisions are carried out for religious reasons. The German National Ethics Council's debate and its vote should be the foundation for the politicians' consultations in the next weeks.

Fighting hunger, study and expert meeting

On 3 July 2012, the study of the Group of Experts on 'World Economy and Social Ethics' "Fighting hunger – Our joint responsibility for the human right to food" was presented at the Philosophische Hochschule München and discussed during an expert meeting. The German Commission for Justice and Peace played an important role in the preparations of the study and of the event. The EDP "Change of perspective in agriculture – Potentials of entre-



Bishop Kyrillos (front left) with P. Langendörfer SJ (right), H. Tintelott (2nd from right) and J. Wallacher (left)

preneurial activities in rural zones” in July 2011 in Uganda had given suggestions for the study and for the choice of the dialogue partners. The German Bishops’ Conference published the declaration “Overcoming the scourge of hunger” on the current challenges of the world food situation on 3 July 2012 as well.

Situation in Syria

On 13 June 2012, Bishop Dr Ackermann gave an interview on the situation in Syria. He underlined the international responsibility to protect the Syrian civilian population. Under certain conditions the establishment and introduction of international protection zones in Syria might be taken into consideration. Should the dynamics of violence not be interrupted due to, among other things, Russia’s and China’s veto on a UN Resolution on Syria, the conflict will threaten to become more religiously charged and will deepen in the long run.

Statement by the president of the commission on the planned acquisition and the use of armed drones

On 17 September 2012, Bishop Dr Ackermann made a statement on the planned acquisition of armed drones by the German Armed Forces. In this statement he reminded of the considerable ethical problems which might arise by the introduction of this kind of weapon and he demanded an extensive public debate on the implications of these arms systems. In addition to the evident threat of another arms race he also called the attention to the dangers which might arise from a lowering of the threshold for lethal violence. The bishop’s comments were taken up by the SZ newspaper on 24 September.

International seminar organized by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace organized an international seminar “New Challenges for Catholic Peacebuilding” on 29/30 May. The representatives of the German Commission for Justice and Peace, Prof. Justenhoven and Mr Lüer, had been invited to present the relevant German experiences.

Dealing with the heritage of the Communist dictatorship in Albania

With a first documentary and discussion expedition, the project on dealing with the heritage of the Communist dictatorship in Albania which was initiated by the Maximilian Kolbe Foundation together with the Albanian Justice and Peace Commission and Renovabis now has entered the realization phase. From 23 to 28 April 2012, former Communist camps and prisons were visited, their current condition – as a rule they are systematically let go to ruin – was recorded and talks were held with ex-prisoners, guards and different social forces.

The documentation of the sites will be continued in the following months and the results will be presented to the public during an exhibition in Tirana in November. In addition to a “stocktaking” with regard to memory politics realized in close cooperation with ex-prisoners, the project above all aims at exploring the open wounds which Communism has left in Albania and at addressing the question of how to deal with them in a way which leads to reconciliation and healing. As a first interim result of this process, teaching modules for a critical analysis of the Communist heritage will be developed in cooperation with the Jesuit grammar school in Shkoder. Central elements will be the encounter with the sites of events and with former prisoners as well as family biography work.



Inscription at the former labour camp Spac



Visit to the former labour camp Qafe e Berit

III. European workshop on dealing with the past of Auschwitz burdened by violence

From 11 to 16 August 2012, the III. European workshop organized by the Maximilian Kolbe Foundation took place at the Centre for Dialogue and Prayer in Oswiecim/Auschwitz. People from Poland, Germany, Russia, Ukraine, Bosnia, Albania, Lithuania, Latvia, Ireland and Israel took part in the workshop. During the workshop the existing tensions between the different societies were discussed.

GKKE executive committee talking to Federal Minister Niebel

The main topics during the talk with Federal Minister Dirk Niebel on 25 April 2012 at the office of EKD in Berlin were "Rio plus 20" and "Green economy". Unlike the first talk in 2010 which revealed controversies on the issue of civil-military cooperation, this dialogue showed a high degree of agreement in view of the goals of the government delegation for Rio to which one representative of the Catholic and one of the Evangelical Church is invited. Sustainability Development Goals SDGs in succession to the MDGs after 2015 were one of the topics which were evaluated with much conformity. In Rio it will be necessary to develop a roadmap for further work after 2015. The critical inquiry whether "green economy" or "green washing" are dealt with was answered with the necessary orientation towards an "Inclusive Green economy" by the BMZ (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development).

Further activities on decent work for domestic workers



Press conference at the regional conference in Manila

On 14 and 15 April 2012, a **Regional Conference** on ILO Convention 189 for domestic workers was held in Manila. The focus of this second regional conference was on the importance of raising social awareness for strengthening the rights of domestic workers as employees. The nearly 60 participants coming from 14 countries particularly welcomed the strong involvement of church institutions especially in the Philippines. In his statement the representative of the Bishops' Conference of the Philippines affirmed support of this process (Enclosure 2 Vatican News).

The Regional Conference ended with a detailed press conference and with a letter addressed to the President of the Philippines asking him to ratify the convention (see enclosure 3 Account of the journey).

On 6 August 2012, the **Philippines** was the second ILO member country which **ratified** the new ILO convention **C189**. Congratulations to our partners, the Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) and the Association of Major Religious Superiors (AMRSP) on this success of their joint political efforts.

Decent work for domestic workers

Subsequently to the **World Day of Prayer** a list of 750 signatures of members of the Emschertal deanery and of the evangelical church district of Herne addressed to the members of the Bundestag Mrs Ingrid Fischbach and Mr Gerd Bollmann, represented by Alexander Vogt, candidate for the Land parliament, was handed over on 20 April 2012. Mrs Fischbach declared her willingness to talk to Mrs Karin Pape, European Coordinator at the International Domestic Workers' Network (IDWN). On 8 May 2012, Mrs Pape thanks to Justice and Peace spoke with Mrs Fischbach and with Mr Karl Schiewerling about the ratification of C189 by Germany.

From 2 to 4 May 2012, the Office for **Pastoral Care of Women** of the German Bishops' Conference held an expert meeting on "*Poverty touches. Spiritual Challenges for Women in Europe*" in Salzburg. Prof Dr Krause gave a lecture on the socio-political perspectives of the poverty of women in Eu-

rope. Justice and Peace organized a studio discussion on decent work for domestic workers. The representatives of diocesan Caritas associations expressed their thanks for the information on the political instrument of this ILO Convention.

During the 101st session of the **International Labour Conference** (ILC) in Geneva, Kolping International, Caritas International, the International Catholic Center of Geneva (CCIG) and the International Young Christian Workers Movement (CIJOC) organized together a follow up-workshop on "the state of affairs concerning the ratifications of C189" and an orientation workshop on the youth employment crises on 31 May and on 1 June 2012. The latter is one item on this year's ILC agenda. The two main issues can be assigned to the theme of the NGO-consultations "Building a Future with Decent Work". This is an opportunity to address aspects of the political work of Catholic-inspired NGOs (CINGO) and to discuss them with civil-society partners (and other religious communities) (see enclosure 4 programme).

Task Force Tropical Fruit

During 26 May and 4 June 2012 the exposure and dialogue programme "Small entrepreneurs as cooperation partners – Potentials in cultivation, processing and marketing of food" took place in the Philippines. Host families were visited who cultivate and process tropical fruit and fruit trading companies being the trading partners of the farmers. The recently published paper on the agricultural dialogue "Süße Früchte - gut für alle? - Ländliche Entwicklung durch Selbstorganisation, Wertschöpfungsketten und soziale Standards" (Sweet fruit – good for everyone? Rural development by self-organization, value chains and social standards) Issue No 126 of the Gerechtigkeit und Frieden series, addresses other sensitive matters related to the value chain of processed tropical fruit. The experiences made during the above mentioned EDP with the AFOS Foundation are an important element of evaluating the actual situation for creating food value chains. The Task Force will meet with GEPA in its office in Wuppertal on 30 October 2012. The talks there will deal with the traceability of even fairly traded products.

Symposium on arms export control

On the occasion of Dr Bernhard Moltmann's retirement from the expert group on arms exports, GKKE organized a symposium "to lift the veil of secrecy" in Berlin at the "Haus der EKD", Gendarmenmarkt on 8 May 2012. In different talks with former and present participants in peace studies, members of the federal government and the Bundestag, the work of this expert group concerning transparency, ethical evaluation and political governance was exposed and followed by a quite controversial discussion about the sticking points.

During the subsequent reception, the two GKKE presidents expressed their thanks to Dr Moltmann for his extraordinary commitment and presented a cloth bound edition of his 15 reports on arms exports to him.

European Conference JP on the "Arab spring"

The International Workshop of the European Conference of Justice and Peace Commissions took place in Malta from 14 to 16 September 2012 and dealt with the subject matter "Arab spring – one year later". The geographical proximity to North Africa intensified the discussions with entrepreneurial, political, church and Islamic actors about the continuing open-ended change processes. Visits to closed and open refugee camps confronted the participants with the destiny of stranded African refugees. During a reception Prime Minister Gonzi described Malta as a country caught between a humanitarian catastrophe in North Africa and an economic crisis in Europe.



Prelates K. Jüsten (right) and B. Felzberg (middle) handing over a bound edition of the 15 GKKE reports to B. Moltmann (left)



Bishop W. Kenney, President of JP Europe (at the microphone) thanks Maltese Prime



Spheres of action for civil society

The expert group civil society of the Joint Conference Church and Development (GKKE) has dealt with the changes of the frame conditions for the work of civil-society organizations and has presented trends and recommended courses of action.

Partner organizations of Church development agencies complain about increasing restrictions and even criminalization in a lot of countries. Is this a global trend? What kind of strategies have to be developed to strengthen civil-society organizations?

During an expert meeting held in Berlin on 12/13 June 2012, participants from the civil society of the global South, from science and politics as well as from development politics have brought different perspectives into the debate and have explored the opportunities and limits of an extension of political spheres of action. In reply to these contributions GKKE will revise the trends and recommended courses of action and publish them afterwards.

GKKE Pharmadialogue, change in the chairmanship

On the occasion of a meeting held in Cologne by the working group Churches/pharmaceutical industry on 22 May 2012, the local production of medicine in Africa was discussed intensively on the basis of a project by Action Medeor in Tanzania. The discussion will be continued in the next working period. Dr Martin Kollmann of Christian Blind Mission presented the learning experiences gained in a programme of drug donations to fight against river blindness in an impressive way. The programme has been existing for 25 years already. After three years, Dr Gisela Schneider, Director of Difäm (German Institute for Medical Mission), handed over the chair to Dr Weber of Sanofi Aventis. The chair will thus change from a representative of the Church to a representative of industry. Both sides strongly supported a continuation of the pharmadialogue under the umbrella of GKKE.

During a meeting of the church representatives in the pharmadialogue on 21 May 2012, the chair changed from Bernd Pastors, Action Medeor, to Christoph Bonsmann, also Action Medeor.

Imprint

Deutsche Kommission Justitia et Pax
Kaiserstr. 161, 53113 Bonn
e-Mail: justitia-et-pax@dbk.de
web: www.justitia-et-pax.de
editor: Gertrud Casel