

## Symposium

### Communication for Social Justice in a Digital Age

13-15 September 2021

Addressing: Digital Justice, Public Space, Vision for the Future

Organized by the World Council of Churches and the World Association for Christian Communication. Co-organizing the conference are Brot für die Welt, Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), Evangelische Mission Weltweit (EMW), and World Student Christian Federation.

See also: <https://www.oikoumene.org/events/communication-for-social-justice-in-a-digital-age>

<b>Monday 13 September</b>	<b>Theme of the Day: Digital Justice</b>	<b>Speakers/presenters/ description</b>	Proposed participation timings, North and South America time zones (based on New York)	Proposed participation Asia and Pacific time zones (based on Bangkok)	
Proposed Timing Europe/Middle East/Africa (based on Berlin)	<b>What do social justice and social injustice look like in the digital era, especially for marginalized people and communities?</b>				
10:00	Words of Greeting	WCC Acting General Secretary Fr Ioan Sauca (pre-recorded)  WACC General Secretary Philip Lee	4am Recording available	16:00	

10:15	<b>Keynote presentation on “Communication for Social Justice in a Digital Age” With discussion</b>	Dr Ellen Ueberschär, President, Heinrich Boell Foundation	4:15am Recording available	16:15	<b>Digital Wall –  Available 24 hours for participants to ask questions on the presentations, get responses, provide feedback Etc.</b>
11:15	<b>Break</b>				
11:30	Introduction by the Moderator + video/animation on theme of the day	Moderators: Christina Biere; Rev Nick Elorm Ahiale-Mawusi, pastor in Hamburg and Doctoral student in Bonn  Video animation on Digital Justice	5:50 am Recording available	17:30	
11:40	<b>Keynote presentation on Digital Justice</b>  Prepared responses and discussion	<b>Heinrich Bedford- Strohm</b> , Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria  <i>Respondents:</i> Erin Green, Ph.D, Theology and Artificial Intelligence  Sarah Macharia, Coordinator of the Global Media Monitoring Project and Gender and Communication Programme Manager, WACC	6:00 am Recording available	17:40	<b>Sessions in Blue will be livestreamed/recorded for wider viewing.</b>

					<b>Digital Wall –</b>  <b>Available 24 hours for participants to ask questions on the presentations, get responses, provide feedback</b> <b>Etc.</b>
12:45	<b>Break (lunch in Berlin)</b>		Participants are able to watch recording(s)		
14:00	Presentation by pre-symposium working group.	Presentation of Symposium message (zero draft) and the concepts of digital justice (statement working group)	8:00am	Recordings can be watched on Tuesday morning; potential for regional live discussion	
	<b>break</b>				
15:15	Breakout groups for discussion	Reflection on presentations and Input for statement/message and action plan (led by the day's key question). Assign everyone to group of 8? Some language groups; Others mix of sectors and geography. Each have different zoom link and facilitator – notes to rapporteurs	9:15	Scheduled per local host on Tuesday morning, report to rapporteurs	
	<b>break</b>				
16:30	Plenary showcasing good practice and case studies; developed by	IT for Change, India	10:30	View recordings	

	different organisations using different formats	Computer Professionals Union, Philippines  Community Media Centre, Palestine			<b>Digital Wall –</b>  <b>Available 24 hours for participants to ask questions on the presentations, get responses, provide feedback</b> <b>Etc.</b>
			Participants are encouraged to watch recordings		
19:00	<b>Press Club: Digital Instruments – Blessings or Curse?</b>	Panel discussion moderated by Ms Geraldine de Bastion  Mr. Holger Starck, Die Zeit  Rev. Dr Angelique Walker-Smith, Bread for the World, USA  Mrs. Margit Stumpp, Member of the German Bundestag - Spokesperson for media and education policy, Parliamentary Group Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen	14:00 Optional: Participate live	View recordings	

		Felix Samari, LCCN Communications Officer			<b>Digital Wall –</b>  <b>Available 24 hours for participants to ask questions on the presentations, get responses, provide feedback</b>  <b>Etc.</b>
			15:30: Regional discussion with interpretation; Lorenzo moderates and reports key findings to rapporteur		
<b>Tuesday 14 September</b>  Proposed Timing Europe/Middle East/Africa (based on Berlin)	<b>Theme of the Day: Public Space</b>  <b>In what ways has the digital era changed the notion of public space?</b>	<b>Speakers/presenters/description</b>	Proposed participation timings, North and South America time zones (based on New York)	Proposed participation Asia and Pacific time zones (based on Bangkok)	
9:15	Words of Greeting	Dr Dagmar Pruin, President, Brot für die Welt	3:15am Recording available	15:25	
9:30	Introduction by Moderator + video/animation on theme of the day (see <a href="https://fb.watch/7tlljnnAQA/">https://fb.watch/7tlljnnAQA/</a> ) Starting 1:25	Morning moderator: Ms Casey Harden, General Secretary, World YWCA  Video animation on public space	3:30 am Recording available	15:30	

	<b>Keynote Presentations:</b> the state of digital “public space”	<p><b>Hon. Emma Theofelus</b> Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Namibia (TBC)</p> <p><b>Goran Buldioski</b>, Open Society Foundation, Berlin Office</p> <p><i>Respondent:</i> Frederike van Oorschot, Protestant Institute for Interdisciplinary Research</p>			<p><b>Digital Wall –</b></p> <p><b>Available 24 hours for participants to ask questions on the presentations, get responses, provide feedback Etc.</b></p>
10:40	<b>Break (lunch in Berlin)</b>		Watch recording of overview presentation		
14:00-	Presentation by pre-symposium working group	<p>Afternoon moderator: Embert Charles, WACC President</p> <p>Presentation from pre-symposium research and reflection; discussion</p>	8:00am	Watch recording on Wednesday before breakout groups	
	<b>break</b>				

15:15	Breakout groups for discussion	Input for statement/message and action plan.	9:15	Scheduled per local host – possibly for Wednesday morning; report to rapporteurs	
	<b>break</b>				
16:30	Plenary showcasing good practice and case studies; developed by different organisations using different formats	ALAI, Latin America (Ecuador)  Ideosync, India  Berea Project, Brazil	10:30 [or View recordings and/or organise additional live presentation]	View recordings and/or organise additional live presentations	
19:00	<b>Digital Hangout</b>	More details to come			
			15:30: Regional discussion with interpretation; Lorenzo moderates and reports key findings to rapporteurs		
<b>Wednesday 15 September</b>  Proposed Timing	<b>Theme of the Day: Vision for the Future</b>	<b>Speakers/presenters/ description</b>	Proposed participation timings, North and South	Proposed participation Asia and	

Europe/Middle East/Africa (based on Berlin)	<b>What vision do we have of a more just digital – and human – society – and how do we help to bring it about?</b>		America time zones (based on New York)	Pacific time zones (based on Bangkok)	
10:00	Words of Greeting	Silke Lechner, German Government (TBC) EMW and EKD?	Watch recording	16:00	
10:15	Introduction + video/animation on theme of the day	Moderators <b>Rev Dr Angelique Walker-Smith</b> , Member WCC Central Committee; <b>Miriam Weiby</b> , Moderator WCC Communication Committee	Watch recording	16:15	
10:30	<b>Keynote presentation</b> on Vision for the Future  <b>Prepared responses and discussion</b>	<b>Marcelo Leites</b> , General Secretary, World Student Christian Federation  <i>Respondents:</i> Tijana Petkovic, Serbian Orthodox Church, Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women  Prof. Anita Cloete, University of Stellenbosch	4:30 am or watch recording	16:30	
	<b>break</b>				



13:00	Presentation by pre-symposium working group	Youth project: interviews  Reflection/discussion  Case study by Christina Biere on Global Youth Faith Event	7:00 am	19:00	
	<b>break</b>				
14:15	Plenary: Open discussion: What are the challenges for the churches and agencies? What are the challenges for dialogue with civil society networks and actors worldwide?	Panel discussion with South America/Latin America/ Amnesty/Big Tech/Estonia Government/WACC representatives	8:15	Could be held as discussion earlier in the day and input sent in via the Digital Wall or to rapporteurs	
	<b>break</b>				
15:30-17:00	Plenary: Summary by Rapporteur(s) and presentation of draft action plan and updated statement/message; process going forward.	Rapporteurs and statement committee Statement and action plan in draft form – shared electronically with all participants for final input; to be finalized by statement group by Monday after symposium  Video highlights	9:30-11am	Review summary and documents by email or google docs following symposium	

Note: Media Advisory and Press Conference to be organized by World Council of Churches