



Universal Peace Federation



Interreligious Association
for Peace and Development

Interreligious Webinar

Religion – A Way to Peace or a Cause of Conflict?

Friday December 11, 2020 | 15:00 to 17:40 CET

register at : <https://eume.upf.org/11-12-2020>

This debate will deal with the very urgent issue of resolving the long history of conflict and struggle among the leaders and followers of different faiths. What are the reasons for this sad fact and what proposals can be made to reconcile, and build the necessary trust? All religions teach how to relate to the all loving God, our common Creator and Parent. Why are these institutions too often unable to relate to each other peacefully, as among brothers and sisters, actively seeking the same peace and co-prosperity as a Human Family?

The credibility of religion is at stake and a growing number of people are turning away from the institutionalized religion towards a more personalized spirituality. With a vision for a future peaceful world, prominent religious leaders will present their perspectives and experiences on the topic.

Speakers:

15:00-16:15h Session 1 (in German language with translation to English)

Chair: **Rabbi Kevin De-Carli**, Baden, Switzerland

Dr. Simone Sinn, Professor of Evangelical Theology, Ecumenical Institute, Collège Bogis-Bossey, World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland

Mr. Gurdeep Singh Kundan, Founder, Centre for Sikh Studies, St. Gallen, Switzerland

Mr. Heiner W. Handschin, Coordinator, Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, Europe and the Middle East, Geneva, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Heiner Bielefeldt, former UN Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Religion and Belief. Professor for Human Rights and Law, University of Erlangen – Nürnberg, Germany

16h30 – 17:40 Session 2

Chair: **Ms. Chantal Komagata**, Coordinator, Universal Peace Federation-Europe, Switzerland

Hon. Ján Figel', Special Envoy for Promotion of Freedom of Religion outside the EU (2016-2019), Slovakia

Rev. Michal Jablonski, Pastor and Director, Evangelical Reformed Church in Warsaw, Poland

Pres. Martin Pilka, Prague Czech Republic Stake, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Czech Republic

Dr. Dieter Schmidt, President, Universal Peace Federation, Central Europe, Germany

Mr. Heiner W. Handschin
Coordinator
Interreligious Association for
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Dr. Dieter Schmidt
President
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Dr. Juraj Lajda
President
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