



International Ecumenical Peace Convocation

Kingston | Jamaica | 2011

Reasoning

Workshop Stream for Sharing and Learning at the IEPC

Introduction

The International Ecumenical Peace Convocation (IEPC) will take place in Kingston, Jamaica from 17 through 25 May 2011. The event will bring together a wide spectrum of people witnessing to the peace of God as both gift and responsibility of the entire human family. The Convocation will approach this through the following themes:

- Peace in the Community
- Peace with the Earth
- Peace in the Marketplace
- Peace among the Peoples

A plenary, as well as related prayers, Bible study and a series of workshops will be offered for these different themes.

What is “Reasoning”?

This is the name we have chosen for the series of workshops for sharing and learning at the IEPC. In Caribbean folk culture nowadays “Reasoning” is used for any form of intellectual interaction. The term was originally introduced in Jamaica by the Rastafari for their ritual coming-together in a circular seating pattern to share divinely-inspired thoughts and insights about their faith, the affairs of the day and their hopes for repatriation and redemption.

Reasoning will provide a space for reflection, formation and sharing of best practices, through concrete examples related to peacemaking and a special focus on youth. It is an opportunity to grow and to learn, to meet people from different regions and traditions to discern together how we can be agents of God’s transforming presence in the world for peace.

Reasoning will offer an opportunity to deepen reflections on the IEPC themes, provide participants with valuable tools to take back to their home setting and put it into action. Where possible, workshops should relate their topic to the theme of the day.

How will “Reasoning” contribute to the success of the IEPC?

- By the sharing of success stories and good practices of the DOV and other church initiatives.
- Material from “Reasoning” events will help the Convocation offer recommendations, initiatives and practical information on peace making.
- Existing networks will be strengthened and new ones created.
- A summary of the major issues will be used to compile the official report of the Convocation as well as provide input for discussion on the ongoing peace agenda of the WCC.
- A DVD-ROM of the resources brought to and created at the IEPC will be made available.

What will participants do?

Participants will gather in small groups for interaction through workshops, story telling, sharing of experiences and good practices, etc. These sessions are intended to provide a space for issues to be developed in the context of the daily themes and related to the concept of just peace.





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Workshops will be organized on the afternoons of:

- Thursday 19th May Day's Theme: Peace in the Community
- Friday 20th May Day's Theme: Peace with the Earth
- Saturday 21st May Day's Theme: Peace in the Marketplace
- Monday 23rd May Day's Theme: Peace among the Peoples

They should be related to the day's theme, which will be introduced in the mornings through prayer, Bible study and plenary presentation. It is also possible to have a small number of workshops relating to the other three themes of the Convocation on any given day.

Each workshop should last no longer than 90 minutes. Workshops may be:

- a one off event that takes place once during the Convocation
- a one off event that can take place up to 4 times (to allow for a larger number of participants to attend and/or be given in different languages)
- a series of workshops over the four days.

Who will participate?

"Reasoning" is an integral part of the IEPC agenda and as such all participants will be part of this enriching experience. Equally, it is our fervent hope that all workshop presenters will participate in the full range of events and activities offered at the Convocation.

Language

Plenary sessions will take place on a multi-lingual basis, mainly in English with interpretation into and/or from German, French and Spanish. Facilities for interpretation in smaller workshops will be limited both in terms of staffing and equipment.

Workshops should

- Encourage open exchange of experiences and ideas, be participatory and creative
- Address key issues related to the IEPC themes that the churches and ecumenical movement face in today's world
- Harvest the work of the DOV
- Dynamically relate their topic to the Ecumenical Declaration on Just Peace
- Explore lifestyle alternatives and/or be action-oriented
- Introduce and strengthen existing networks or create new networks
- Include a youth perspective
- Help to move the concerns for peace, justice and reconciliation from the periphery of the church to its centre
- Ideally be for between 20 to 50 persons

Can you propose a workshop?

Those wishing to offer a workshop at the IEPC are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, but no later than 31 May 2010 (early submissions are welcome). Decisions will be made and notifications sent out by 31 August 2010. Please fill in and return the proposal form to: iepc@wcc-coe.org

Learn more about the IEPC

Through the DOV and IEPC websites www.overcomingviolence.org and www.overcomingviolence.org/iepc

