

# Pilgrims – Strangers – Neighbours?

Ecumenical Perspectives on Migration and Diaspora

Nov 14th – 16th 2025  
Hamburg

## Keynote Speakers

Prof. Dr. Matthias Ehmann (Ewersbach)

Dr. Claudia Rammelt (Bochum)

Bishop Paul Hinder (Vicar Apostolic Emeritus of Southern Arabia)



**AÖF/ERF**

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ökumenische Forschung  
Ecumenical Research Forum



Ökumene  
& Dialog

missionsakademie  
an der universität hamburg  
academy of mission  
at the university of hamburg

## Theme

Migration and diaspora communities have played a crucial role in shaping Christian identities and ecumenical relations. The experience of being a migrant, a stranger, or a neighbor raises fundamental theological, ecclesiological, and ethical questions for churches and society. How do Christian communities respond to migration in an ecumenical spirit? How does migration challenge traditional church structures and theological understandings? What role does the concept of hospitality play in ecumenical engagement with migrants? How does the experience of diaspora communities contribute to the larger ecumenical movement? How do traditions and cultural identities of migrant communities influence ecumenical relationships and church life?

## What is ERF?

Ecumenical Research Forum (ERF) was founded in Germany in 1988. ERF is primarily aimed at young researchers. It is an open international forum for all who are engaged in academic research and interested in its ecumenical dimensions. ERF aims at facilitating an encounter for presenting your research projects and exchanging ideas regarding ecumenism, missiology and challenges the churches are facing in the contemporary world.

## Programme

### Friday, Nov 14th

14:00 Arrival & Registration  
15:00 Opening  
16:00 Keynote I  
18:00 Dinner  
19:30 Panel  
20:30 "Hobnob"

### Saturday, Nov 15th

08:00 Morning Prayer /Breakfast  
09:15 Keynote II  
10:45 break  
11:00 Paper Session I  
12:30 Lunch  
14:00 Paper Session II  
15:30 Coffee break  
16:00 Paper Session III  
19:00 ERF Meeting

### Sunday, Nov 16th

08:00 Breakfast  
10:30 Service in a local Parish  
12:30 Lunch and departure

## Registration

Call for Paper: Abstract of 200-300 words to [info.aoeff@gmail.com](mailto:info.aoeff@gmail.com)  
Deadline: June 30th

Registration at <https://www.aoeff-erf.org/>  
Deadline: October 1st

The participation fee of 80€ (Students 50€) includes meals lodging at the Mission Academy.



**AÖF/ERF**

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ökumenische Forschung  
Ecumenical Research Forum



Ökumene  
& Dialog

missionsakademie  
an der universität hamburg  
academy of mission  
at the university of hamburg