

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.a oef@gmail.com
Deadline: June 30th

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

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



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