



*Commission of the Bishops' Conferences  
of the European Community*



The Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) and  
The Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) &  
The Bureau of European Policy Advisors (BEPA), European Commission

## DIALOGUE SEMINAR

### Freedom of Religion: A Fundamental Right in a Rapidly Changing World

30 March 2012, Brussels, Berlaymont, room 7

#### Programme

09:00 – 09:15 Opening and Welcome

Mr Jean-Claude Thébault, Director General, Bureau of European Policy Advisors (BEPA), European Commission

Rev. Rüdiger Noll, Director of the Church & Society Commission and Associate General Secretary of CEC

Mgr. Prof. Dr. Piotr Mazurkiewicz, General Secretary of COMECE

09:15 – 11:00 1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN THE CONTEXT ESTABLISHED BY THE TREATY OF LISBON

Moderation: Mgr. Prof. Dr. Piotr Mazurkiewicz (COMECE)

Mr. Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea, Director Equality at DG Justice

Dr. Peter Krömer, President of the Synod of the Evangelical Church A.B. in Austria

Professor Giorgio Feliciani, Catholic University of Milan

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee/Tea Break

11:15 – 13:00 2<sup>nd</sup> SESSION

RELIGIOUS MINORITIES OUTSIDE THE EU: THE STRUGGLE TO SAFEGUARD  
COMMON RIGHTS AND COMMON CITIZENSHIP

Moderation: Mgr. Dr. Joe Vella Gauci (COMECE)

Revd Canon Dr. Gary Wilton, Archbishop of Canterbury's Representative  
(Church of England)

H.E. Mgr. Joseph Coutts, Archbishop of Karachi, Pakistan

His Grace Bishop Irinej Bulovic, Serbian Orthodox Church

Mr. Charles-Michel Geurts, Deputy Head of Division Human Rights Policy  
Instruments and Bilateral Cooperation (EEAS)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 15:45 3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION

CURRENT CHALLENGES FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN THE EU

Moderation: Mag. Elizabeta Kitanovic (CSC of KEK)

Rev. Anthony Peck, Secretary General (European Baptist Federation)

Dr. Gudrun Kugler, Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against  
Christians

Mr Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, Head of Unit Equality and Citizen's Rights at the  
EU Fundamental Rights Agency

15:45 – 16:15 Conclusions

Rev. Heikki Huttunen, Finnish Ecumenical Council, Secretary General

Mgr. Prof. Dr. Piotr Mazurkiewicz Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of  
the European Community (COMECE)