

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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BQ 117 – Nr. 33/2009 (Eng)

World Evangelical Allianz congratulates ERF Media on its 50th Anniversary

(Bonn, 17.11.2009) The World Evangelical Allianz has officially congratulated ERF Media, the German branch of TransWorldRadio, on its 50th anniversary. The welcome address, signed by the International Director of the World Evangelical Allianz, Geoff Tunnicliffe, and the two World Evangelical Allianz spokespeople Christine and Thomas Schirmmacher, was read by Thomas Schirmmacher at the reception given by the Board of ERF Media and is now officially available on the WEA website in both English and German.

This global association, which speaks for 420 million Evangelical Christians, above all thanked ERF Media for bringing Christians from the most diverse range of backgrounds together for the sake of the proclamation of the Gospel. For this reason the ERF justifiably carries its original name Gospel Broadcasting. The ERF has successfully distanced itself from forces that would have prevented a common, cross-border proclamation of the Gospel. In doing so ERF set boundaries, on the one hand, “in front of Christians who admittedly want ecumenism and alliance but no proclamation of the Gospel” and on the other hand “before those who want to proclaim the Gospel but who do not want to countenance an alliance, a coalition of all Christians, a bundling of forces.”

“ERF Media,” according to the words of the welcome address, “in spite of its high degree of dependence on hearers from all camps, has in this point made a great achievement over its 50 years. It has played a significant role in bringing about a situation where German Christians stand together with more variety, breadth, and strength than in 1959!”



Welcome Address by the World Evangelical Alliance
upon the Occasion of the 50-year Anniversary of ERF Media
(Gospel Broadcasting - Trans World Radio Germany), 24/10/2009

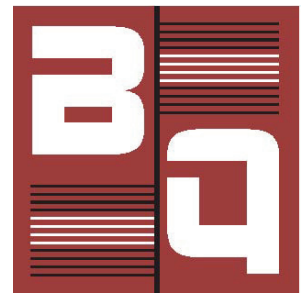
The visits I made as a small child to ERF, when my parents would drive from Giessen to Wetzlar to make recordings at ERF, are among my earliest childhood memories. The gigantic reel to reel tape recorders and what at the time was massive sound insulation material, were both impressive. The ERF employees gave each of us children our own old audio tape, which we unwound for hours and used to wrap ourselves up in.

But you have not come here to listen to me talk about my childhood memories – if we were here to recount memories, and each of you were to have your turn, we would have to plan weeks for welcome addresses.

In point of fact, on behalf of Geoff Tunnicliffe, the International Director of the World Evangelical Alliance, in the name of my wife Christine Schirmmacher, the speaker regarding Islam for the World Evangelical Alliance and as the speaker for human rights for the World Evangelical Alliance, I want to express our best wishes and gratitude from the World Evangelical Alliance and the estimated 420 million Christians the Alliance represents. As was recently discussed at a meeting in Bad Urach, the WEA's Religious Liberty Commission, the Mission Commission, and the Theological Commission all join with us.

Dear Jürgen (Werth) (Chairman of the Board of Directors),
dear Horst (Dr. Horst Marquardt) – this with regard to the historical occasion (long-standing Director),
dear Anton (Schulte) (founding member from 1959),
dear Bernd (Bierbaum) (Chairman of the Supervisory Board),
dear Members of the Board, Supervisory Board Members, Members of ERF,
dear honored guests,

(1) The World Evangelical Alliance congratulates ERF on its birthday and wishes to thank it not only for everything that it has done for people in Germany, but also thank it for what it has provided around the world throughout the years. (2) The World Evangelical Alliance is also thankful for the fact that in its 50-year existence, ERF was often ahead of all of us with new and creative ideas when it came to using technological advances for the sake of the Gospel. (3) And finally, the World Evangelical Alliance wishes to thank



A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Institute for Prolife and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

Institute for Emergency Counseling, Terminal Care and Grief Counseling
www.bucer.de/ist

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

Theological Commission of “Hope for Europe” (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.de

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.bucer.de/ilfw

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebendehaende.de

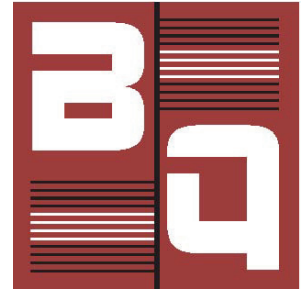
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<http://www.worldevangelicals.org/news/article.htm?id=2690&cat=main>

Other links:

- www.worldevangelicals.org
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trans_World_Radio

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