

# Bonner Querschnitte

## Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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## BQ 555 – No. 38/2018

### Schirmmacher: Christians easily become victims

#### IDEA PRESS RELEASE

#### Associate Secretary General of the World Alliance spoke at the Lutheran Convention

Translated from an idea press release, [www.idea.de](http://www.idea.de)

(Bonn, 26.11.2018) Freedom of religion is a fundamental human right. Where it is violated, other human rights are also in a bad state. This view was proposed by Thomas Schirmmacher (Bonn), Associate Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance, on November 1st in Wuppertal.

He spoke at the autumn meeting of the Lutheran Convention in Rhineland on the issue of “Persecution and Discrimination of Christians”. There is no country in the world where religious minorities are oppressed but the human rights situation apart from that is “otherwise in order”.

Christians worldwide are currently more often affected by violent oppression than members of other religions. One reason for this is that most of the former “Christian countries” have developed into secular democracies. “Precisely because Christians no longer have a Christian state on their side, they become easy victims of violent religious currents and states that despise human rights”, Schirmmacher said. The democratic countries are therefore called upon to also stand up for the protection of persecuted Christians, “because otherwise in the end nobody will do it”, said Schirmmacher.

The Lutheran Convention in Rhineland was founded in 1936 as an opposition to the National Socialist “German Christians”. Its concern today is to represent the Lutheran confession within the Rhineland Church.



Thomas Schirmmacher with the board of the Lutheran Covent  
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A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance  
[www.ead.de/akref](http://www.ead.de/akref)

Culture and Science Publ.  
[www.vkwonline.com](http://www.vkwonline.com)

Department of Theological Concerns of World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf](http://www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf)

Giving Hands – International Charity  
[www.gebende-haende.de](http://www.gebende-haende.de)

International Institute for Islamic Studies (IIS) of the World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.islaminstitute.net](http://www.islaminstitute.net)

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) of the World Evangelical Alliance (International Headquarter, German Branch Tübingen, EU-Office Brüssel)  
[www.iirf.eu](http://www.iirf.eu)

Martin Bucer Seminary (Bonn, Linz, Zürich, Prague, Tirana, Istanbul, São Paulo, Delhi)  
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missiotop – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance)  
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Office of Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations of the World Evangelical Alliance

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance  
[www.europeanea.org](http://www.europeanea.org)

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/](http://www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/)

UN Bonn liaison for inter-religious concerns of WEA

World Evangelical Alliance – Office Bonn

SOS World (Brussels)  
[www.sosworld.be/page-daccueil/](http://www.sosworld.be/page-daccueil/)

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- [Photo 1](#): Thomas Schirmmacher with the board of the Lutheran Covent © BQ/Warnecke
- [Photo 2](#) and [photo 3](#): Thomas Schirmmacher during his lecture © BQ/Warnecke



Thomas Schirmmacher during his lecture © BQ/Warnecke

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