



PRESS RELEASE

Europe's Security: which responsibilities, which freedom?

International Workshop and General Assembly of the Conference of European Justice and Peace Commissions

Is security a common good? How to grant security without jeopardising freedom and justice? Which are the responsibilities at stake and what are their implications on developing international relationships, on welcoming refugees who flee from horror and war, on fighting terrorism and, last but not least, on the handling of fear by media, politics and science—their own fear and that of others?

These and other questions will be at the agenda of the International Workshop of the Conference of European Justice and Peace Commissions (Justice and Peace Europe) in Luxembourg from 30 September to 3 October, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Luxembourg Mgr Jean-Claude Hollerich, President of Justice and Peace Europe.

During the opening session on Friday 30 September at 20:00 at Auditorium Cité, 3 rue Génistre in Luxembourg, Mr. Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, will give a speech on the general theme of the Assembly « Europe's Security: Responsibility of States, of the Union and of Citizens ».

On the next day, the representatives of the 21 national Justice and Peace commissions will deepen their reflection on the different aspects of the theme of the Assembly with the help of experts and witnesses during five workshops to be held in different relevant places within the City of Luxembourg.

A round table open to the public will take place at Centre Jean XXIII, 52 rue Jules Wilhelm on Saturday October 1st around the theme « Security as a common good ». Five participants to the round table will present their points of view in the light of their commitment:

- The notion of common good in the social doctrine of the Church (Prof. Gerhard Beestermöller)
- Defence and Peacekeeping (Major Philippe Majerus)
- Food Security (Mr. Jean Feyder)
- Cyber security (Mr. Gabriele Lenzini)
- Experience in crisis areas and Justice and Peace commitment (Fr. Olivier Poquillon o.p.)

Before actually starting the annual Assembly on Sunday night, a visit to Schengen will be placed under the theme « The spirit of Schengen: free movement, freedom and peace ». The participants will celebrate Sunday mass together with the Schengen parishioners, the Bishop of Metz Mgr Jean-Christophe Lagleize, the Bishop of Bjelovar-Križevci (Croatia) Mgr Vjekoslav Huzjak and the choir of the European School of Luxembourg. After mass, the mayor of Schengen will receive the guests whereas experts and witnesses will inform them about the circumstances and implications of the Schengen Treaty which was signed on June 14, 1985.

The « Conference of European Justice and Peace Commissions » is the network of national Justice and Peace Commissions mandated by their Bishops Conferences to speak out on behalf of Poverty Fighting, Human Rights, Peace, Reconciliation and Development.

The public and media representatives are invited to attend the conference on 30 September as well as the round table on October 1st; please register by e-mail to justiceetpax@cathol.lu, phone 46 20 23 71. The speeches and interventions will be held in English.

For further information concerning the International Workshop and Assembly, please contact the Secretariat of Justice and Peace Europe, phone +32 (0) 2 235 05 14, e-mail: secretary@jupax-europa.org.