



Churches Building Peace

Between Expectations and Experiences

24 September 2018, 8:30am – 4pm

Venue: Bulevardin seurakuntasali, Bulevardi 16b Helsinki

Program

- 8:30** **Coffee and registration**
- 9:00** **Opening Words and Welcome**, *Kristiina Rintakoski, Director, Peace building and Advocacy*
- 9:10** **How can we assess whether churches are peace-makers or peace-breakers? An example from Northern Uganda**, *Henni Alava, Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Jyväskylä*
- 9:40** **Churches living through transitions – reflections from Southern Africa**, *Rev. Dr. Kenneth Mtata, General Secretary, Zimbabwe Council of Churches*
- 10:10** **Discussion**
- 10:30** **Break**
- 10:45** **Panel Discussion: Experiences from Churches in Conflict and in Peace Processes – Zimbabwe, Colombia and Palestine**
Moderator, Irja Askola, Bishop Emerita
- *Rev Dr. Kenneth Mtata, General Secretary, Zimbabwe Council of Churches*
 - *Andrés Alba, Theologian, Advisor, Church of Sweden*
 - *Rifat Kassis, Senior Consultant, Coordinator for Kairos Palestine*
- 12:15** **Lunch***

13:30 **Theological Perspectives on the Role of the Churches in Peace building**, *Elina Vuola, Professor of Global Christianity and Dialogue of Religions at the Faculty of Theology, University of Helsinki*

14:15 **Panel Discussion: Does the Church Hear the Prophetic Voice for Just Peace?**

Moderator, Mari Parkkinen, Pastor, PhD Candidate, University of Eastern Finland

- *Dr. Nigussu Legesse, Programme Executive and Convener for Africa, World Council of Churches*
- *Outi Hänninen, Pastor at Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland*
- *Rolf Steffansson, Executive Director, Felm*
- *Rifat Kassis, Senior Consultant, Coordinator for Kairos Palestine*

15:30 **Closing:** *Satu Kantola, Director, Felm, Department for Parish Relations*

The seminar is organized in co-operation with the Church in Helsinki.

Facilitator: Tuomas Meurman, Manager, Church Cooperation, Felm

**Please note that lunch will not be provided by the organisers. Tony's Deli has a lunch special for seminar participants.*

