Wednesday, 3rd May

14.00 Welcome
Friedrich Schweitzer
University of Tübingen/Germany
Birgit Sendler-Koschel
EKD, Hannover/Germany

14.30 Research on Confirmation Work and its Meaning for the Practice
Friedrich Schweitzer

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Does Confirmation Work Matter?
Kati Niemelä
University of Helsinki/Finland

17.00 The Studies on Confirmation Work: A Perspective from General Research on Youth Work
Wibke Riekmann
Fresenius University Hamburg/Germany

18.30 Dinner

19.30 Statements from the Churches
Landesbischof Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm
Chair of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany
Prof. Dr. Michael Weinrich,
Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)

Thursday, 4th May

8.45 Morning Prayer
Birgit Sendler-Koschel

9.15 Results from the US-Project on Confirmation Work
Richard R. Osmer
Princeton Theological Seminary/USA

10.30 First Round of Workshops

12.00 Lunchtime and Break

14.00 Second Round of Workshops

Topics of the Workshops

Adolescents’ Religious Attitudes and their Relationship to the Church
- Ida Marie Høeg Norway
- Dagmar Lagger Austria
- Kati Niemelä Finland

Voluntary Work
- Jouko Porkka Finland
- Friedrich Schweitzer Germany
- Henrik Simojoki Germany

Confirmation Work and Congregations
- Katherine Douglass USA
- Richard R. Osmer USA

Adolescents’ Experience of Worship Services
- Ida Marie Høeg Norway
- Muriel Koch Switzerland
- Bernd Krupka Norway

Workers’ Perspectives
- Leise Christensen Denmark
- Georg Hardecker Germany
- Thomas Schlag Switzerland

Confirmation Work and Youth Work
- Thomas Böhme Germany
- Wolfgang Ilg Germany

Experiences in Central-Eastern Countries
- Balázs Siba Hungary
- Eżbieta Byrtek Poland

Confirmation Work in Germany
- Thomas Ebinger Germany
- Herbert Kolb Germany

A New Self-Evaluation Tool for Confirmation Work
- Wolfgang Ilg Germany
- Jouko Porkka Finland

Swedish Young Leaders
- Andreas Sandberg Sweden

Friday, 5th May

8.45 Morning Prayer
Finnish Team

9.15 Confirmation Work and the Future of the Church
Thomas Schlag
University of Zürich/Switzerland

- Leise Christensen Denmark
- Achim Härter Deutschland
- Bernd Krupka Norway
- Dagmar Lagger Austria
- Richard Osmer USA

Moderator: Peter Schreiner
Comenius-Institute, Münster/Germany

12.30 Lunch and End of the Conference

Confirmation Work in the United Methodist Church
Achim Härter Germany
Tobias Beßwenger Germany
Kate Obermueller-Unruh USA

16.00 Camps in Confirmation Work: The Finnish Experience
Jouko Porkka
Diakonia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki/Finland

17.15 Guided Tour: Reformation History in Erfurt

19.30 Reception by the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) in Cooperation with the Evangelische Kirche in Mitteldeutschland (EKM) Words of Welcome and Perspectives from the local Church
OKR Dr. Birgit Sendler-Koschel EKD, Hannover
OKR Martina Klein EKM, Erfurt
The year 2017 is not only of special importance for Protestantism in general but also for confirmation work. A major international research project carried out in nine European countries will make available its final results. A parallel project on confirmation work in the United States of America will also present results from their research.

The Erfurt international and ecumenical conference brings together researchers and representatives from the field of confirmation work from the different countries. Results and new insights will be presented and discussed and practical consequences will be developed in dialogue between theory and practice, academic research and church leadership, practitioners and other specialists.

Prof. Dr. Friedrich Schweitzer
University of Tübingen/Germany

Dr. Birgit Sendler-Koschel
EKD, Hannover/Germany

Dr. Peter Schreiner
Comenius-Institut, Münster

Registration and Contact
The registration form and detailed information you find on www.confirmation-research.eu

Conference Costs:
140€ + Lodging (approx. 140€-200€, depending on your choice)

Contact and information:
info@confirmation-research.eu

Venue and Booking Accommodation
The conference will take place in the Augustinerkloster, Augustinerstraße 10 in Erfurt.

You can choose between different hotels in the local area, which you have to contact yourself, e.g.,

Hotel Augustinerkloster
0049/(0)361/57660-0
www.augustinerkloster.de

Hotel Krämerbrücke
0049 (0) 361 / 674 00
www.ibbhotelerfurt.com

Details on the hotels and information for the booking procedure can be found on www.confirmation-research.eu

Travel
Major Airports: Berlin, Frankfurt and Leipzig
Then by Train to Erfurt:
From Berlin by ICE in appr. 2,5 hours.
From Frankfurt by ICE in appr. 2,5 hours.
From Leipzig by ICE in appr. 1 hour.
From Erfurt Hauptbahnhof to the Augustinerkloster by Taxi (appr. 10 €)