27.08 - 02.09.2024

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope

9th General Assembly Communion of Protestant Churches in F Sibiu, Romania







Welcome to the to the Preparatory Meeting for the 2024 General Assembly!



Agenda Online Meeting

- Introduction to the GA
- Breakout rooms
- Working tools
- Rules of procedure
- Agenda
- Open questions



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024

Introduction



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024 27.08 - 02.09.2024

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope

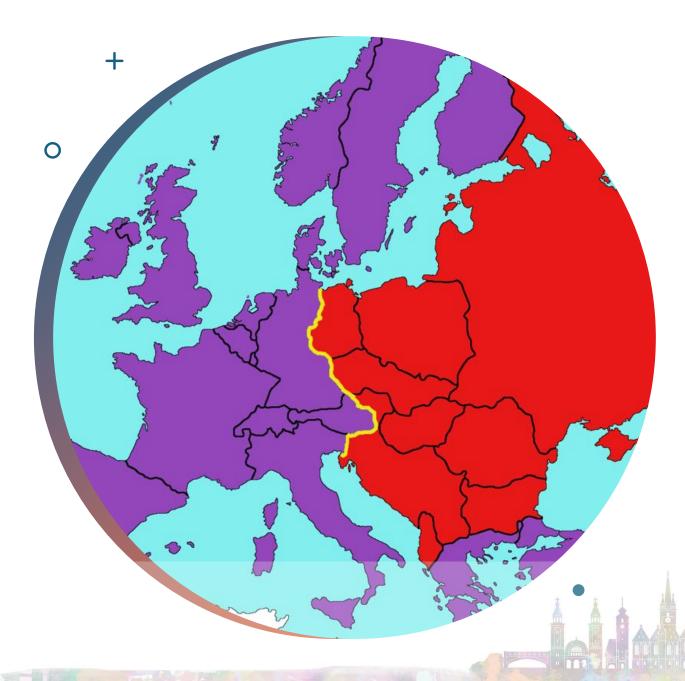
9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

The goals

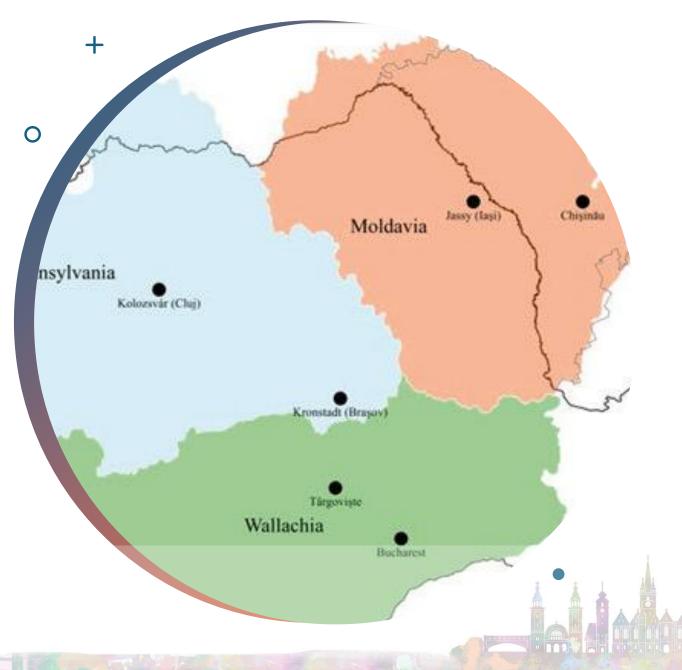
The objectives of the General Assembly are:

- Reception of the work from the 2018 - 2024 Council term coming to an end
- Defining the work processes for the beginning of the 2024 2030 Council term
- Election of a new Council
- Deepening the communion of the Protestant churches in Europe
- Getting to know a regional CPCE situation

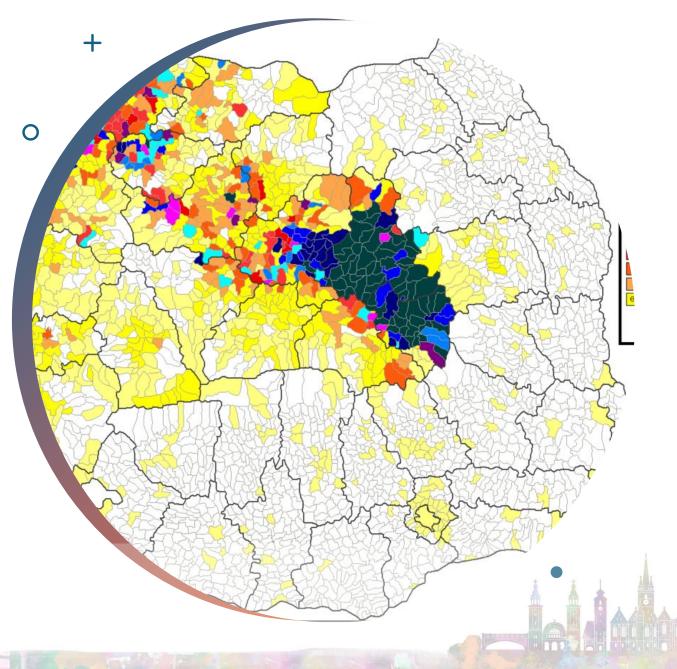




- Southeast Europe
- Romania
- Transylvania
- Sibiu
- Lutheran Cathedral +
- Brukenthallyzeum



- Southeast Europe
- Romania
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- Lutheran Cathedral +
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- Brukenthallyzeum



The Churches

- 89% of the population is Romanian Orthodox
- 99% of the population declared themselves at the census as belonging to a religion.
- The historic Protestant churches hosts of the CPCE General Assembly - today account for up to 5% of the population.



The Churches

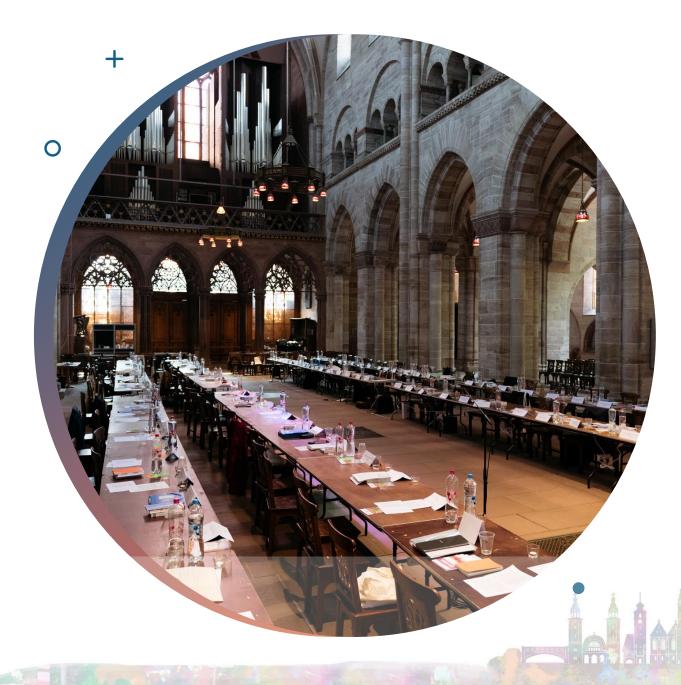
- Evangelical Church A.C. in Romania German
- Reformed Church of Transylvania Hungarian
- Reformed Church of the West District Hungarian
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania -Hungarian
- United -Methodist Church in Romania Romanian
- Unitarian Church in Romania Hungarian



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

The Program -Overview

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Working Groups Elections Future Workshop I ⁽¹⁾ Plenary Opening: Texts II	
Worship with [Motions,	
Lord's Supper Statements]	
Welcoming new Change venues Change venues 17:30 - 19:00	
member churches	
17:45 - 19:00 Change venues Change venues Closing:	
18:00 - 20:45 18:00 - 19:00 18:00 - 19:00 Worship with	
Break Presentation of Evening of the Lord's Supper	
18:30 - 19:30 election proposal Hosting Churches [Elections] [Elections] Installation of the	
Thalia" hall Changes to the Voting on motions new Council	
Opening Presentation of statute from the plenary Plenary changes to the Last opportunity for session	
Plenary changes to the Last opportunity for session statute motions	
19:00 - 19:30 19:00 - 19:30 19:00 - 19:30 Change venues	
Evening Prayer Evening Prayer	
Break Dinner Dinner 19:30	
19:45 - 21:45 (various restaurants) (various restaurants) Closing Evening	
[Meeting of the GA [Meeting of the GA [Meeting of the GA with dinner	
Evening of committees] committees] (open end)	
Encounter - Restaurant "Dobrun"	
Southeast Europe	
Regional Group	



The Program -Plenary Sessions

- Plenary sessions with content
 - Reception of working processes, reports from groups
- Business plenaries
 - Elections, votes, motions



The Program – Working Groups

- Working groups on texts
- Working groups on topics (focus groups)
- Working groups on new working topics (future workshops)



The Program -Accompanying Program

- Opening evening
- Worship services
- Devotions
- Visitation program
- Evening of the host churches



The Program – social part



Participants I

• Delegates of the Member Churches:

Right to speak, make motions, vote + participate in the working groups

• Delegates of the participating churches

Right to speak, make motions + participate in the working groups

• Council members (+ General Secretary)

Right to speak, make motions + participate in the working groups

• Experts

Right to speak + right to participate in the working groups



Participants II

- Observers from churches and institutions
- Representatives of partner organizations
- Ecumenical guests
- Other guests
- Press, Staff, Stewards
- Visitors
- Online participants

Working Instruments



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024

https://cpce-assembly.eu



Welcome to Sibiu

In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August – 2 September 2024

Latest news



Preliminary 2024 General Assembly Program Feb 2, 2024

- Download area for documents
- Personalized access. Data will be send by automatic e-mail



"Books"



www.leuenberg.eu | cpce-assembly.eu

Handbook:

PDF and printed

Practical information (translation, venues, meals, ...) and programme overview

Worship book:

Materials for worship services and devotions German, English, other languages



Languages & Terminology

Textänderung /

term	terion	amendment		
sich zu eigen machen adopt adopter annehmen approve approuver	Das Dokument wurde im Auftrag der Vollversammlung erstellt. The mandate for this document came from the General Assembly.	Die Vollversammlung kann den einge- reichten Text verändern. The General Assembly may amend the submitted text.		
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Formales Kriterium / formal cri-

Begriff /

English and German Professional interpreters on site

CPCE Glossary

Projects and documents bodies, groups, actors theological terms



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly



Electronic devices

Wifi available in the parish church (no need for paper)

Interpretation English – German:

Mobile app (riverside.fm) + cell phone as receiver

On-site notifications via bulk SMS

Please complete the second survey!







9, Vollversammlung der Gemeinschaft Evangelischer Kirchen in Europa Hermannstadt/Siblu, Rumänien 27. August - 2. September 2024



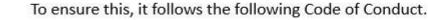
Code of Conduct

of the General Assembly of the Communion of Evangelical Churches in Europe 2024

Adopted by the CPCE Council on xx. February 2024

Preamble

The General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe is a place of encounter. It brings together people from different churches and denominations, different languages and cultures. It is a space in which different positions in our communion can meet and be respected.





- Respect for the dignity and integrity of all human beings
- Fair and just treatment of all, without discrimination, exploitation or harassment
- Responsible stewardship in the exercise of power and use of financial and other resources
- Respect for diversity, inclusiveness and participation, and transparency and accountability



Preamble

A. How to be alert to abuse, harassment and exploitation of any kind during the CPCE General Assembly

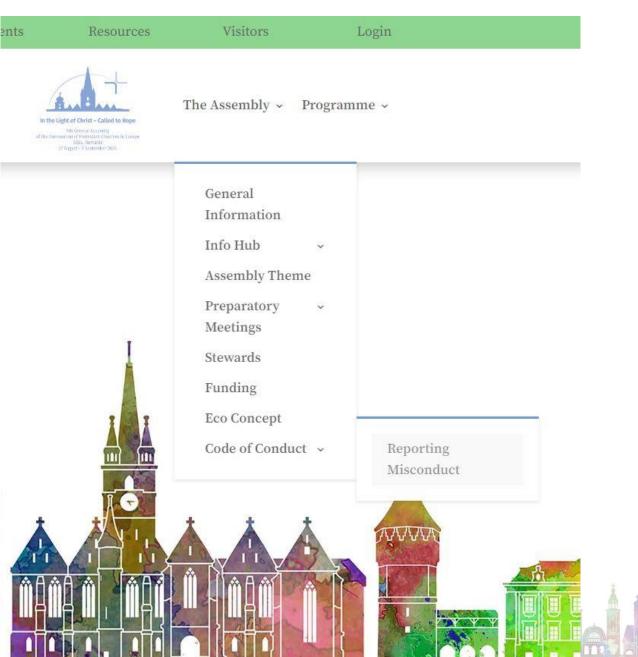
B. Assembly Complaint Mechanism

C. Procedure

D. Key Terms

ANNEX: CPCE General Assembly Complaint Form





Participation in the CPCE's 9th General Assembly presupposes agreement and adherence to this code of conduct. The Assembly Code of Conduct is applicable at all times and in all places during the assembly, including any excursion.



Rules of Procedure



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024



Rules of Procedure: a) Composition

- Voting rights
- Right to speak
- Right to make motions
- Quorum
- The public

Rules of Procedure: a) Composition

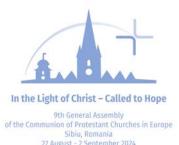


In the Light of Christ - Called to Hope

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe

		Participatio n in plenary session	Right to speak	Right to make motions	Right to vote	Attendance workshops	Quantity 2018 2024	
	(1) Delegates of the member churches	x	Х	x	Х	x	72	112
Delegates	(2) Delegates of the participating. churches	х	Х	х		х	4	4
	(3) Appointed delegates	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	10	6
Council members	(4) Former Council members	х	Х	х		Х	8	10
Advisors	(5) Experts	х	Х			Х	9	10
	(6) Advisors	х	Х				3	2
	(7) Partners	Х					3	5
	(6) Observers	Х						22
Guests	(8) Guests	Х					14	7
	(9) Guests of honor	х					3	4
	(10) Visitors	х					25	open
	(11) Press	х					13	open
Employees / Staff	(12) Staff	х	(X)	(X)			9	8
	(13) Extended staff	Х					14	9
	(14) Stewards	х					15	32
More	Local guests	х						open
1							202	231

Rules of Procedure: b) Voting



- carried out by a show of hands (ballot cards)
- held by secret ballot upon request
- Adoption of the resolution if there are more votes in favor than against.
- Approval of 2/3 of the members present and entitled to vote is required:
 - Amendment of the Statute
 - Amendment of the Rules of Procedure
 - Amendment of study texts

Rules of Procedure: c) Motions

Motions in plenary

(to moderation)

General motion In writing (4 supports)

Motion in the election procedure Oral (4 supports)

Motion on the ROP Oral (No support) Motions outside of plenaral Assembly 27 August - 2 September 2024

In the Light of Christ – Called to Hop

(to Motions and Resolutions Committee)

General motion In writing (4 supports)

(to Motions and Resolutions Committee or moderation)

Request for amendment of a study text In writing (10 supports or Working Group)

Rules of Procedure: c) Counter-motions

- Are made in writing.
- Are voted on before the original motion.
- The most far-reaching motion is voted on first.
- The moderator decides which motion is the most far-reaching motion. If it is unclear, the General Assembly determines the order of the motions.



9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

Rules of Procedure: c) Counter-motions

3

2



In the Light of Christ - Called to Hope

9th General Assembly f the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

Proposal 1: Veganism

Example: New study process

Supplementary proposal Veganism and climate change

Supplementary proposal Veganism, climate change and rural areas Counterproposal 1: Veganism as a religion

Rules of Procedure: c) Points of order

Request

- a) to postpone the discussion;
- b) to limit speaking time;
- c) to determine the number of speakers, and how often they may take the floor (speak) on a topic;
- d) to close the list of speakers for a topic;
- e) to end the present debate;
- f) to interrupt the meeting;
- g) to hold a secret ballot or a secret vote.



9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

Rules of Procedure: d) Committees

Nominations Committee

5-8 members

Drafting Committee

3-6 members

Statements Committee 3-6 members

Motions and Resolutions Committee

5-8 members thereof 3 council members Complaints Committee 4-6 members, of which: 2 Ombudspeople **# †** 1 member Pastoral care 1 specialist 1 Council member Minorities

Migration

Interreligious dialogue

Democracy

Rules of Procedure: e) Election of the Council



9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

- Council of the CPCE
 - 13 members
 - 13 personally assigned deputy members (proxies)
- Responsible for CPCE work between General Assemblies
- Constitutes itself during the General Assembly and elects a threemember Presidium from among its members.
- Until May 15, 2024: Nomination of council members by Member Churches
- Presentation of all candidates before the General Assembly

Rules of Procedure: e) Election of the Council





e) Election of the Council





- After the election, the Council meets in Sibiu and elects the three-member Presidium from among its members
- The old Council remains in office until the end of the General Assembly.
- In the closing service, the old council is bid farewell and the new council is introduced.

Rules of procedure: f) Working groups



Working groups on texts

Working groups on topics (focus groups)

Working groups on new work topics (future workshops)

- The composition is confirmed by the plenary session at the proposal of the Council.
- Each group elects on the proposal of the Council
 - Convenor
 - Group secretary

Rules of Procedure: g) Code of Conduct





"The General Assembly shall follow the Code of Conduct, as adopted by the Council."

(GA.RoP 7.1)

Agenda



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024

Agenda I



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 Sentember 2024

- 1. Opening
- 2. Business meeting of the General Assembly
 - 2.1 Approval of the Rules of Procedure
 - 2.2 Approval of the agenda
 - 2.3 Appointment of the members of the pastoral care team
 - 2.4 Appointment of the committees
 - 2.4.1.Nomination Committee
 - 2.4.2 Motions and Resolutions Committee
 - 2.4.3 Statements Committee
 - 2.4.4 Complaints Committee
 - 2.4.5 Drafting committee

Agenda II



In the Light of Christ - Called to Hope

9th General Assembly the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

- 3.Report of the presidium
- 4 Report of the General Secretary
- 5. Strategy of the CPCE 2024-2030
- 6. Results of work
 - 6.1 Study "Christian speaking of God"
 - 6.2 Study "Practice and theology of the Lord's Supper"
 - 6.3 Study "Democracy as a challenge for churches and societies"
 - 6.4 Study "Gender Sexuality Marriage Family"
 - 6.5 Further work results

5. Strategy of the CPCE 2024-2030

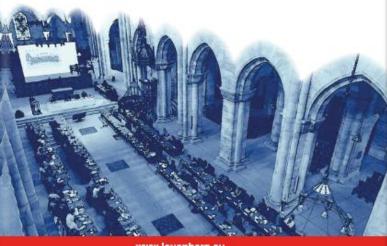


In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August – 2 September 2024

Gemeinschaft Evangelischer Kirchen in Europa (GEKE) Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE) Communion d'Eglises Protestantes en Europe (CEPE)

Ziele 2020-2024

Gemeinsam Kirche sein



www.leuenberg.eu

Being church together in the light of hope

Key question:

How do we become more of who we are as a church communion?

Mission statement:

Three sentences about our self-image

Measures of the church communion as

- Communion in worship
- Communion in learning and teaching
- Communion in witness and service
- Communion that shapes its structures
- Service to the unity of the Church

Agenda II



In the Light of Christ - Called to Hope

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6.5 Further work results



27 August - 2 September 2024

- Participation of young people
 - Young Theologians in Communion, Forum Young Theology in Europe, Stewards
- European Institutions and Protestant Churches in Europe
 - Council of Europe, European Schools
- Worship
 - Consultation on Worship
- Church development
 - Mixed Economy of Church, Church in rural areas
- Church communion as a communion of solidarity
 - Euro-orphans
- Migration and church communion
 - Cherubim & Seraphim Churches, Presbyterian Church of Ghana

Agenda III



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

- 7. Amendment of the Statute of the CPCE
- 8. Election of the incoming Council
 - 8.1 Presentation and discussion of the electoral lists8.2 Voting on the lists
- 9. Keynote address by Dr. Christine Schließer
- 10. Statements of the General Assembly
- 11. Focal issues from 2024 onwards

7. Amendment of the CPCE Statute



9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

- 1. Determination of the number of delegates from the member churches
- 2. Formulation of the tasks and status of the regional groups
- 3. Enabling the appointment of a Deputy General Secretary

Agenda III



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europ Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

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9. Keynote address



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

Dr. Christine Schließer

In the light of Christ – called to hope

- Director of Studies at the Ecumenical Center for Faith and Society at the University of Fribourg
- Lecturer in Systematic Theology and Ethics at the University of Zurich
- Research Fellow at the Chair of "Historical Trauma and Transformation" at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

Agenda III



In the Light of Christ – Called to Hope 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europ Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

- 7. Amendment of the CPCE Statute
- 8. Election of the incoming Council
 - 8.1 Presentation and discussion of the electoral lists8.2 Voting on the lists
- 9. Keynote address by Dr. Christine Schließer
- 10. Statements of the General Assembly
- 11. Focal issues from 2024 onwards

10. Statements



- 9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024
- 1. "Migration from the perspective of the Central and Eastern European countries of origin"
- 2. "Challenges posed by the existence of ecclesiastical and linguistic minorities"
- 3. "Interreligious relations in Europe in the context of the conflict between Israel and Hamas"
- 4. "Democracy"

Agenda III



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- A) Strategy
- B) Future workshops
 - Theological-dogmatic work of the CPCE
 - Ecumenical and interdenominational relations
 - Social ethics
 - Current change: challenges for the churches
 - Reception and participation

Addition to the agenda



In the Light of Christ - Called to Hope

9th General Assembly of the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe Sibiu, Romania 27 August - 2 September 2024

• Possibility to include current topics

Open questions



În lumina lui Hristos – chemați la speranță

Cea de-a IX-a Adunare Generală a Comunității Bisericilor Protestante din Europa Sibiu, România 27 august - 2 septembrie 2024