

PROGRAMME
(18/11/2022)

**XXIV ANNUAL EPP GROUP INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE
WITH CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**

RELIGION AND THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

**Reaction of Churches and religious communities to war, conflict and their contribution in shaping
the evolution of the European Union**

9 - 10 December 2022

Vienna, AUSTRIA

**Meeting room: Ballsaal
HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL VIENNA
Johannesgasse 28
1030 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 1 711220**

Friday, 9 December 2022

10:30 hrs Registration for external speakers, guests and journalists

11:00 - 11:30 hrs **WELCOME**

- **Manfred WEBER** MEP, Chairman of the EPP Group
- **Othmar KARAS** MEP, First Vice-President of the European Parliament responsible for implementation of Article 17 TFEU Dialogue with Churches, religious associations or communities, philosophical and non-confessional organisations
- **Angelika WINZIG** MEP, Head of Austrian Delegation of the EPP Group
- **Jan OLBRYCHT** MEP, Vice-Chairman and Chief Whip of the EPP Group in the EP and Co-Chairman of the Working Group on Intercultural Relations and Interreligious Dialogue
- **György HÖLVÉNYI** MEP, Co-Chairman of the Working Group on Intercultural Relations and Interreligious Dialogue

11:30 - 12:30 hrs **SPECIAL INTERVENTIONS**

- **H.E. Elder Metropolitan EMMANUEL OF CHALCEDON**, Ecumenical Patriarchate (via video connection)
- **Fr. Manuel Enrique BARRIOS PRIETO**, General Secretary, Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the EU (COMECE)
- **Chief Rabbi Schlomo HOFMEISTER**, Community Rabbi of Vienna
- **Imam Yahya Sergio Yahe PALLAVICINI**, President, European Muslim Leaders Council (EULEMA)

Debate

12:30 - 14:30 hrs **Lunch**

14:30- 16:00 hrs **THEME I: THE CHURCHES AND THE WAR IN UKRAINE**

Panel Chair:

Rasa JUKNEVIČIENĖ MEP, Vice-Chair of the EPP Group in the EP

Interventions

- **H.E. ARSENIUS KARDAMAKIS of Austria**, Metropolitan of the Metropolis of Austria and Exarch of Hungary and Central Europe
- **Dr. Jørgen Skov SØRENSEN**, General Secretary at Conference of European Churches (CEC)
- **Prof. Antoine ARJAKOVSKY**, Historian, Co-directeur, Department of Research "Politique et Religions", Collège des Bernardins

Debate

17:00 - 20:00 hrs **Study Visit to the Klosterneuburg Abbey** (see separate programme)

20:00 hrs **Dinner at the Leopold Restaurant of the Klosterneuburg Abbey**

Saturday, 10 December 2022

07:45 hrs *(Optional)* **Meeting at the Hotel Lobby and walk to the Stephansdom**

08:00 hrs *(Optional programme)* **Holy Mass at the Stephansdom** celebrated by **Fr. Peter SCHIPKA**, Secretary General of the Austrian Catholic Bishops' Conference

10:00 - 11:30 hrs **THEME II: INFLUENCE OF CHURCHES/RELIGIONS ON SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROCESSES?**

Panel Chair:

Pernille WEISS MEP, Head of the Danish Delegation of the EPP Group

Interventions

- **Prof. Christiaan Alting von GEUSAU**, President of the Vienna-based International Catholic Legislators' Network and Professor of Law and Education at ITI Catholic University
- **Very Reverend Archimandrite Father Aimilianos BOGIANNOU**, Committee of Representatives of the Orthodox Churches to the EU (CROCEU)
- **Prof. Dr. Regina POLAK**, Associate Professor at the Department of Practical Theology, Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Vienna

Debate

11:30 - 12:00 hrs **CLOSING**

- **Othmar KARAS** MEP, First Vice-President of the European Parliament responsible for implementation of Article 17 TFEU Dialogue with Churches, religious associations or communities, philosophical and non-confessional organisations
- **Jan OLBRYCHT** MEP and **György HÖLVÉNYI** MEP, Co-Chairmen of the Working Group on Intercultural Relations and Interreligious Dialogue

12:00 hrs

Lunch

LANGUAGES: EN, FR, DE, IT, EL