



Peace & Reconciliation Network

The Peace and Reconciliation Network (PRN), a commission of the World Evangelical Alliance, has been working since 2016/2017 to inspire and equip the Church and people of peace to enable communities to live life in all its fullness. Now with regional expressions in Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and North America, PRN is growing and partnering with national evangelical alliances and their churches, training

institutions, ministries, and other networks. We are convinced that the mission of God is reconciliation centered in Jesus Christ, and that this moment of time requires churches, beginning with their leaders, to awaken to and embrace a *Shalom*-centered theology, way of life, and mission.



God's shalom vision

"Our world is facing the biggest global peace and security crisis in recent years...we must pass this test." UN General Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, February 22, 2022

"We believe that sharing of good ideas will result in good practices for the benefit of all." Hope for Europe 2022

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'" Isaiah 52:7

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Jesus, Matthew 5:9

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us."

Paul the Apostle, 2 Corinthians 5:17-20a



Prioritizing peace building does not mean including some small add-on program to your church work, but a concentrated shift in priorities to realign ourselves with the very mission of God."

Bryan Carey, Peace Catalyst International

"The missional movement of the church in society is first and foremost an action of peace."

Johannes Reimer, World Evangelical Alliance



The current global reality – even beyond Ukraine - is a profound test at every societal level and in every local community. This moment, shaped by war, waves of people migrations, a lingering global pandemic, climate concerns, economic instability, sexual identity debates, and polarized tensions in communities, families, and even churches, demands a Christian response.

If the earth is the LORD's and everything in it (Psalm 24:1) for which he has a vision of wholeness, well-being and shalom (Isaiah 2:1-5; Micah 4:1-5), and if God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Jesus Christ through whom he is reconciling to himself all things (Colossians 1:19-20), and if Jesus taught his disciples to pray for the Father's Kingdom to come and will to

be done on earth as in heaven (Matthew 6:9-10), and if Jesus has given his disciples peace and sent us as he has been sent (John 20:21) to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20), then it is an essential task of the body of Christ to embrace God's shalom-building mission and our call to follow Jesus into the sacred, healing work of peacebuilding.

How is our theology providing clarity about God's shalom vision and motivating us to follow Jesus in God's shalom-building mission in today's challenges? How are our denominations and local churches actively engaged in the ministry of reconciliation that is the heart of a whole biblical gospel? How are our leaders equipped to disciple their Christian communities as reconciled and reconciling communities in a fractured world facing great tests and looking for hope?

We look with anticipation toward Hope for Europe 2022 with these desired outcomes:

- To call European evangelicals to consider deeply the ministry of reconciliation and peacemaking as central to the Gospel.
- To spur conversation, prayerfulness, and collaboration around the complex leadership challenges of our time that we must engage and encourage one another in now.
- To introduce you to the PRN team.
- To invite you to join our European network of Christians learning about and training disciples and churches in the theology and best practices of peace building.



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