

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Bonn, Friday 05 May 2023



European Evangelical Alliance: Statement on Serbian Shootings

The General Secretaries of the EEA, along with all Staff, would like to express their condolences to the loved ones of the victims of the Serbian shootings this week. We mourn with friends and family, and with a nation in shock and sadness. We stand with you in prayer.

We spoke to Samuil Petrovski, from the Serbian Evangelical Alliance, and Draško Đenović, from the Synod of the Evangelical Church of Serbia. They shared a few of their thoughts and calls to prayer:

May 3, 2023, will remain permanently engraved in the history of Serbian society as the first massacre in one of our schools. Parents sent their children to school, as they would every morning, a supposed safe place, unaware some would not see them again.

Yesterday, May 4, shook the country with a second mass shooting. There is a lot of fear and uncertainty in the wake of these two shootings. Children are afraid to go to school and even churches are rethinking their security.

Please join us in praying for:

- the Serbian nation as it lives through this tragedy,*
- the families who have lost their children, their friends, their providers,*
- the children and families who witnessed the massacre and had a close encounter with death,*
- the children and families of the wounded and those still fighting for their lives,*
- the team of doctors and nurses still treating the wounded,*
- the perpetrators of the attacks, and their own families and friends,*
- young people in Serbia,*
- and for guidance and unity among Serbian churches amidst the fear and insecurity.*

Our Serbian brothers and sisters invite all the evangelical community in Europe to unite in prayer and support!

Connie Main Duarte
EEA General Secretary

Jan Wessels
EEA General Secretary

The EEA, originally created in 1952, is a pan-European movement representing more than 50 national and international evangelical Protestant organizations in Europe, and 23 million citizens in the EU.

Legal seat: Josefstrasse 32, 8005 Zürich, Switzerland
Postal address: Reuterstr. 116, 53129 Bonn, Germany
www.europeanea.org