



World Council
of Churches



6th World Conference on
Faith and Order

Where Now for Visible Unity?

European Online Pre-Conference

23 - 25 September 2025

Tuesday 23 September

10:00 - 10:10 **Opening prayer**

10:10 - 10:30 **Welcome**

Dr Andrej Jeftic, Director,
Faith and Order Commission,
World Council of Churches

Rev. Frank-Dieter Fischbach,
General Secretary,
Conference of European
Churches

10:30 - 12:00 **Sixth World
Conference
on Faith
and Order,
information
and
discussion**

14:00 - 16:00 **Ecumenical Council of Nicaea and
its significance for church unity**

This session explores the enduring significance of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea and the Nicene Creed as a foundation for Christian unity, both historically and in the present. It invites critical and contextual reflection on how the Creed continues to shape the Church's shared faith, especially amid contemporary crises such as war, inequality, climate change, and displacement. As a public confession proclaimed in baptism and liturgy, the Creed unites Christians across time and tradition, serving as both a theological anchor and a call to action. Rooted in the incarnate Christ, who walked with the poor and oppressed, the Creed challenges the Church today to embody its faith through justice, dignity, and solidarity - a sign of the Spirit's work in and through the Church for the life of the world.

Panel & Discussion in small groups

Wednesday 24 September



10:00 - 12:00

Confessing the one faith in increasingly secular and plural societies

In a time of growing secularisation, religious plurality, and shifting migration dynamics, confessing the Christian faith in the public square presents both challenges and opportunities. This session explores how churches in Europe engage with changing cultural and political contexts, while remaining rooted in the apostolic faith. As Christian values encounter secular norms, questions arise about bearing faithful witness without retreat or conformity. Freedom of religion is increasingly contested, and migration has reshaped societies, pressing churches to speak with clarity, integrity, and hospitality. Through the lenses of faith, mission, and unity, the session considers how churches can confess Christ, serve the common good, and uphold human dignity and religious freedom for all.

Panel & Discussion in small groups

14:00 - 16:00

Witnessing to Christ together in a broken world

In the midst of armed conflict, forced migration, climate crisis, and the erosion of human dignity, the Church's call to bear common witness to Christ is more urgent than ever. This session explores how churches, rooted in a shared confession of faith, are called to live out their unity through martyrria - bearing witness to the crucified and risen Lord in word and action. It will reflect on how Christians are sent into the world to serve, reconcile, and resist evil through concrete acts of justice, peace, and hope. In contexts of suffering, such witness becomes a sign of the Church's visible unity and a foretaste of God's reconciliation. Participants will consider how to embody a credible peace witness in Europe and beyond, responding to the world's wounds with the healing love of Christ.

Panel & Discussion in small groups



Thursday 25 September

10:00 - 12:00 Walking in the Spirit toward Christian unity

In a world fractured by violence and division, churches are called to walk in the Spirit toward the visible unity Christ wills for His Body. This calling is gravely tested by the ongoing Russian war against Ukraine and the immense human suffering in Gaza which compel an urgent and compassionate response. These and other global violent conflicts demand faithful witness and prophetic action from the churches. This session explores the Holy Spirit's active role in healing, reconciling, and uniting the Church, particularly in Europe's context of war, migration, secularisation, and polarisation. Rooted in the legacy of Nicaea and the living apostolic faith, the discussion will consider how spiritual discernment and concrete steps toward peace, justice, and mutual accountability are essential to unity. Recent Faith and Order reflections affirm that true unity is not only doctrinal or structural, but deeply pneumatological - grounded in the Spirit's sanctifying and reconciling work. The session invites churches to lament division, accompany the suffering, and renew their commitment to dialogue, shared witness, and the transformation of unjust systems, discovering new pathways to reconciliation through the Spirit's guidance.

10:00 - 11:00 Panel

11:00 - 12:00 Listeners report and discussion

Closing prayer



Registration: [here](#)

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ooOO4cKhSSyx1MNE5Um6Yw#/registration>

Thank you for joining us. We look forward to your presence at the conference.

