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## **Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA)**

### **Webinar**

## **The New Forgotten Tragedies: Remembering the Past and Moving Towards Reconciliation**

**Tuesday 13 December 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM CET (Zurich time)**

Registration link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_DKcl6mtUTqSbAAE05PLerA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DKcl6mtUTqSbAAE05PLerA)

### **Short bios**

#### **Moderator**

**REV. DR PETER CRUCHLEY** is the incoming Director of the WCC's Commission for World Mission and Evangelism. Peter is a Mission Theologian who has been working especially on the legacies of slavery and colonisation in mission societies. He is also a pastor from the United Reformed Church in the UK.

Previously, he worked with the Council for World Mission as Mission Secretary for Mission Development, where he led the Legacies of Slavery project which is aimed to repent of racist past, practices and theologies, and embrace a vision of mission as doing restorative racial justice. He has published books and articles on contextual approaches to mission as well as ecumenical and postmodern approaches to missiology.

#### **Co-facilitator**

**REV. DR MIKIE ROBERTS** was appointed in February 2019 as the Programme Executive for Spiritual Life and Faith & Order at the World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland. In this capacity, he coordinates the daily prayers at the Ecumenical Centre and also gives leadership to the musical and spiritual life initiatives for the WCC. Mikie was born on the island of Antigua and was ordained as a pastor within the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province 28 years ago. Before joining the WCC, he served as the Provincial Director of Music for his church and has served congregations in Trinidad, Barbados and St. Thomas (US Virgin Islands) where he was last stationed.

#### **Speakers**

**SANDISWA LERATO KOBE** is a Lecturer in Missiology in the Department of Christian Spirituality, Church History and Missiology at the University of South Africa (Unisa), in South Africa. She holds a Master of Theology degree from the University of the Western Cape (UWC), South Africa. Her master's dissertation is titled *The Relationship between Remorse and Offering Forgiveness: Selected Case Studies from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa (TRC)*. During her master's degree studies, she developed a love and passion to work on human rights issues, transitional justice, reconciliation, forgiveness, and Ubuntu. This work developed and continued into a PhD project, where she focuses more on forgiveness, Ubuntu, and justice. Her doctoral research topic is titled: *Between Ubuntu and Forgiveness: A critical analysis of Desmond Tutu's theology of forgiveness*. She is a PhD Candidate at the University

of Pretoria and VU University Amsterdam. She holds the VU University Amsterdam – NRF Desmond Tutu Doctoral Scholarship.

Sandiswa Lerato Kobe is an activist and a scholar, and she is one of South Africa's foremost emerging scholars in the field of liberation theologies in South (Africa). Her research centres in the area of liberation theologies, and the African philosophy of Ubuntu. She has about six publications in peer reviewed journals.

**DR CATHERINE S. NAMAKULA** is the current Chairperson of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (WGEPAD). She is a senior lecturer with the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa and Professor in Human Rights and Criminal Justice with the Global Humanistic University, Curacao. She is a published scholar in public law and has served in various positions with expert bodies and organisations. She has made notable scholarly contributions relating to the inclusivity of people in criminal justice processes, promoting the parity of esteem of African languages and ensuring effective interpretative performance. She is also a legal advisor and community leader among immigrant entities and associations in South Africa. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, and a Master's degree in Human Rights Law from the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, among other qualifications.

**MARTHA PEDONIQOTTE** is the Community Capacity Development Coordinator (CCDC) for Ontario/Quebec within the Indigenous Ministries and Justice Unit (IMJ) of the United Church of Canada as the. She is from the Ojibway/Pottawatomi community of the Chippewas of Nawash, formerly known as Cape Croker, located at Neyaashiinigiing on the Saugeen (Bruce) Peninsula. She is a mother and grandmother, and a registered foster home having cared for numerous First Nations children over the past 20 years.

She served the United Church of Canada in a volunteer capacity with the Aboriginal Ministries Council (now the National Indigenous Council); the executive of General Council and a selected member to the Moderators Advisory Committee; the Healing Fund; the Mission & Service Committee; Indigenous Candidacy Board; the Justice & Reconciliation Fund Committee; as well as on the Boards of the Sandy Sauteaux Spiritual Centre and the Five Oaks Centre.

She worked as a Victim Support Services Coordinator and Policy Program Advisor for the Independent First Nations facilitating capacity building in the area of family wellbeing and domestic/family violence to northern and southern Independent First Nations. She has also served my community as an elected Band Councillor over 5 terms holding the portfolios of Health; Social Development; Economic Development; Saugeen Ojibway Nation Consultation Advisory; and Board member of Native Horizons Treatment Centre, Huronia Area Aboriginal Management Board and Aboriginal Labour Force Development Canada. As a Business graduate, she runs a successful transportation business securing contracts with Education, Medical Services, Maadookii Seniors, Home and Community Care and HAAMB. I continue to focus my attention on the betterment of First Nations issues through a positive perspective of both Western and Traditional practices.

**THE REV. DR KONRAD RAISER** is a former WCC General Secretary (from 1993-2003). He studied theology at universities of Tübingen, Heidelberg and Zürich from 1957 to 1963. He was ordained in the Protestant Church in Württemberg in 1964.

In 1965-66 he went to Harvard University in the US for additional studies in sociology and social psychology. Back in Germany, he worked from 1967-69 as a university assistant in practical theology at the Protestant theological faculty in Tübingen, earning a doctorate in theology in

1970 with a thesis on G.H. Mead's theory of interaction and its significance for theological anthropology. In March 1967, he married Elisabeth von Weizsäcker. The Raisers have four sons. In 1969, Raiser joined the staff of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Geneva as study secretary in the Commission on Faith and Order. In 1973, he was appointed deputy general secretary. Raiser returned to Germany in 1983 to take up a post as professor of systematic theology and ecumenics at the Protestant theological faculty of the University of the Ruhr in Bochum, at the same time serving as director of the faculty's Ecumenical Institute.

In 1992, the WCC Central Committee elected Raiser as general secretary for a five-year term. In September 1996, he was re-elected for a second term. He retired in 2004, and lives in Berlin, Germany.

Recent publications: *Ecumenism in Transition*, WCC/Geneva 1991; *Religion, Power, Politics*, WCC/Geneva 2013; *The Challenge of Transformation*, WCC/Geneva 2018.

**PROF. FABIÁN SALVIOLI** is the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. He is a human rights lawyer and professor, and has a Ph.D on Juridical Sciences and a Master degree on International Relations.

As an academic, Salvioli is professor of International Law and Human Rights at the School of Law of the University of La Plata, where he is also Director of the Human Rights Master Program and Director of the Institute of Human Rights.

Professor Salvioli has authored several books and articles on international human rights law, including on the United Nations human rights mechanisms, the Inter-American human rights system, reparations, interpretation and application of human rights principles, and international justice.

He was member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee between 2009 and 2016, and its President between 2015 and 2016. In this capacity, he authored the “Guidelines on reparations” adopted by the Committee in October 2016.

As a lawyer, he has litigated cases before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. In this capacity, he filed the first amicus curiae brief on the right to truth before the Inter-American Court.

Mr. Salvioli served twice as member and three times as president of Ad-Hoc Arbitration Courts on Monetary Reparations, within the Friendly Settlement Mechanism of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.