

Debate

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# European asylum and migration policy decisive for the European elections?

Wednesday, 29 May 2024  
7 - 9 pm

Zentrum Oekumene  
Praunheimer Landstraße 206  
60488 Frankfurt am Main

online and on site

## European asylum and migration policy – decisive for the European elections?

The EU and its member states face a twofold challenge when it comes to asylum and migration: on the one hand, there is the question of how they can fulfil their international responsibility under international law for the protection of refugees - for example within the framework of the Geneva Convention on Refugees. On the other hand, it is about how they can jointly manage and organise migration, which subsequently also raises the issue of integrating refugees into national society.

However, the political focus on curbing ‘irregular migration’ also promotes racist views and language, and defensive attitudes ultimately also hinder social integration. The universality of human rights, constitutional principles and European values is increasingly being called into question. At the same time, there has been an increase in and acceptance of violent and inhumane behaviour towards people seeking protection, especially, but not only, at the external borders of the European Union.

Churches and social welfare organisations are committed to an asylum and migration policy based on human rights, in favour of the individual right to asylum as well as resettlement quotas, safe routes and rapid social integration.

## Debate

- What principles guide the parties in their European asylum and migration policy?
- What do the parties see as the greatest challenges following the compromises found for the common European asylum system?
- Will the compromise strengthen solidarity or will it undermine fundamental values?

## Welcome address:

*Church President Dr Dr h.c. Volker Jung,*  
Protestant Church in Hesse and Nassau

## Panel:

- *Mona Akrami*, EP candidate SPD, Frankfurt/M.
- *Deborah Düring*, Member of the Bundestag, Alliance 90/The Greens, Frankfurt/M.
- *Michael Gahler*, MEP, CDU Hesse
- *Dr Torsten Moritz*, General Secretary of the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME)
- *Isabel Schnitzler*, EP candidate FDP, Frankfurt/M.
- *Prof Dr Gerhard Trabert*, EP candidate, The Left (non aligned)

## Also connected:

*Jiří Schneider*, Lay Moderator, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, Czech Republic

## Organisation:

*Pastor Christina Schnepel*, Consultant for Development and Partnership USA and the Hope for Eastern Europe Campaign, Ecumenical Centre of the EKKW and the EKHN, Frankfurt am Main

## Registration via QR code or at:

<https://kurzelinks.de/EUwahl2024>



The event can also be followed via Zoom in German and English. Participation is only possible in presence.

When registering, please note

... your participation on site at the Ecumenical Centre

or

... your online participation

[www.zentrum-oekumene.de](http://www.zentrum-oekumene.de)