

## Press Release

### Ökumenischer Kirchentag Munich 12-16 May 2010 „That You May Live in Hope”

**Without hope, without the living ecumenical experience, without the many holding on to their vision, the long journey towards peace in Belfast, (London)Derry and the whole of Northern Ireland would never have taken place.**

**But what were the causes of the conflict? And how were they, at least partly, overcome? Is the peace process, since the Good Friday agreement of 1998, irreversible? What further (ecumenical) efforts are necessary to allow the two communities to live together harmoniously and peacefully, with respect for each other's different traditions?**

**These, and many similar questions (historical, political and religious) will be addressed by a number of individuals and groups and debated at the Kirchentag –**

**– at the ‘Encounters’ Evening** (Wednesday, 12 May, from 6.30 pm) at the (Northern) Ireland stall (Sendlinger Torplatz)

**- in two evening events** in the theatre of MÜNCHENSTIFT house in Rümmanstrasse 60 (München-Schwabing)

Friday, 14 May, 7 pm: Panel Discussion featuring representatives from church and politics, on the question: which (ecumenical) projects have individuals as well as communities come forward with as a reaction to the conflict? What (open or concealed) role have the churches played?

Saturday, 15 May, 6 pm: An Ecumenical Celebration, with all participants and visitors, featuring Irish music, dance, films.... ‘A LONG IRISH NIGHT OF RECONCILIATION’

**– and on three long days** (at the same place) **in the ‘House of Ireland’** – set up by us for those three days **as an open meeting place** for talks, for information & displays, Irish food and drink, an Irish library, for films and new projects.... we may have all somehow heard about. Here they become tangible and your queries are welcome.

#### **Keywords / Participants (to be confirmed) /Organisers**

- Corrymeela Community, „St. Patrick & Friends“ (St. Patricks Centre in Downpatrick, Co. Down), the (secret) „Duisburg Talks“ (1989), the Nerve Centre, Derry, with the award-winning film „Dance Lexi Dance“, Féile Belfast (West Belfast Festival, one of

the biggest non-commercial community festivals in Europe – as a response to the „Troubles“), [www.peace-counts.org](http://www.peace-counts.org) , the Institut für Friedenspädagogik e.V. in Tübingen (and an exceptional exhibition on the theme of ‘Northern Ireland – "to achieve a normal life. Two ex-terrorists and the cold peace"').

We have invited further Irish thinkers and people who have shared Northern Ireland's long path to peace.

The Irish address during the Kirchentag:

**HOUSE OF IRELAND, MÜNCHENSTIFT-Haus**, Rümmanstraße 60, 80804 München (Schwabing)

**Opening times (Wed., 13 May – Sat, 15 May.) 10 am – 6 pm** (+ evening events:

Fri 14 May, 7 pm: panel discussion

Sat, 15 May from 6 pm: Ecumenical Celebration

How to get there:

U2/U3, Station Scheidplatz, 10 min by foot.

Or Bus 144, Stop: "Altenheim Schwabing" (the theatre/concert auditorium with a capacity of 400 is part of this complex)

Further information (from us): [www.irlandaufdemkirchentag.de](http://www.irlandaufdemkirchentag.de) (from 8.3.2010)

Official English address: [http://www.oekt.de/english/home\\_english.html](http://www.oekt.de/english/home_english.html)

Ireland at the Kirchentag is organised by a private project group, „(Nord)Irland auf dem Kirchentag“, convened by Gina Apoyan, Florian Ganser and Christian Ludwig; Schwarzer Weg 25, 47447 Moers.

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