

ⓧ ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATION of Academies and Laity Centres in Europe
OKUMENISCHE VEREINIGUNG der Akademien und Tagungszentren in Europa
ASSOCIATION OECUMÉNIQUE des Centres de Recherche et de Rencontre en Europe
Oecumenische Vereniging van Vormingscentra in Europa
Ekumeniska förbundet av konferensinstitut i Europa

VORSTAND

Generalsekretariat

D-7325 Bad Boll
Telefon (07164) 79-1 (Zentrale)
79231
79241 (direkt)

Mrs.
Maria de Lurdes Pintasilgo
Sede de Graal
Alam. de Santo António
dos Capuchos, 6-20 A
1100 Lissabonn / PORTUGAL

3-6 Set
5 Set
NL

23.2.1987
An/ke

Dear Mrs. de Lurdes Pintasilgo,

We hope you received our letter of September 29. 1986, thanking you for your agreement in taking part in our Peace Forum from September 3 to 6, 1987 in Driebergen, Netherlands, and to the speech we asked you for on Saturday, September 5.

/ Following this letter I am now sending you the invitation distributed to all the participants of the Peace Forum for your information.

Your expenses for Travelling, Board and Lodging will be covered by the Association. Please let us know the dates of your arrival and departure in Driebergen.

We would be very glad to have you with us during the whole Peace Forum, and in case you are able to take part in the working groups. we would like to ask you in addition to your speech to be one of the experts in Working Group III (North-South Relations in Europe). But for this information will be send to you in a separate letter.

Again thank you very much for your readiness.

Hoping to hear from you,

yours sincerely,



(Dr. Fritz Erich Anhelm)

Enc.

cc. José Leite



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INVITATION

23.2.1987

to the PEACE FORUM of the Ecumenical Association of Academies and Laity Centres in Europe in Kerk en Wereld (Driebergen/Holland) from September 3rd to 6th, 1987

On behalf of the Board and Executive Committee I cordially invite you to participate in the Peace Forum of the Ecumenical Association.

The Ecumenical Association of Academies and Laity Centres in Europe at its Annual Conference in Järvenpää in September 1983 issued a statement "Daring Peace in Europe" which we enclose for your information.

It contained the proposal to initiate international regional peace forums within the Association and, based on these, to organise in due course an all-European Peace Forum.

Meanwhile these regional forums have organised a series of international conferences on different aspects of peace politics and peace activities in Europe. In addition, consultations in Meißen, Berlin and Prague have intensified and extended the exchange of experience between centres and churches in East and West which had started in Järvenpää.

On the background of these events the Ecumenical Association would like to give its own contribution within the framework of the World Council of Churches' invitation to a conciliar process on justice, peace and integrity of creation and the Conference of European Churches' invitation for a Nordic Assembly of churches from among the Helsinki signatory states.

While the Association takes into account its own possibilities it would nevertheless like to encourage friendly peace organisations, peace institutions and individuals as well as representatives of churches to join in with their contributions.

We would be very happy to welcome in Driebergen all those receiving this invitation through our member centres or through the General Secretariate



together with participants from the centres. 200 to 250 people from about 20 countries of North, South, East and Western Europe will be assembled.

Enclosed please find the programme in its present form as well as a travel guide to the conference place, Kerk en Wereld, in Driebergen (Holland). With regard to the different themes of the working groups you will receive further information in due course.

In order for us to assess the number of participants fairly soon, we ask you to return the registration form by April 15th. You would help us alleviate the preparatory work by answering all the questions in detail.

The Preparatory Committee for worship, meditation and the Peace Festival has these five requests to put forward:

We would like to compile a small leaflet with easy, good peace songs. Singing them together in Driebergen could contribute to their "Europeanization". Please send your suggestions to Christa Joppien (Uhlenhorstweg 29, 4330 Mühlheim/Ruhr 1, FRG).

We want to celebrate a peace festival of hope. Those who want are welcome to join peace dances. Those of you who know easy peace dances might want to teach the others during the festival. Please don't forget the music tapes.

Peace gatherings often include children. To exchange peace games for children and adults can also be an element of a peace festival. Whoever knows such games is welcome to pass them on to others.

If possible we would like to organise a small music group in Driebergen. If you feel like joining it please indicate your instrument on the registration form

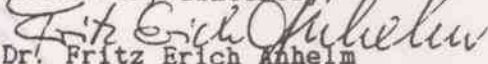
Finally we request you to bring along posters and buttons on the theme PEACE to be used for an exhibition and as small gifts.

The fees for accommodation and food as well as part of the conference costs (interpretation equipment) amount to 240 hfl. Please indicate on the registration form whether you need a free place and reimbursement for travel costs. Since our financial resources for the Peace Forum are limited we kindly ask you to check whether other financial means could be made available from other sources.

I would especially like to point out to our appeal to contribute to the Private Travel Fund. It will enable those participants to come who otherwise would not be in a position to cover the expenses. Please transfer any donation, small or big, to the account indicated.

For any further information please contact our office from Monday to Friday.

Yours very sincerely,


Dr. Fritz Erich Anhelm
General Secretary

encl.



ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIES AND LAITY CENTRES IN EUROPE

Annual Conference 1983

Järvenpää/Finland

TAKING RISKS FOR PEACE IN EUROPE

- A Statement by our Centres and
Association on Peace in Europe -

In the last few years the Ecumenical Association of Academies and Laity Centres in Europe has been intensively concerned with questions relating to peaceful co-operation in Europe. These have included, in particular, a new, more humane economic order, the problem of militarism and peace education. In 1981 (Schwerte) and 1982 (Birmingham) the Annual Meeting received reports comprising detailed theological approaches to these questions.

In this joint effort we seek to make our Centres into places of peace and reconciliation and thus to make an active contribution towards working for peace.

We are aware that many political problems have a personal dimension, just as many personal problems have a political dimension. We do not presuppose that political problems are simply the sum of personal and individual problems, knowing that the former develop in their own way. Nevertheless, we think that in our Centres we should keep both kinds in a creative tension.

The following statement is above all concerned with the political dimensions of peace. We understand peace as a process of broadening social conditions enabling peaceful co-existence, by

- foregoing recourse to violence in resolving intergovernmental conflicts;
 - eliminating hardship and distress;
 - guaranteeing freedom and self-determination for all peoples;
 - ending sexist, racist and social oppression and discrimination;
 - protecting our natural environment.
- (according to a definition by Galtung)

In the present global and European situation the following statement will concentrate on the discussion about political and inner military strategy in Western and Eastern Europe.

1) WHY THIS STATEMENT NOW ?

Everyday, in our Centres we meet people who are anxious,

- about the ever-growing numbers of weapons of mass destruction;
- about military strategies which include the possibility of conducting a limited nuclear war;
- that predominantly technological military and civil thought forms might mean the end of life for us and coming generations, even for the whole of creation;
- about the inability to implement political decisions in face of declared economic and military constraints;
- about the possibility of social and political instability in our societies which could lead to panic reactions.

We share these fears, and take them seriously. They lead to paralysis and a loss of hope. We counter them with faith and hope, that the Kingdom of God is



already among us, and that our work for peace and justice corresponds to God's will. It is important to realize now that the time has come when the scandal and risk of the arms race are greater than the intended benefit of deterrence.

Those of us who have experienced war and fascism, and those who grew up after World War II share a sensitivity to this great threat. Let us assist one another, personally and in our work, to deal with these anxieties productively. This political action must be aimed at

- promoting détente between East and West,
- combining the need for political and economic stability with the effort to sustain ecological stability,
- placing the means used in the East-West conflict in a responsible relationship to the efforts invested in solving the North-South conflict,
- replacing the present national security doctrine by the concept of a security partnership.

We shall know about the different proposals made in the last few years to prevent further harm through arms build-up, to reduce the potential for destruction and to undertake confidence building measures.

In the light of our responsibility to work for peace, as Christians and staff members of ecumenically oriented Centres, the following Statement focuses on a number of considerations which may contribute to a perspective of peace in Europe and to the taking of appropriate political steps.

2) WHAT DO WE WANT ?

We share the view of the Theological Studies Department of the GDR Council of Churches that it is necessary to "match the apocalyptic picture of a European nuclear disaster with the vision of a European peace order: Europe with its different peoples, cultures, social and political systems and alliances, a living community characterised by

- fruitful economic cooperation, even within contrasting economic and social structures,
- lively intellectual exchange and mutual dialogue about the roots, highpoints and failures of our common history, even from differing positions,
- joint efforts in meeting the challenges of crises in other parts of the world,
- joint activities in the preservation, representation and transmission of our European cultural heritage. "

(Theological Studies Department of the GDR Council of Churches: Partnership for Security, and Peace in Europe.)

The road towards such a European peace order presupposes that Europeans - depending on their respective status (as allies or non-aligned) - must realize their own role in building a more humane, participatory and sustainable global society. This calls for a joint learning process by women and men of different generations.

We support all efforts leading to better cooperation on the political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and humanitarian level in Europe. This includes in particular,



- the ten principles of the Helsinki Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE),
- the proposed conference on European disarmament,
- the proposals by the Palme Commission to create a nuclear free zone in Europe.

We appeal especially to our churches and partner bodies, like the "Conference of European Churches" to turn their responsibility for peace into concrete support for such political efforts.

3) WHAT ARE OUR SECURITY POLICY DEMANDS ?

Arms build-up and the installation of more and more new weapons systems are no longer feasible as a way to achieve peace and security in Europe.

We urge

- the reduction of conventional weapons and troop sizes, and trans-
armament to defensive weapons. This will enable the reduction of
atomic arms and no first strike. The reduction of conventional
weapons in both Germanies could be initiated at the same time;
- a stop to the stationing of all new nuclear weapons systems in
East and West;
- the creation of a nuclear free zone in Europe, with weapons being
first withdrawn from states with no say about their use;
- the abolition of all biological and chemical weapons;
- calculable steps towards disarmament at the START talks in Geneva
and the MBFR talks in Vienna, displaying the political will to seek
results;
- restrictions and controls on the international arms trade, and the
conversion of the arms industry to civil production;
- the calling of a European disarmament conference as soon as
possible, acting on the proposals of the non-aligned nations;
- the abandoning of the ideology of deterrence, which has no histori-
cal and practical perspective, and its replacement by a verifiable
security partnership;
- increased cooperation of States in Eastern and Western Europe in the
field of economics, trade, culture, information and personal en-
counter (confidence building measures).

4) WHAT CAN WE DO ?

Our discussion hinges on what we want to do. In addition, we must ask our-
selves whether we are willing or able to join forces with one another more
effectively. Our common work for Europe will only bear fruit if it is reflected
in activities in our different Centres.

- In view of the increasing threat our Centres must - as in some
cases in the past - continue to confront the peace issue. We must
constantly review the situation, disseminate research findings and
examine new proposals.
- We consider it important in working for peace to break through
hard-and-fast roles and thought-forms in relationship between wo-
men and men. This has to begin in our own Centres.
- It must be our task to make available time and space for all peace
initiatives with basic positions enabling them to make a qualitative
and quantitative contribution to disarmament. We can support peace



groups, e.g. through holding peace weeks, workshops, camps and forums.

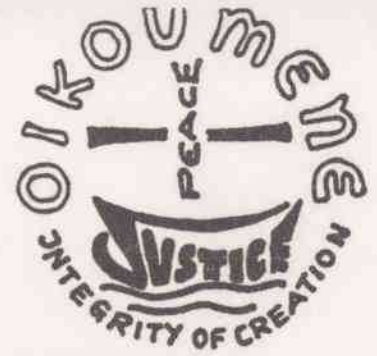
- Besides the danger of losing hope, the peace movement is subject to divisive tendencies. In view of our Christian tradition it must be the task of our Centres to manifest hope, in historical dimensions. We want to contribute towards preventing splinter groups, on the basis of a broadly discussed and acceptable minimal consensus, which also includes interim steps. At this point our Centres must maintain their proven ability to facilitate dialogue.
- Because of the urgency and size of the task of preserving peace the Ecumenical Association will in future devote one day at its Annual Conference to exchanging information, updating analysis and debating new proposals.
- Our Association enables us to link our local and regional activities at the international level. We should e.g. become aware of existing action groups against militarization in the Third World and bring them in contact with peace groups in Europe. Other possibilities are jointly planned and conducted events, medium-term projects and personal invitations and encounters.
- An important contribution of our Centres and Association to the peace process should consist in promoting a movement leading to a Peace Forum of European Christians. In preparation for this process, regional peace forums should be organized in northern, southern, eastern and western Europe. This will constitute an invitation to representatives of churches, Christian peace groups and organisations to meet for dialogue.

In the light of the World Council of Churches' Statement that "war is contrary to the will of God" (Amsterdam 1984) the 6th WCC Assembly declared in Vancouver in 1983: "We believe that the time has come when the churches must unequivocally declare that the production and deployment as well as the use of nuclear weapons are a crime against humanity and that such activities must be condemned on ethical and theological grounds." We endorse this assertion.

September 2nd, 1983



To the Ecumenical Association of
Academies and Laity Centres in Europe
7325 Bad Boll / FRG



R E G I S T R A T I O N

for the PEACE FORUM of the Ecumenical Association of Academies and Laity Centres
in Europe in Kerk en Wereld (Driebergen/Holland) from September 3 to 6, 1987

Name First Name
Institute
Address (with telephone)

	Date	Time	Place	Transport
Arrival	rail / car / air
Departure	rail / car / air

Accommodation: Single room double room

Languages: I speak: English / German / French
I understand: English / German / French

If necessary I can translate sometimes in the working groups:

English-German German-English English-French
French-English German-French French-German

I need a free place yes / no

I need half a free place yes / no

I ask for travel subsidy yes / no - Approx. amount

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

I would like to take part in the following working group: 1. choice 2. choice 3. choice

- Prerequisite to and chances of security partnership in Europe			
- The role of neutral and non-aligned countries in the European peace process			
- Poor and Rich. Justice in Europe as challenge for a European Peace Order			
- Barriers of peace politics and education for peace in Europe			
- Shalom and Security. The perception of peace in the Bible and the concept of security partnership			
- Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation: Elements of the conciliar process in the churches of Europe			

I would like to take part in an ad-hoc music group: _____

Instrument: _____

I would like to participate in practising with a group

- peace dances _____

- peace games _____ for the Peace Festival.



.....
Place and Date

.....
Signature

Kerk Wereld

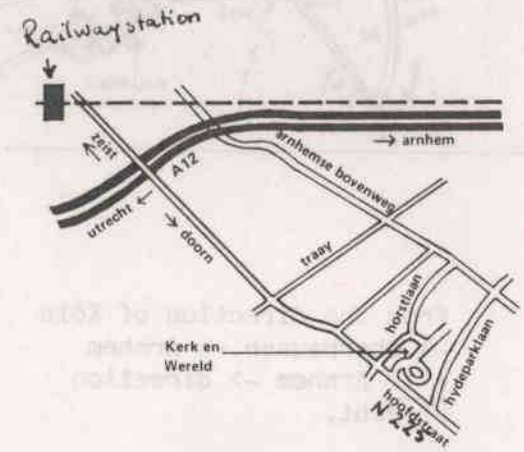
Coming by train to Utrecht

then there are two possibilities:

- by bus no. 50 or 51 to Driebergen (stop Akkerweg/Horstlaan) about 40 minutes.
- by train to Driebergen (about 10 minutes) then by bus no. 50 or 51 Driebergen (stop Akkerweg/Horstlaan) about 10 minutes.



Driebergen

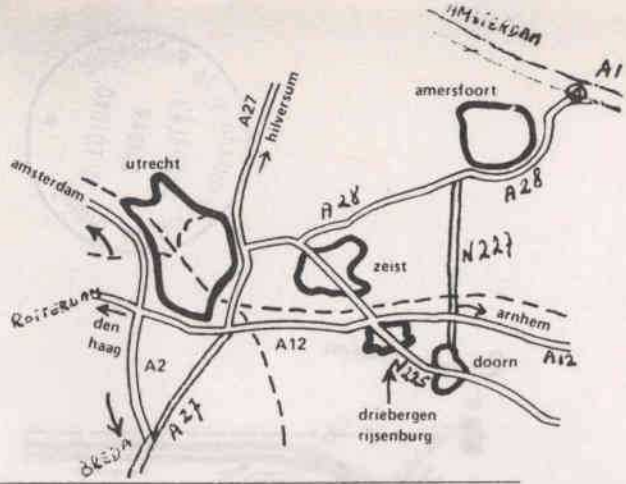


Coming by airplane

Airport Schiphol

two possibilities:

- by train to Amsterdam
by train Amsterdam-Utrecht
- by KLM-bus to Utrecht.



Stichting Kerk en Wereld
 De Horst 7, Driebergen
 Postbus 19
 3970 AA Driebergen Rijsenburg
 Tel. 03438 - 12241

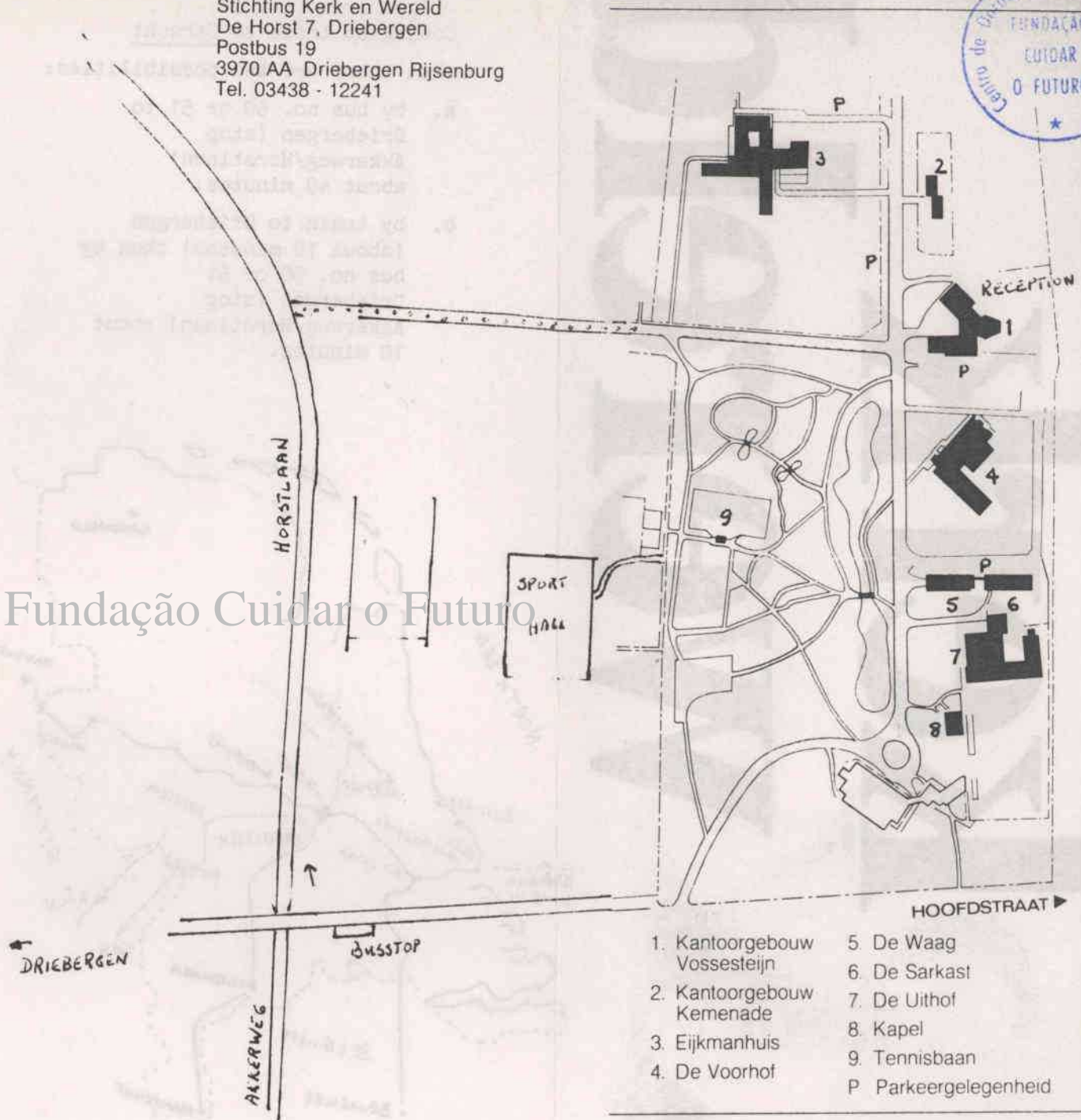


from the direction of Köln
 -> Oberhausen -> Arnhem
 A 12 Arnhem -> direction
 Utrecht.

from the direction of Paris -
 Buxelles - Antwerpen ->
 Breda A 27 -> Utrecht
 before Utrecht -> A12
 (direction Arnhem) Driebergen.

from the direction of Hannover
 -> Rheine/Osnabrück
 A 1 -> Oldenzaal/Hengelo ->
 direction Amsterdam
 before Amersfoort direction
 Utrecht A 28 ->
 exit Maarn/Doorn
 then N 227 to Doorn
 then N 225 to Driebergen

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro



- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Kantoorgebouw
Vossesteijn | 5. De Waag |
| 2. Kantoorgebouw
Kemenade | 6. De Sarkast |
| 3. Eijkmanhuis | 7. De Uithof |
| 4. De Voorhof | 8. Kapel |
| | 9. Tennisbaan |
| | P Parkeergelegenheid |