

## Konferenzen 2000 - 2017

### IPCA-WW Konferenzen

25. Aug. 1985	IPCA	Bossey/Schweiz	Gründung von IPCA
1990	IPCA	Bossey/Schweiz	
1995	IPCA	Ottawa/Kanada	
24. – 31. Aug. 2000	IPCA-WW	Kroonstad/RSA	„Tsepo – Creating Hope“
19. – 24. Aug. 2005	IPCA-WW	Cornwall/Canada	„No Estamos Solos!“
20. – 25. Aug. 2010	IPCA-WW	Stockholm/Sweden	„Forgotten People“
19. -24. Aug. 2015	IPCA-WW	Sydney/Australia	„Telling Our Story“

### IPCA-EUROPE Konferenzen 2000 - 2017

1992	IPCA-E	Straßburg/Frankreich	
1994	IPCA-E	Rugby/UK	
1997	IPCA-E	Ystad/Schweden	„Securité en prison“ Conference sus la valent de la vie humaine“
8. -14. Mai 2001	IPCA-E	Driebergen/NL	„Evil and the Evil One“
1. – 7. Juni 2004	IPCA-E	Tallinn/Estonia	„I was in prison and you viseted me“
26. – 30. Mai 2008	IPCA-E	Springe/BRD	„I sat with the Prisoners“
4. – 8. Juni 2012	IPCA-E	Sambata de Sus /Rumänien	„Strengthen the Soul“
12. – 15. Sept. 2017	IPCA-E	Cambridge/UK	„Faith and Trust in Prison“

# Deklarationen

Sydney 2015:

## Declaration

**International Prison Chaplains Association VII World Congress  
Sydney, Australia, 2015**

We, 250 Prison Chaplains from 50 countries, participants of the IPCA world conference meeting from September 19th to 24th 2015 in Sydney, Australia, are united, encouraged and equipped for the challenges of globalisation with its advantages and disadvantages for our societies and their different correctional systems.

We address this declaration to all Government and Churches, as well as to Prisoners, Victims and our fellow Prison Chaplains.

We challenge once more the principle that imprisonment is a successful way to solve the problem of crime in every society. We reaffirm the work being done by some governments in improving regimes and the respect for human rights in prisons. Remembering our past conferences as International Prison Chaplains Association we reiterate and reaffirm our emphasis of the following points: the inherent dignity of all prisoners, our particular concern for vulnerable prisoners, our commitment to work with others including NGOs, World Organizations, and Faith Groups to address poverty and facilitate access to food, clothing, medicines and literacy supplies needed in prisons. We advocate for the freedom of religion and for respect and resources for Prison Chaplains from all Faith Communities in their ministry of love and hope.

In addition to these efforts we especially nominate three developments in the world that influence the correctional systems and the prison ministry:

1. More than ever an increasing number of people are fleeing from their home countries due to war, terrorism, persecution and poverty to seek asylum in the safer countries of the world. We challenge the use of detention facilities for refugees and migrants as the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) has aptly declared as being unacceptable.
2. In many countries people are still imprisoned because they are conscientious objectors. We affirm that the rejection of military service is a human right and should not lead to imprisonment.
3. We call again for an immediate worldwide moratorium on executions and the abolition of the death penalty.

We welcome the revision of the United Nations Minimum Standard Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, developed by UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice with support of NGOs with consultant status as our Catholic sister organisation International Commission of Catholic Prison Pastoral Care (ICPPC). We ask that these rules, now called "The Mandela Rules", be applied in all countries.

We commit ourselves to use our consultant status in the UN for reconciliation in the societies in which we live and work.

We ask that **Governments, Churches and Faith Communities** move away from the philosophy of retributive justice and encourage restorative justice strategies. We are encouraged by examples of Faith Communities being involved in the reintegration of ex-offenders and we pray that this will be developed further in the world.

We encourage **Prison Administrators, Governors and Staff** in the difficult challenges that face them. We urge them to always carry out their duties with integrity, humanity, justice and care.

We affirm our commitment to **prisoners**, and we encourage them to take part in programmes that address offending behaviour, victim/offender reconciliation programmes, wider education and restorative justice initiatives.

We are aware of the pain of the **victims** of crime and the lack of opportunity for them to express it. We urge Faith Communities to be more available to help victims work through their pain.

We recognise the need for professional training for **Prison Chaplains** and ask that Churches and Faith Communities support such programmes. We pray for Prison Chaplains worldwide.

In conclusion, we offer thanks to God for all the blessings of this Conference. We pray that God will continue to guide and strengthen us in our ministry in prison. We confess that there is hope, and that even in the darkest moments there is always a way forward.