



*Sharing Work,
Power and Influence
in a fair way!*



*Overcoming Violence
and Degradation!*



Honouring Diversity!

The pilgrimage initiative “Go for Gender Justice” has accepted the appeal of the Ecumenical Council for a pilgrimage of justice and peace. It connects spiritual practise with critical reflection and aims to contribute to overcoming gender-related violence and degradation, honouring diversity and sharing work, power and influence in a fair way. In many regional churches, regional pilgrimage stages have taken or are taking place and local initiatives have walked the *Go for Gender Justice* pilgrimage paths and explored the realities on site.

Results and future impulses on the way to the General Assembly of the Ecumenical Council of Churches

- The following applies to every human being: *“I was wonderfully made, my soul recognises that.” (Psalm 139,5)*

“We have to become louder!” in our commitment to equal rights and equal dignity for those human beings who are discriminated against due to their gender or sexual identity and threatened by gender-related violence. The World Communion (of Churches) has long since recognised the fact that all humans are entitled to the same dignity and rights, independent of their gender. However, discrimination and degradation, unequal chances and the lack of justice in the relation between genders becomes obvious again and again. Every human being should be allowed to be just like he or she wishes to be, as long as he or she hurts no one else. We demand: Equalisation in all areas!!!

- *“Take on yourselves one another’s troubles, and so keep the law of Christ.” (Galater 5,25).*

People who stand up for diversity and advocate for gender equality need the solidarity of those who lead the church. **Church leaders should profess the topics of gender equality in a clearer and more offensive manner** and express them in a more proactive way: for women’s rights

and equal pay for women's work, against stereotype gender images, for the rights of single parents, against any degradation of queer people!

- *“We are the salt of the earth.” (Matthew 5, 13)*

Every person can raise his or her voice against inequality, stay informed and pass on what he or she has recognised. How can I listen to my environment and to myself at the same time? **We request all Christians not to look away wherever degradation and violence occur**, to experiment with gender-sensitive language in a courageous way and be solidary with queer people. Everyone can contribute to reducing prejudice and the degradation of gender diversity – in communities, regions and the churches on the whole.

- Jesus says: *“In the house of God, my home, there are many dwelling places.” (Joh 14,2)*

Christians and their churches should pave ways for people across the borders of confession, religion, philosophy and culture to step up to each other and campaign for justice and peace. The treasure troves of experience of the different ways of believing and living enrichen us and help to reduce prejudice. Looking beyond one's nose lets everyone discover new possibilities, also for the various religious persuasions.

Further information on the initiative:

- **Online platform** www.go-for-gender-justice.de

It informs you about all the Go-for-Gender-Justice initiatives, bundles results and provides materials and impulses.

- **Initiator and sponsor of the initiative:**

Conference of the gender and equalisation departments in the EKD member churches. Contact: info@go-for-gender-justice.de