



European Committee for Catholic Education

Comité Européen pour l'Enseignement Catholique

Europees Comité voor het Katholiek Onderwijs

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue of the Symposium

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre
17 avenue du Boulevard, B-1210 Bruxelles

Programme

Thursday 14 March 2019

Welcome coffee from 9:15 a.m.
Opening of the Symposium at 10:00 a.m.
End of first meeting day at 5:30 p.m.
Mass in the Cathedral of St Michael and St Gudula
at 6.30 p.m.

Friday 15 March 2019

Welcome coffee from 8:30 a.m.
Opening session at 9:00 a.m.
End of the Symposium at 4:30 p.m.

Simultaneous translation

Dutch, English, French

Information and registration

www.ceec.be

European Committee for Catholic Education
100 Avenue Emmanuel Mounier, B-1200 Bruxelles

The President and the members of the European Committee for Catholic Education have pleasure in inviting you to the International Symposium that they organise on 14 and 15 March 2019 in Brussels.

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND THE INTER CULTURAL AND INTER RELIGIOUS CHALLENGES

THEME

The free movement of people, the globalisation of the economy and the recent migratory waves, in particular, have diversified the populations of the various European States and societies. These developments have also been reflected in schools.

As there are more than 35,000 Catholic schools in Europe, which contribute to the education and formation of some 8.5 million pupils, these facts also changed the composition of them. This situation was already present in the North, South and East of Europe, in territories where the Catholic religion was not historically the majority. Elsewhere, these events have become increasingly important in different countries. Today, many Catholic schools welcome more diverse populations than yesterday, both by the culture of origin and the religious affiliation of their pupils and sometimes their teachers.

SYMPOSIUM

The symposium that the European Committee for Catholic Education (CEEC) is organising in Brussels on 14 and 15 March 2019, dedicated to the intercultural and interreligious challenges which the Catholic school is faced with, will make better understand the diversification of Catholic schools' populations and highlight the new practices and approaches they generate.

How to combine entrenchment and openness to move towards the future? What dialogue practices develop to answer the wish of Pope Francis: "(...) *the Catholic educational institutes are called, in the front line, to practice the grammar of dialogue that forms to encounter and appreciation of the cultural and religious diversities. Dialogue, in fact, educates when a person relates with respect, esteem, sincerity in listening and expresses himself with authenticity, without obfuscating or mitigating his identity nourished by evangelical inspiration. We are encouraged by the conviction that the new generations, educated in a Christian way to dialogue, will come out of the school and university classrooms motivated to build bridges and, hence, to find new answers to the many challenges of our time.*"¹

1. Speech of Pope Francis to the participants in the plenary Assembly of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome, 09.02.2017.

KEY SPEAKERS



Dr. A.J.M. (Toke) ELSHOF

Assistant professor, Tilburg School of Catholic Theology, Department of Practical Theology and Religious Studies, Netherlands



Prof. Jean DE MUNCK

Belgian Sociologist and doctor in philosophy, professor of sociology at the UCL-Catholic University of Louvain, researcher, member of the journal committee, author of *«To think Catholic School in the 21st Century»*



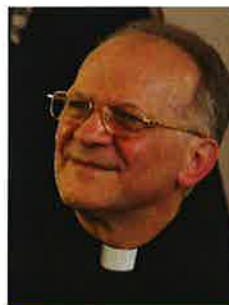
Prof. dr. Lieven BOEVE

Belgian Catholic Theologian, Professor of Fundamental Theology at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of KU Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven), Director General of the office of Catholic Education Flanders



Prof. Francis CAMPBELL

British Diplomat and Academic, Vice Chancellor at St Mary's University, Twickenham, London, former UK Ambassador to the Holy See, former Policy Adviser at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office



Mgr. Angelo Vincenzo ZANI

Doctor in Theology, Titular Archbishop of Volturnum, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Vatican, Rome



Prof. dr. Didier POLLEFEYT

Belgian Catholic Theologian, Professor of Practical Theology at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies at KU Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven)



Mgr. Jean-Marc AVELINE

Doctor in Theology, Auxiliary Bishop of Marseille, President of the Council for Interreligious Relations and New Religious Movements in the Bishops' Conference of France



Joseph HERVEAU

Deacon, Master in Theology, responsible for pastoral work at the General Secretariat of Catholic Education in France

And many testimonies to intercultural and interreligious dialogue in Catholic schools from various European countries, among others, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium...