



THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

A COMMUNION OF CHURCHES – EINE KIRCHENGEMEINSCHAFT – UNA COMUNIÓN DE IGLESIAS – UNE COMMUNION D'ÉGLISES

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND – FEDERACIÓN LUTERANA MUNDIAL – FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

General Secretariat / Office for Personnel

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position:	Study Secretary for Social Ethical Witness and Interfaith Relations Department for Theology and Studies
Reports to:	Director for Theology and Studies
Place of Assignment:	Geneva, Switzerland
Starting Date:	1 February 2010
Duration of contract:	Initial contract of 4 years

Required Qualifications:

- Advanced theological work, preferably a Ph.D. in social ethics, interfaith studies, or another relevant theological field.
- Familiarity with multifaith contexts and the challenges and possibilities they pose globally.
- Experience in analyzing and developing social ethical responses to social, economic and political challenges.
- Demonstrated writing ability in one or more of the above areas.
- Experience in an international environment preferably with LWF member church(es), or a university, seminary or institute.
- Fluency in English, working knowledge of German, French or Spanish an asset.
- Good computer literacy.

Candidates for this position require a Church Endorsement.

Closing Date:

Applications (motivation letter and detailed curriculum vitae in English), with the names and e-mail addresses of three persons who know the applicant professionally, should be sent by **17 September 2010** to:

The Rev. Rudolf Renfer
Director for Personnel
The Lutheran World Federation
P.O. Box 2100
1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

E-Mail: sw@lutheranworld.org

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LWF Eleventh Assembly
Stuttgart, Germany
20–27 July 2010



THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Department/Unit:	Theology and Studies	Date: 30 June 2010 PD DTS
Position Title:	Study Secretary for Social Ethical Witness and Interfaith Relations	
Position No.:	9270.01	
Incumbent:		
Reports to:	Director for Theology and Studies	

Basic Purpose

Provides leadership in developing how the LWF, as a global communion of churches, addresses key challenges with regard to both (a) social ethics (or the church's public witness in society), and (b) interfaith relations. Although these two areas are distinct, they also increasingly influence one another, especially in multi-faith settings. These emerging questions also affect the identity and life of Lutheran churches, and how they understand and carry out God's mission in the world. This work will be carried out through networking and consultation with others, including with ecumenical and interfaith partners, and through appropriate research, writing and capacity building for a range of audiences and purposes.

Position Qualifications

- Advanced theological work, preferably a Ph.D. in social ethics, interfaith studies, or another relevant theological field.
- Familiarity with multifaith contexts and the challenges and possibilities they pose globally.
- Experience in analyzing and developing social ethical responses to social, economic and political challenges.
- Demonstrated writing ability in one or more of the above areas.
- Experience in an international environment, preferably with LWF member church(es), or a university, seminary or institute.
- Fluency in speaking and in writing cogently and accessibly in English; working knowledge of at least one of the other official LWF language (German, French, Spanish) or another language extensively used in LWF work would be an asset.
- Good computer literacy.

Position Environment and Dimensions

This position aims to strengthen the public witness of the LWF and member churches on key current social ethical challenges, and to enhance their capacity to engage with communities of other faiths in theologically reflective ways.

This work includes collaborating, as appropriate, with other units of the LWF Geneva Secretariat on these matters, including through LWF-related diaconal work. It also includes networking and consulting with LWF member churches globally, especially in clarifying and exploring social ethical and interfaith questions they face in their highly diverse contexts.

The position holder carries the responsibility within the LWF Secretariat for developing relationships with interfaith partners. He/she continues and builds upon work that has already been done in these areas, especially through the Department of Theology and Studies. He/she works in close and ongoing collaboration and teamwork with staff responsible for Lutheran theology and practices and on ecumenical relations.

The position holder needs to be flexible in relation to changes, both in structure and job responsibility, likely to occur through the LWF renewal process.

Main Duties:

1. Shows strong commitments and skills for networking and developing relations with all LWF Department/units, LWF member churches, the WCC and other global Christian organizations, interfaith partners, and with organizations dealing with social ethical challenges.
2. Monitors emerging social ethical and interfaith developments and assists member churches in clarifying and exploring questions that arise in this regard.
3. Conceptualizes, organizes and carries out consultations and educational events related to strategic social ethical and interfaith challenges, as approved by the LWF Council, or in supporting other program activities within the LWF Geneva Secretariat.
4. Regularly writes texts and documents that are clear and accessible for both specialized and more general audiences, including editing what others write for LWF purposes.
5. Collaborates closely with staff colleagues focused on Lutheran theology and practice and on ecumenical relations, sharing in and contributing to one other's work as appropriate.
6. Participates actively in the structural and programmatic changes related to theological, ecumenical and interfaith work within the LWF Geneva Secretariat.
7. Performs related tasks as assigned by supervisor.

Major Challenge:

To maintain the distinctive yet inter-related profiles of this social ethical witness and interfaith work. To ensure within the available human and financial resources that this work plays a vital role in the LWF Geneva Secretariat, reflects the theological and other commitments of the LWF, and furthers the self-understanding of member churches as outlined in the LWF Constitution.