



# World Council of Churches

**Greetings from the Acting General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca,  
to the meeting of the World Communion of Reformed Churches Executive Committee**

09 May 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Christ is risen!

The Pascal period offers us the strongest message of hope in our times affected by the still ongoing pandemic and its consequences, as well as the war in Ukraine and elsewhere and the many injustices that we are witnessing across the globe. The WCRC Executive Committee gathers this year virtually under the theme “stand firm, giving yourself fully to the work of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58), which is a strong encouragement and imperative from Apostle Paul to withstand fear and to courageously proclaim the victory that God gave us through the sacrificial love of our Lord Jesus Christ over the power of sin and death.

The risen Lord sends his disciples today into a broken world overwhelmed by suffering, violence, loss of hope, and death. He mandates and empowers Christians as peacebuilders to be agents of healing and reconciliation. As Christians, we carry this great calling with humbleness and responsibility, working for and encouraging a sustained dialogue for peace while building bridges of reconciliation. It is our shared prophetic vocation to stand firm as signs of faith, justice, hope, and love, proclaiming the kingdom of God, which is made visible in our charitable acts.

With its theme “Christ’s love moves the world to reconciliation and unity” the upcoming World Council of Churches Assembly, which will take place this year in September in Karlsruhe, Germany, points to the concretisation of us being co-workers in God’s initiative. It is the love of Christ that moves us to act, not for our own interests, but for the care of others. It is in this divine love that the acts of compassion and solidarity enable us and our communities to become agents of transformation and healing at all levels, so that the world might see the presence of God among people. The WCC Assembly will offer a special opportunity to our 352 member churches to commonly affirm the calling of being disciples of the incarnated love of God to transform the world by love, each in our places and together as the body of Christ.

In the context of the current multidimensional challenges, it is vital that we carefully listen to each other to discern God’s will for our times and to find sustainable ways of ecumenical cooperation. Therefore, I wish you God’s blessing and inspiration as you reflect and discern on the course of action for the future of the World Communion of Reformed Churches and of our common *oikos*. May your gathering bring a vision of hope, encouragement, and inspiration.

Yours in the Risen Christ,

Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca  
Acting General Secretary