

November 5-8, 2017

OUR WORLD IS IN TROUBLE: WHAT CAN WE DO? SEEKING NEW VOCATIONAL INSPIRATION IN THE TRADITION OF MARTIN LUTHER

CAUX ROUND TABLE 2017 GLOBAL DIALOGUE

The 2017 Global Dialogue will convene in Wittenberg, Germany, in collaboration with the Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics.

In a time of dysfunctions within our political and economic systems, it is all the more important to bring together wise leaders to reflect on what can be done as well as on the important impact of Martin Luther's thought on world history.

Following are your invitation, the agenda, and your registration form.



November 5-8, 2017 in beautiful Wittenberg, Germany

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree."

- Martin Luther





Our World is in Trouble: What Can We Do? Seeking New Vocational Inspiration in the Tradition of Martin Luther

**Caux Round Table 2017 Global Dialogue
November 5th – 8th
Wittenberg-Center for Global Ethics
Wittenberg, Germany**

Martin Luther proposed a priesthood of all believers to promote individual moral responsibility as the foundation for a just civilization. His emphasis on the rights and duties of the individual led to capitalism and constitutional democracy, in short, to the basic institutions of our modern world as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Five hundred years after Luther's advocacy, our world is experiencing dysfunctions in its economic systems and the rise of nativist populisms, parochial trade protectionism, terror in the name of God and loss of faith in law. Systemic forces are shrinking middle classes; finance is aggrandizing nominal values of upper-class assets; income alienated from work is proposed to help the poor.

Events seem to be in the saddle and ride humankind. Anxiety and loss of trust in politics are turning people to more authoritarian leaderships.

A new vision is needed for our global community of responsible citizenship. What can we learn from Luther in creating this new vision?

Objective

The Global Dialogue will seek leadership judgments on the proposed design of an ethical compass to be used by companies and individuals in seeking how best to achieve sustainable development. A framework for such an ethical compass will be presented at the event for participants to consider and endorse.

Secondly, the Global Dialogue will seek leadership comment on a proposed statement of Protestant Social Teachings for responsible living in our time.

Please join our invited guests Andrew Young, Howard Buffet, Jeffrey Sachs, Jan-Peter Balkenende, Peter Cardinal Turkson, and Brad Anderson to contribute your thinking to new ideas for our global community.



Why this gathering of thought leaders?

Because ideas matter.

In 2017, our human community labors under new strains. A post-war period of collaboration for the common good seems to be ending. Post-World War II efforts at just globalization through international law, the United Nations, independent nation-states respecting human rights and free markets are being questioned, if not plainly rejected. Populism and more tribalized nationalisms disparage international law, ignore the United Nations, disregard human rights and prefer mercantilism to free trade. Despite some successes, the scourges of hunger and corruption persist.

Governing elites have slipped badly in the three domains of *gravitas*, *dignitas*, and *auctoritas* to lose respect among broad strata of people. Our elites have become patrimonial – backing away from serving the common good and considering their stations in life more as personal fiefdoms. Distribution of wealth and income is skewed towards those elites.

We are at the end of an era, having entered a time of confusion and repositioning. We are searching for new paradigms and sources of confidence to enable ourselves for creating a sustainable future for humanity.

Luther called for a priesthood of all believers, decentralizing moral authority widely. He included all who might respond through faith to invoke his God's grace among those who could be called to service in the care of creation. All who could now aspire to priesthood could have a vocation of goodness in the world. Vocation merges conscience with work.

Vocation follows an ethical compass.

With Luther's theological release of individual self-determination, some could seek to draw God down from his heaven and subordinate his purposes and grace to human ambitions. With faith in natural law and human scientific inquiry, our modernizing culture grew more and more anthropocentric. Promethean hubris pushed Luther's faith in Heaven aside.

Luther's freedom constrained by faith was changed into freedom unconstrained by much of anything transcendental. Modern freedom, under conditions where truth is socially constructed and the impact of one's own fateful embeddedness in time, as well as societal structures, is not fully acknowledged and can easily become selfish abuse of human reason, leading to a destruction of the social capital which makes human cooperation possible.

Ideas matter!

In facing the above-mentioned challenges of our time, we need a shared understanding about "our common future" and an ethical compass which individuals are willing and able to use for social cooperation in achieving that future. A fundamental constituent of this social cooperation is the simple but subtle, forthright in conception but complex in implementation, "idea" of sustainable development as it has been defined and agreed upon by the governments of the world: the Sustainable Development Goals.

The basic challenge for our world community – business, government, civil society, and individuals – is to connect these sustainable development goals with individual purposes, ideally so that each person has freedom to perceive his or her call to serve the common good.

A sustainable development vocation for each person requires ethical orientations accessible by all, an ethical compass.

The components for such a compass can be found in, among other teachings: Catholic Social Teachings; Qur'anic guidance; tenets of Protestant ministry; the Buddhist Noble Eightfold Path; and Taoism. At the same time, such practical wisdom must be connected to the actualities of business, political decision-making, and everyday behavior.

A sample framework for such an ethical compass will be presented at the event for participants to consider and endorse.

The Global Dialogue will be convened by:



The Caux Round Table for Moral Capitalism, founded in 1986, is an international network of experienced business leaders who work with political leaders to design the intellectual strategies, management tools and practices that strengthen private enterprise and public governance for improving our global community. Its mission is to create sustainable value for business; promote principled business leadership; and enhance the contributions of business to global prosperity. It affirms that responsible business builds a better world for all.

The Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics is an American-German initiative which was founded in 1998 by former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, and former German Foreign Minister, Hans Dietrich Genscher. Their vision was to promote “one world at peace, justice welfare, no fear.” The Center has set itself the task of initiating a global move towards a paradigm that assures win-win situations throughout all societies. For this, it deploys research, teaching and outreach programs and develops pertinent projects.

Program

Sunday, November 5th

- 15:30 **Gathering at Luther's House**
Visit of National Exhibition "Luther! 95 Treasures – 95 People"

Opening in the Old Town Hall

- 17:00 **Objectives of the Global Dialogue**
Stephen Young
Caux Round Table
Andreas Suchanek
Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics
- 17:20 **Keynote: The Need for a "New" Reformation: Public Purpose Capitalism?**
Andrew Young
President, Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics
- 17:40 **Keynote: The Need for a "New" Reformation:**
Rev. Dr. Martin Junge (invited)
General Secretary, The Lutheran World Federation
- 19:00 **Welcome Reception at the Old Town Hall of Wittenberg**
Dinner speech by Kofi Annan (invited)
Former Secretary General of the United Nations

Monday, November 6th

Foundation Leucorea, Collegienstraße 62, Lutherstadt Wittenberg

First Session: Encouraging Moral Leadership for our Common Future

- 09:00 **Welcome and Moderation**
Martin von Broock
Chairman of the WCGE Management Board
- 09:05 **Keynote: The Necessity of an Ethical Compass in our Time**
Horst Köhler (invited)
Former Federal President of Germany
- 09:30 **Keynote: Human Freedom**
Peter Cardinal Turkson (confirmed)
Prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development
- 09:55 **Discussion with all Participants**
- 10:30 **Coffee Break**

11:00 **Statement: Sustainable Development Goals as the World Society's Mission Statement**

Jeffrey Sachs (confirmed)
Columbia University

11:20 **Panel Discussion**

Jeffrey Sachs (confirmed)
Klaus M. Leisinger (confirmed)
Global Values Alliance
Jan Peter Balkenende (confirmed)
Former Prime Minister of the Netherlands

12:30 **Lunch**

Second Session: Designing an Ethical Compass for Responsible Leadership

14:00 **Conceptual Introduction**

Andreas Suchanek
WCGE, HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management
Stephen Young
Caux Round Table

14:40 **Discussion: Different Views on an Ethical Compass**

Stephen Young
Caux Round Table
Andreas Suchanek
WCGE, HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management
Klaus M. Leisinger
Global Values Alliance

15:30 **Coffee Break**

Third Session: The Ethical Compass as a Means for Encouraging Moral Leadership for our Common Future

16:00 - 17:30 **Details tbd**

Conference Dinner at the Refectory at Luther's House

19:00 Welcoming Address:

Prof. Dr. Monika Grütters (invited)
Minister of State in the Federal Chancellery and Federal Government
Commissioner for Culture and the Media

Dinner Speech

Reiner Haseloff (invited)
Minister President Federal State of Saxony Anhalt

Registration Form

To register, please complete this fillable PDF form (or print and complete) and either email or mail it to:

Jed Ipsen
Associate Director
Caux Round Table
6 West Fifth Street, 3rd Floor
St. Paul, MN 55102
jed@cauxroundtable.net

Personal Information

Name: _____
Title: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____ Postal Code: _____
Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____
Will Your Spouse be Accompanying You? Yes: _____ No: _____
Are You a Vegetarian?: Yes: _____ No: _____

Registration Fee

____ Attendee from Europe: \$950.00
____ Attendee from Africa, Asia, the Middle East or North America: \$800.00
____ Attendee's Spouse: \$300.00

Payment Information

Name on Card: _____
Type of Card: _____
Charge Amount: _____
Account Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

____ Check Enclosed

____ Wire Transfer (please contact Jed at jed@cauxroundtable.net or (651) 223-2863 for instructions)

Hotel Accommodations

To make your hotel reservation, please contact:

Best Western Stadtpalais Wittenberg

-single room 110 Euros / double room 161 Euros

-phone: +49 3491 / 425-0

-fax: +49 3491 / 425-100

-email: info@stadtpalais.bestwestern.de

-website: <https://www.bestwestern.de/hotels/Wittenberg-Lutherstadt/BEST-WESTERN-Stadtpalais-Wittenberg>

Or:

Luther Hotel Wittenberg

-single room 69 Euros / double room 93 Euros

-phone: +49 3491 / 458-0

-fax: +49 3491 / 458-100

-email: info@luther-hotel-wittenberg.de

-website: <https://www.luther-hotel-wittenberg.de/>

Please note: A limited number of rooms have been reserved for a limited time at both hotels. When making your accommodation, please use the keyword "Global Dialogue". Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel arrangements. Hotel costs are not included in the registration fee.