



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

Office of the
General Secretary

lutheranworld.org

Chair of the Council of International
Relations of the ELCD
Dr. Mogens Mogensen
interchurch@interchurch.dk

Bishop of Copenhagen Peter Skov
Jakobsen
PESJ@km.dk

Geneva, 15 February 2015

Dear Dr. Mogensen,

Dear Bishop Jakobsen,

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

It is with pain and shock that we have received the news about the attacks in Copenhagen on Saturday 14 February in which two men lost their lives, several policemen were injured and the attacker was shot dead.

I want to express deep solidarity with those affected by this terrible act and commit our prayers to the families of the deceased and to the people in Denmark.

As the nation is now grappling with this terrible act happening in the heart of the capital and directed against civilians we encourage you to let the prophetic voice of the church bear witness to your ongoing deep commitment to work at all levels of society towards supporting and upholding communities to live together in justice and peace.

We know of your unbroken commitment to this cause and we pray that the attack will not de-rail this vocation. We know of the many ways in which pastors and church congregations have already been actively contributing to offering a space for discussion in the aftermath of the attack. And we know of the acts of solidarity shown with the Jewish people in Copenhagen as well as the joint statement of Christians and Muslims speaking out against violence and underlining the continued need for dialogue.

Let this all bear witness to a common vision to uphold a public space where violence does not have a place and the respect and the dignity of each human being is upheld. We pray for the authorities so that their response to the current challenge is guided by wisdom and diligence.

The apostle Paul reminded the community in Rome that even in the face of violence and pain, for those who have been washed by the waters of Baptism there is no other option than continue doing good:

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND
FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE
FEDERACIÓN LUTERANA MUNDIAL

P.O: Box 2100, Route de Ferney 150, CH-1211 Geneva 2
Tel. +41/22-791 61 11, Direct +41/22-791 63 63
Fax +41/22-791 66 30, E-Mail mju@lutheranworld.org

Let this word guide the prayers and reflections of your church as it continues engaging in God's works of reconciliation. May God bless you and strengthen you as you continue being transformed by God's amazing power for continued witness to God's loving care for humanity and the entire creation.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Junge". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Rev. Martin Junge
General Secretary

c.c. General Secretary, Council of International Relations, ELCD